

Week 2



December 7th/8th

OVERVIEW CARD

Jesus is Born

Key Question:
Bottom Line:
Memory Verse:

How do we know God loves us?
God gave us Jesus.
“God has given a son to us.”
Isaiah 9:6, NCV

Bible Story:

Jesus is born.
Jesus' Birth
Luke 2:1-7

Coloring Page:

Jesus is born.

Music:

Merry Christmas to You
Great Big God
This Little Light of Mine

Bible Lesson:

The Most Special Baby
Pages 272 to 277

Story:

Christmas in the Manger
by Nola Buck

Service Time:

63 minutes



December Memory Verse -
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ACTIVITY

Jesus is Born

Name That Animal

What You Need: CD player and a CD of animal sounds

(CD includes the following animal sounds:

1. Cat 2. Dog 3. Elephant 4. Monkey 5. Cow 6. Goat 7. Lion 8. Birds)

What You Do: Guide the children to stand in a circle, with you in the middle. Place the CD player in the middle as well. As you play an animal sound, encourage the children to imitate that animal. You can make additional animal sounds at the end if children are still interested.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "I am so excited about our Bible lesson today because there are some animals in it! I just LOVE animals! Let's play an animal game. You are going to hear a sound that an animal makes. When you hear the sound, show me what animal it is by pretending that you are that animal. Got it? *(Pause.)* Okay, let's play!"

During the activity: "Here we go! *(Play or make an animal sound.)* What do you think it is? *(Pause.)* Wow, you are great at this game! You are all right! Nice job! What about this one? *(Play or make an animal sound.)* What makes that noise? *(Pause.)* You guys are too good! Let's try this one." *(Continue as long as there's interest.)*

At the end of the activity: "That was so much fun! Great job! Do you remember which animals we pretended to be were in our lesson? Yes, your right! Awesome job you really remembered!"



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ACTIVITY - 3'S

Jesus is Born

Farm Animals

What You Need: Little People toy farm animals and Little People zoo animals, rice bin

What You Do:

Before the activity: Place all of the toy animals in the tub and cover them with rice.

During the activity: Allow the children to take turns digging through the rice and pulling an animal out of the tub. Let that child hold it while you and the other children identify the animal. After you identify the animal, sort the animals into one of two piles: farm animal or non-farm animal.

What You Say:

During the activity: "I see a lot of animals in here! Let's see what kind we have! (Let a child pick an animal.) Ooo, this is a (name the animal). Is this a farm animal or NOT a farm animal? (Pause.) Yes! (Name the animal) is a (farm or non-farm) animal. Let's put it in this pile. (Let another child pick an animal.) Wow!" (Continue doing this with each animal until you have identified and sorted all of the animals.)

At the end of the activity: "Do you remember what was in our Bible lesson today! (Pause.) Farm animals! But that's not the best part. The best part was a very special baby was born in a stable, which is another word for a barn where farm animals eat and sleep. Can you guess what His name is? (Pause.) Yes! His name is Jesus!"



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ACTIVITY - 4'S AND CLUBHOUSE

Jesus is Born

Nativity Scene Animals

What You Need: Around 20 stuffed animals and two baskets.

What You Do: Allow the children to free play with the animals and the baskets. Then have the children help you separate the animals into two baskets, one with zoo animals and one with farm animals.

What You Say:

During the activity: "I see a lot of animals in here! Let's see what kind we have! *(Let a child pick an animal.)* Ooo, this is a *(name the animal)*. Is this a farm animal or NOT a farm animal? *(Pause.)* Yes! *(Name the animal)* is a *(farm or non-farm)* animal. Let's put it in this pile. *(Let another child pick an animal.)* Wow!" *(Continue doing this with each animal until you have identified and sorted all of the animals.)*

At the end of the activity: "Do you remember what was in our Bible lesson today! *(Pause.)* Farm animals! But that's not the best part. The best part was a very special baby was born in a stable, which is another word for a barn where farm animals eat and sleep. Can you guess what His name is? *(Pause.)* Yes! His name is Jesus!"



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ACTIVITY

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Pin the Tail on the Donkey

What You Need: Donkey, tails (make enough tails for each child), masking tape, and blindfolds

What You Do: Hang the donkey on the wall. Blindfold the first player. Spin the blindfolded player in circles for a few seconds and then allow the player to try and place the tail on the donkey.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “We are going to play a fun game today! Our donkey is missing his tail. We are going to help him by taping his tail back on. To make it even more fun, we are going to try to do it without using our eyes. Everyone is going to have a turn so hopefully one of us will place it in the correct spot.”

During the activity: “We know we find things like cows, sheep and donkeys in barns, but who would ever think you would find Baby Jesus there, too?

God gave us Jesus and He was born in a stable where animals live. Can you believe that? (*Pause.*) The best part is **God gave us Jesus** because He loves us so much. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus.**”



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ACTIVITY

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Animal Hopscotch

What You Need: “Animal Pictures” from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, tape, and a beanbag.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make 2 copies of “Animal Pictures” from the Website on white cardstock.

