

Jesus Is Born

Jesus
Lesson 3

Lesson Objectives

- The children will state that Jesus was born in a stable.
- The children will hear the story of Jesus' birth.
- The children will thank God for sending Jesus.

Bible Story Text

Luke 2:1-7

Bible Truth

Jesus was born.
(Luke 2:6-7)

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Christmas Present
and Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

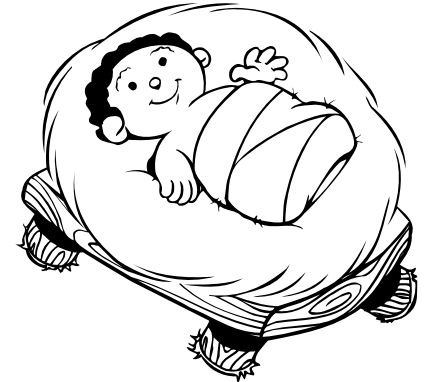
Centers:

Bible Story: Manger Baby

Life Application: The Best Present

Craft: Manger Scene

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Jesus Is Born

Christmas Present

The children will finish making Christmas presents during this special month-long activity.

Materials

For each child:

- finished frames, photographs and drawings from Unit 4 Lesson 2, Preclass Activity
- 1 piece of white tissue paper

For the teacher:

- 4 sponges
- scissors
- glue stick
- red and green tempera paint (found in craft stores)
- 4 paper plates or bowls
- newspaper
- glitter (optional)
- red and green curling ribbon
- box to store and transport the craft

Preparation

1. Cut the sponges into star shapes.
2. Glue the children's photographs to their frames. If they haven't brought in photographs, glue their drawings to their frames instead. If the children have both photographs and drawings, keep the drawings to use later as gift tags.
3. Before the children arrive in class, spread newspaper onto the table or floor.
4. Pour the red and green paint onto separate plates. You may also mix glitter into the paint.
5. Place two sponges next to each plate of paint.

Instructions

1. Call two children to your center at a time.
2. Give each child a piece of tissue paper and a sponge.
3. Show the child how to dip the sponge into the paint, and then place it on the tissue paper.
4. Have the child paint a few star shapes onto the tissue paper using the sponge.

5. Put the children's tissue paper on fresh newspaper to dry. Write their names on the newspaper near their tissue paper.
6. After the paint dries, wrap each child's frame with their paper and the curling ribbon. If the children are able, let them help you with this.
7. As the children leave class, give them their presents. Remind them that these presents are gifts to give their parents.

Teacher Tips

Allow the child to put only a few star prints on the tissue paper, otherwise the paper may become too wet and possibly tear.

Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a preclass center. Have no more than six children at each center.

Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.

Preparation

1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.
2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.

Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.

Jesus Is Born

Manger Baby

The children will learn about the birth of Jesus.

Bible Story Text

Luke 2:1-7

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- markers
- angel stick puppet from Unit 4 Lesson 1, Bible Story
- Mary and Joseph stick puppets from Unit 4 Lesson 2, Bible Story

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the picture of the manger scene from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Color the picture of the manger scene.

Instructions

Show the angel stick puppet. *The Bible says that an angel came to see Mary. An angel came to see Joseph. What was the good news that the angel brought to them? That's right. The good news was that baby Jesus would be born.*

Remove the angel stick puppet. *Before Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem. Show the Mary and Joseph stick puppets. How did they get there? Did they ride in a car? No! Maybe they went to Bethlehem riding on a donkey. Or maybe they had to walk the whole way. Did they get a nice room at an inn in Bethlehem? No! Why not? Because all the rooms were full of people. Where did they sleep? The Bible says they slept with the animals. Hold the manger scene so that all the children can see it. Let the children point out and name the different animals in the picture. You can also ask them to make different animal sounds.*

This is where baby Jesus was born. Do you see the baby? Can you find the baby's mommy? Yes, that is Mary. Can you find Joseph, the baby's daddy? Mary and Joseph took good care of baby Jesus. They put a blanket around him to keep him warm.

"Wah, wah," cried the baby. "Shh, shh," said Mary, "Don't cry." She fed him and patted him to sleep. The animals all gathered around and looked at the sleeping baby.

Save the manger scene for Unit 4 Lesson 4.

Conclusion

Sing the song, "Baby Jesus Was Born" from the Unit 4 Song Sheet.

