

Dec Week 2

Jesus is Born

Dec 7/8

CRAFT

Shiny Star Ornament

SUPPLIES: Gold Star, Baby Jesus Cut Out, Crayons, White Liquid Glue, Yarn, "Jesus is born" label

TIP: Pre-attach the yarn to the ornament before leaving for Large Group.

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Pass out Baby Jesus and crayons.**

- *"Today we heard the true story from the Bible about how Baby Jesus was born. God gave us Jesus because he loves us so much!"*
- *Let's make an ornament for our Christmas trees to remember God's amazing gift to us. Let's color baby Jesus, first!*

⇒ **Help children squeeze a small amount of glue on the star and press Jesus onto the star.**

⇒ **Turn star over and help children put the Jesus is born label on it.**

⇒ **Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *"I LOVE your ornaments. They are beautiful! When you get home, add this to your tree to help you remember that God gave us Jesus."*
- **How do we know God loves us?**
- **God gave us Jesus."**

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ACTIVITY #1

Look and Find Bows

SUPPLIES: Gift Bows

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the center of the room.**

- *“In our true Bible story today, we heard about the day that baby Jesus was born. Baby Jesus was the most special present God ever gave us!*
- *Look at all these bows I have! Where do we put bows? Right! On presents! These bows will help us remember that Jesus was the best present ever.*

⇒ **Scatter the bows around the room.**

- *“Let’s find the bows! Let’s see if we can find them all! Bring them back to me!”*

⇒ **Have children collect all the bows.**

- *“Great work, everybody! You found all the bows.*
- ***How do we know that God loves us?***
- ***God gave us Jesus!***

⇒ **4/5 Year Old Optional Variations**

- Call out different colors. Have children bring back one color at a time.
- Find all the bows and sort them into different color piles.
- Have children come back with the bows in different ways: hopping on one foot, with the bow on their head, jumping like a bunny, etc.

⇒ **Let the children play as long as they are interested.**

⇒ **Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“Baby Jesus was born to be the savior of the world. God loves us so much that he gave us his son Jesus to be our friend forever.*
- ***How do we know God loves us?***
- ***God gave us Jesus!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Memory Verse Animal Walk

SUPPLIES: White Floor Tape, Stable Picture, Blue Wall Tape

SET-UP:** Use floor tape to create a large “stable” on the floor that the children can all fit inside. Tape a picture of the stable to the wall.

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **One far side of the room from the stable.**

- *“Baby Jesus was born in a stable surrounded by lots of animals. Today you are all going to be the animals. I am going to go stand in the stable and call out an animal name. Then, I want you to pretend to be that animal and walk into the stable together.*

⇒ **Call out the first animal and guide children to walk to the stable.**

- *“Alright, cows! Come on into the stable! What does the cow say?”*
- *Whoa it sounds like there are is a whole herd of cows in here!*
- *Now, let’s say our memory verse:*
- *God has given a son to us. Isaiah 9:6.”*

⇒ **Repeat with sheep, donkey, etc.**

⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“That was fun! God has given a son to us. Who is God’s Son? (Pause.) Yes! Jesus. What an amazing gift.*
- ***How do we know God loves us?***
- ***God gave us Jesus.”***

**2 year-old classroom: If you choose, you can skip the stable and just pretend to be animals.

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ACTIVITY #3

Nativity Play

SUPPLIES: Nativity play set

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Gather children around you on the floor or at a table.**
(This activity works best in a smaller group)
 - *“Friends! Look at what I have here! It’s a stable! And look at all these people and animals! I am going to give everybody one person or animal and we are going to tell the story together!*

- ⇒ **Give each child one piece** (or two depending on how many kids are in group). **As you talk about the story, add the characters to the nativity.**
 - *“I loved our true Bible story today! Before Mary had baby Jesus, an angel told her that Jesus was going to be born. Who has the angel?*
 - *When it was time for the baby to be born, Mary and Joseph had to take a long trip all the way to Bethlehem! Who has Mary? What about Joseph?*
 - *Do you remember what they rode? A donkey! Who has a donkey? Everybody say hee-haw!*
 - *Then, God’s son was born! Baby Jesus! Who has baby Jesus?*
 - *When baby Jesus was born there were animals there. Who has an animal? What does your animal say?*
 - *Next week we are going to talk about the shepherds who took care of the sheep! Does anyone have a shepherd?*
 - *Baby Jesus had other visitors, too! Three kings came to worship him! Who has the wise men?*

- ⇒ **Repeat activity as long as kids are interested and Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Boys and Girls, this is an amazing story, isn’t it? God had such a perfect plan when he brought Jesus into the world. God loves us so much! He gave us Jesus!*
 - **How do we know God loves us?**
 - **God gave us Jesus!**

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REFLECTION & REVIEW

READ

⇒ The Bible

- *The Beginner's Bible: Baby Jesus is Born, p. 271*

⇒ *Christmas in the Manger* by Nola Buck

- Read the story and then say: I am so thankful that God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!

REVIEW *(This is a great opportunity to give out stickers as they answer these questions!)*

⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line

- **How do we know God loves us?**
- **God gave us Jesus!**

⇒ Memory Verse

- **God has given a son to us. Isaiah 9:6**

⇒ Basic Truth

- **God loves me.**

⇒ Connect it!

- **“Today we are going to make a list of things Jesus grew up to do. I mean, baby Jesus didn’t stay a baby, did He? No! Jesus grew up to do amazing things! Jesus fed lots and lots of people, He walked on water, He calmed storms, He made sick people all better, He was a good friend to everyone, and He taught people about God. Jesus grew up and did all kinds of wonderful things! When I say your name, tell me one thing Jesus did when He grew up, and I will write it down.**

⇒ PlayDoh (Stable page in page protector)

- Use the play doh to create the nativity scene on the stable.

PRAY

“Dear God, Thank You for giving us Jesus. Thank You that He grew up to do amazing things like (read the list the children made) AND He died and came back, just like He said He would! Jesus does things only He can do. That makes Him the most AMAZING friend EVER! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”