

Why do Christians perform Nativity plays at Christmas?

(Intention) What we intend to cover in our learning: (Topic web of concepts here)

Engage

Session 1 and 2: Introduce the children to the Bible and what it is? Look at what the Bible tells us about Jesus by reading the nativity story to them. This could be done as a Godly Play activity

(www.cpg.church/uploads/3/0/7/1/30716689/advent_script_godly_play_4_weeks.pdf)

- Explore why Jesus was a special baby as he was a God in human form. Read to children some of the parables of Jesus and miracles he performed to show that he was a special person.
- Children could draw a present they would give Jesus and a present Jesus might give the world.
- Children could role play the nativity story. Or retell it using the Godly Play equipment.
- Children could make nativity scenes for a Christmas card.
- Children could look at different nativity pictures from around the world and draw their own version.

Enquire and Explore

Session 3,4 and 5: Explore why Christians celebrate Christmas – what do they remember and why?

(www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-christmas-story)

- Explore the many services and events churches hold around Christmas – advent, Christingle, carol services, midnight mass. All involve light as Jesus was coming as the ‘light of the world’ (<https://youtu.be/JPh-x51A3wM>)
- Explore what people do in church at Christmas, why they celebrate Jesus birth? Refer to Understanding Christianity Unit F2 pg4
- Children to explore the nativity through a story sack. Children to make an invitation to Jesus birthday party. Children to make a Christingle. Children to junk model a Christmas Stable and crib. Children to learn Away in a Manger.

Evaluate

Session 6: Explore the importance of the wisemen and how they might have brought Jesus precious gifts but he was the most precious gift of all.

- Look at going on a special journey and giving a special gift <https://youtu.be/ofFRSwl2XKU>
- What gift might you give Jesus to show him how special he is – draw or make the gift they decide on.
- Can the children wrap parcels?

Express

Session 7: Explore how we as humans are precious to God.

- Watch the story of God Made People <https://youtu.be/ZZPfCWV81pE>
- What do they think God looks like? What skills do they think God needs to have to create people and why?
- Can the children draw and talk about what God looks like and what skills he had to make people who are precious to him?

(Implementation) Key words I will use and need to know:

God

Nativity

Bible

Festival

Celebration

Image

Emmanuel

Love

Christmas

Christian

Precious

Gift

(Implementation) Key information we will learn:

- ✓ What the Bible says about Jesus – some of the stories about Jesus as an adult.
- ✓ The birth of Jesus is known as the nativity and it was an important event for Christians.
- ✓ The nativity is different around the world because of the cultural or historical influences on Christianity.
- ✓ Christmas is a celebration festival for Christians as it is Jesus's birthday.
- ✓ Jesus shows what God is like and all humans are made in 'God's image'.
- ✓ Every human is precious to God, known and loved by God.
- ✓ Jesus came as Emmanuel (God with us) and he wants his followers to be like him and show God's love to the world.

(Implementation) Things to do and find out at home:

- ✓ Why not read some of the bible stories about Jesus with your child or watch some – a good place to look is: www.dltk-kids.com/bible/cv/index.htm
- ✓ The birth of Jesus is known as the nativity and it was an important event for Christians – make your own nativity at home.
- ✓ Christmas is a celebration festival for Christians as it is Jesus's birthday – watch this video about the nativity: www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/presenters-nativity-story

(Implementation) Some key information you can find more out about:

- ✓ What the Bible says about Jesus – some of the stories about Jesus as an adult, explore the parables Jesus told here: <https://youtu.be/Q9Wpd2pDg2I> or the miracles of Jesus here: <https://youtu.be/eWNSHlhdx4> or <https://youtu.be/peqDJ2z5bbo>
- ✓ The birth of Jesus is known as the nativity and it was an important event for Christians, learn about the first nativity here: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zntfgk7
- ✓ The nativity is different around the world because of the cultural or historical influences on Christianity – South America <https://youtu.be/wAAMpZkqtbw> Russia <https://youtu.be/ANbGrwOLUSc> Vietnam <https://youtu.be/6ERMqdQXWfg>
- ✓ Jesus shows what God is like and all humans are made in ‘God’s image’ can be explored here <https://youtu.be/UnPKboUIhXY>

(Impact) What we will aim to do at the end of our learning:

By the end of our learning we will

- ✓ Christians believe God came to Earth in Human form as Jesus.
- ✓ Christians believe Jesus came to show that all people are precious and special to God.

(Impact) The RE Age Related Expectations we will cover and be assessed against:

The Age Related Expectations do not apply to EYFS and it is suggested assessment is made using the foundation stage profile areas of learning instead. The ELGs that can be used include:

- Communication and language development
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Literacy
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design