During the activity: Make a hopscotch board with the 10 animal pictures by taping them to the hopscotch board. Line the children up and show them how to toss the beanbag, hop to that picture, and then make that animal sound. (Continue as long as there’s interest.)

What You Say:

Before the activity: “I have such a fun game for us to play today! Line up and I’ll show you how!”

During the activity: “First you toss the beanbag like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Now you hop to the animal like this. (*Demonstrate.*) And then you make the animal sound like this! (*Demonstrate.*) Now it’s your turn!” (*Continue as long as there’s interest.*)

At the end of the activity: “We know we find things like cows and sheep in barns, but who would ever think you would find Baby Jesus there, too? **God gave us Jesus** and He was born in a stable where animals live. Can you believe that? (*Pause.*) The best part is **God gave us Jesus** because He loves us so much. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus.**”



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ACTIVITY

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Find and Fill Nativity Set

What You Need: Nativity Set

What You Do:

Before the activity: Hide the Manger Scene Characters around the room while the children go to Worship.

During the activity: Read a clue to the children one at a time. Once the children know who the character is, go on a search around the room until you find them. Once found add the character to the Manger Scene until everyone has been found. When you are all done searching, pull out the additional Manger Scene and let the children play with all of the characters.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "I have such a fun game for us to play today! I am going to give you clues about each character from the Manger Scene and once we know who is missing we are going to have to find and bring them back to the Manger Scene. Are you ready for your first clue? *(Pause.)* Great, let's begin..."

I visited Mary to tell her she was going to have a baby...who am I?

An Angel told me I would have a special baby who would be the savior of the world...who am I?

I am a carpenter and husband to Mary... who am I?

Mary rode on my back to get to Bethlehem and I say hee-haw...who am I?

I am God's son and was born in a manger...who am I?

I say Baa...who am I?

I take care of sheep and angels told me Jesus was born...who am I?

We brought presents to baby Jesus...who are we?

At the end of the activity: "Let's start from the beginning and tell all of the lesson that we know so far. First, an angel *(hold up angel)* told Mary *(hold up Mary)* she was going to have a special baby. His name would be Jesus and He would be God's Son. Joseph *(hold up Joseph)* and Mary *(hold up Mary)* rode all the way to a city called Bethlehem on a donkey. While they were there it was time for Baby Jesus to be born. Joseph looked and looked for a room and couldn't find one anywhere! Finally he found a stable or a barn for them to stay in and that is where baby Jesus was born. We know God loves us because He gave us Jesus. He gave us Jesus to love us and be our friend forever. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus! Again! How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!"**



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CRAFT

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Color Your Own Nativity Crosses

What You Need: Nativity Crosses and Crayons and/or Markers



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What You Say:

Before the activity: “We heard an amazing story today about when Jesus was born! We are going to make a cross that reminds us of God’s special gift to us!”

At the end of the activity: “Fantastic job! I love them! Now you can take your crosses home and tell your families what a wonderful gift God has given to us! God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus! **How do we know God loves us?** (Pause.) Absolutely! **God gave us Jesus!**”



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SMALL GROUP

**Jesus is
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Small Group Time

What you Need: Stickers, Bible Story and Wall Nativity Set

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "Today's Bible lesson was about the true story of Christmas, when **God gave us Jesus**. A long time ago, Baby Jesus was born and that was the very first Christmas. God loves you and me SO much that He gave us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. That is some SUPER BIG love! **How do we know God loves us?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: "God gave us Jesus!"

SGL: "Our Memory Verse even says **God gave us Jesus!** It says, 'God has given a son to us,' Isaiah 9:6. Say it with me with the motions."

CHILDREN and SGL: "God (point arms straight up) has given (cup both hands in front of you like you are giving something) a son (rock your arms like you're holding a baby) to us' (point your thumbs to your chest), Isaiah 9:6." (Open your hands like a book.)

SGL: "That's right! We've been learning a Bible verse that tells us that God gave us Jesus. Would anyone like to try and say it all by yourself?"

Give each child the opportunity to say the verse. Make this a special time for them and reward them with a sticker.

SGL: "Today, and all month, we are going to be making our own manger scene, we can use it to help us tell our Bible lesson! Last week, we added Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, and the angel! We need to add the animals from our Bible lesson today. Do you remember what animals were there? (Pause.) Yes, you are correct! Today, we have a cow and donkey to add to our Manger Scene. Let's put them up on the wall (Pause.) Fantastic!"

SGL: "Let's start from the beginning and tell all of the lesson that we know so far. First, an angel (point to the angel) told Mary (point to Mary) she was going to have a special baby. His name would be Jesus and He would be God's Son. Joseph (point to Joseph) and Mary (point to Mary) rode all the way to a city called Bethlehem on a donkey (point to the donkey). While they were there it was time for Baby Jesus to be born. Joseph looked and looked for a room and couldn't find one anywhere! Finally he found a stable or a barn (point to the stable) for them to stay in and that is where baby Jesus (point to baby Jesus) was born."

"We know God loves us because He gave us Jesus. He gave us Jesus to love us and be our friend forever. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus! Again! How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!**"

SGL: "Are you ready to read a book about Baby Jesus and the animals? (Pause.) Great, I can't wait to hear what happens!"



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