

December Christmas
2s
Show & Tell
December 21-24

CRAFT CHRISTMAS

Candles on the Cake

SUPPLIES: Cake cutout, clothespins, flame stickers, crayons or dot markers

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Give each child 5 clothespins (2 red, 3 green) and 5 flame stickers.**

- *"Friends, today we are going to make a birthday cake for Jesus, and we are going to start with what goes on top of a birthday cake – candles!"*
- *"Let's put these flame stickers on top of the clothespins to make them look like candles. (see picture)"*

⇒ **Give each child a cake cutout and set out the crayons/dot markers.**

- *"Now that we have our candles, let's color the birthday cake! We'll make it look special for Jesus' birthday!"*
- *"It's time to clip our candles on top of the cake! Looks like we're all ready for the birthday party. Do you want to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus?" (you can sing and show the kids to pretend to blow the candles out.)*

⇒ **Retell the story and Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**

- *"At Christmas, we celebrate Jesus' birthday! God loves us so much that God gave us His Son, Jesus! And we celebrate Christmas to show everyone that Jesus is special."*
- ***Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!"***



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ACTIVITY #1

Story Show & Tell

SUPPLIES: Large Show & Tell Images, Small Show & Tell images (1 image per kid)

What You DO and SAY:

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

- *"Friends, come sit with me. We're going to play a game called: Story Show and Tell.*
- *"I'm going to give each of you a picture card. (Give each child a card.) Now, I'm going to show you a picture, and if you have the matching card, I want you to hold it up high so everyone can see.*

⇒ **Review the story using the Show & Tell cards.**

- *"(Show children the picture of the angel and Mary.) "Who has a card that matches mine? Hold them up high! (Pause.) Now it's Show and Tell time. If you have the matching card, come up and join me. (To the children with the matching cards.) Show everyone your card and tell us about it. (Encourage children to talk about the card, and then read the story words on the picture to retell a part of the Bible Story.) Thank you for telling me about the card! You can have a seat now. (Continue with the rest of the cards.)*
 1. *God sent an angel to tell Mary she was going to have a special baby named Jesus. Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son.*
 2. *Mary and Joseph had to travel a long way to the town of Bethlehem. When they got to Bethlehem, they stayed in place where animals sleep.*
 3. *After Jesus was born, Mary wrapped Him in strips of cloth and placed Him in a manger.*
 4. *God sent an angel to tell shepherds that Jesus had been born.*
 5. *The shepherds ran to see baby Jesus and after they saw Him, then they ran to tell everyone about Jesus!*
 6. *Christmas is when we celebrate Jesus' birthday*

⇒ **Bring it back to the Bottom Line.**

- *Wow! We celebrate Christmas to show everyone that Jesus is special. Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son.*
- ***Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!***

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ACTIVITY #2

Bows Parachute

SUPPLIES: Gift Bows, Parachute

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children join you and stand in a circle in the center of the room.**

- *“Today we learned the answer to a very important question:*
- ***Why is Jesus special?***
- ***Jesus is God’s son”***

⇒ **Ask children to stand around the parachute with you and guide them to each pick up a section of the parachute.**

- *“Now, everybody grab a section of the parachute.*
- *I have some bows here. What do we put bows on? That’s right! Presents! Jesus was the best present God ever gave to us! The whole reason we give presents at Christmas is to remember how much God loves us. God gave us Jesus!”*

⇒ **Invite children to shake their arms so that the parachute moves very fast.**

- *“Let’s shake our arms and pop these bows up into the air! Go!”*

⇒ **When all the bows have popped out of the parachute...**

- *“Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God’s son.”*

⇒ **Repeat activity as long as kids are interested and Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“That was so much fun!*
- *God gave us the most awesome gift ever - God sent Jesus to us because He loves us.*
- ***How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!***

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READ, REVIEW, REFLECT, AND PRAY December Christmas

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

READ A STORY

- *Christmas in the Manger* by Nola Buck & Felicia Bond

ASK A QUESTION

Why is Jesus special?

Jesus is God's Son!

SAY A PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.

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BONUS ACTIVITY

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.**

- *"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?"*
- *"There were shepherds who took care of the sheep! Does anyone have a shepherd? An angel told the shepherds about baby Jesus and they ran to see him!"*
- *"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 that he gave us Jesus. Jesus is so special. Jesus is God's son!"*
- ***Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!***

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BONUS ACTIVITY

Look and Find Bows

SUPPLIES: Gift Bows in box

What You DO and SAY:

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

- *"In our Bible story today, we learned about a very special baby who was going to be born! Jesus was the most special present ever because Jesus is God's Son!"*
- *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 and 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."*
- ***Why is Jesus Special?***
- ***Jesus is God's Son!"***

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

⇒ **Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *"God gave the most special present in His Son Jesus!"*
- ***Why is Jesus Special? Jesus is God's Son!***

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BONUS ACTIVITY

Birthday Dance Party

SUPPLIES: CD Player, Christmas CD, crepe paper

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Give each child a strip of crepe paper to use as a streamer.**

- *"Friends! We are celebrating Jesus' birthday today! God sent Jesus because he loves us so much. That makes me want to party! Give your streamers a wave and let's dance!"*

⇒ **Play Freeze Dance**

- *"When I turn the music on, I want you to dance and make music! But listen carefully...when the music stops you need to freeze!"*

⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested.**

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

- *"Awesome dancing! It is so much fun celebrating Jesus. He*
- *is the best present ever from God! God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus. Jesus is God's son.*
- ***Why is Jesus Special? Jesus is God's Son!***