Ask the following questions to review the story:

- Where was baby Jesus born? (with the animals)
- Who was his mommy? (Mary)
- Who was his daddy? (Joseph)

Teacher Tips

If you can find a manger set, use it in place of the copy of Reproducible Page A. You will also need the manger set for Unit 4 Lesson 4.

Jesus Is Born



Jesus Is Born

The Best Present

The children will learn that babies (especially baby Jesus) are presents from God.

Bible Truth

Jesus was born.
(Luke 2:6-7)

Materials

For the teacher:

- small baby doll that can fit inside a shoe box
- doll blanket or dish towel
- wrapping paper
- tape
- scissors
- shoe box
- doll bottle (optional)

Preparation

1. Wrap the blanket around the baby doll.
2. Wrap the bottom of the shoe box with wrapping paper.
3. Place the doll inside the shoe box.
4. Practice the activity and learn the songs, so that you will be familiar with them before class.

Instructions

Who remembers what kind of news it was when baby Jesus was born? Was it good news or bad news? That's right, it was good news!

Do you know that when God gave us baby Jesus, he was giving us a present? Who likes to get presents? We ALL like to get presents, don't we? Who would like to look inside this box and see the present that God gave us?

Pass around the present and let each child look inside. As the children look inside, ask each child, *Who did God give us?* (baby Jesus)

Take the baby doll out of the box. Pass the doll to the children, and let them take turns holding baby Jesus. Encourage them to wrap the blanket around him to keep him warm, and to feed him with the bottle.

As the children take turns, sing "Baby Jesus Was Born" and "God Helps Babies" from the Unit 4 Song Sheet.

Bible Truth Activity

Who did the angel tell Mary would be born? Baby Jesus! And was he born? Yes, he was born. Jesus was born. Let's all say it together. Jesus was born.

Conclusion

Let's pray and thank God. Thank you, God, that Jesus was born. Amen.

Many people need to know the good news that Jesus was born. Who can you tell this good news to?

Teacher Tips

- Some children will not want to share the baby doll. Help them by using words like "taking turns." *First, it was Mark's turn, and now it is Meredith's turn. It will be your turn in a minute, but now it is Meredith's turn.*
- For a class of all twos, you may want to have a baby doll for each child in the center. The concept of sharing is usually not learned until a child is three.

Jesus Was Born.



Jesus Is Born Manger Scene

The children will create a manger scene to remind them that Jesus was born in a stable.

Materials

For each child:

- 1/2" sheet construction paper
- 1 square of brown felt, 1"
- linen or cotton cloth, 1 small square
- 3 large craft sticks
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- small bag sterile hay (found in a craft store)
- scissors for cloth
- marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the manger picture from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

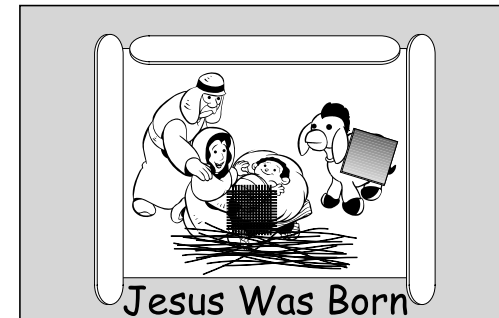
Instructions

1. Show the children your model of the craft and point out the animals, baby Jesus, Joseph and Mary.
2. Give each child a manger picture and a piece of construction paper. Have them glue the picture to their papers.

3. Help them glue the different textured items on the picture, as shown in Figure A.
 - A. Help the children to glue their felt squares onto the donkey. Have them touch the felt, and then discuss how it feels.
 - B. Help the children to glue their oval of cloth onto baby Jesus. Explain to them how the cloth covering helps keep him warm.
 - C. Help the children to glue their hay onto the floor of the stable. Discuss why there is hay in the stable. (for the animals to eat, lie down on, keep warm)
4. Help the children to glue three craft sticks on the border of the picture, see Figure B. Discuss how we build stables and houses out of wood. Have them touch the wood, and describe how it feels. (smooth)
5. On the bottom of the papers write "Jesus Was Born."
6. Write the children's names on their crafts.
7. After the children are finished making their crafts, sing "Baby Jesus Was Born" and "God Helps Babies" from the Unit 4 Song Sheet. Point out the baby Jesus on their crafts as you sing.

Teacher Tips

Give the children the different textured items one at a time, otherwise they will get confused and will have a difficult time doing the craft. Follow the step-by-step instructions carefully.



Jesus Is Born

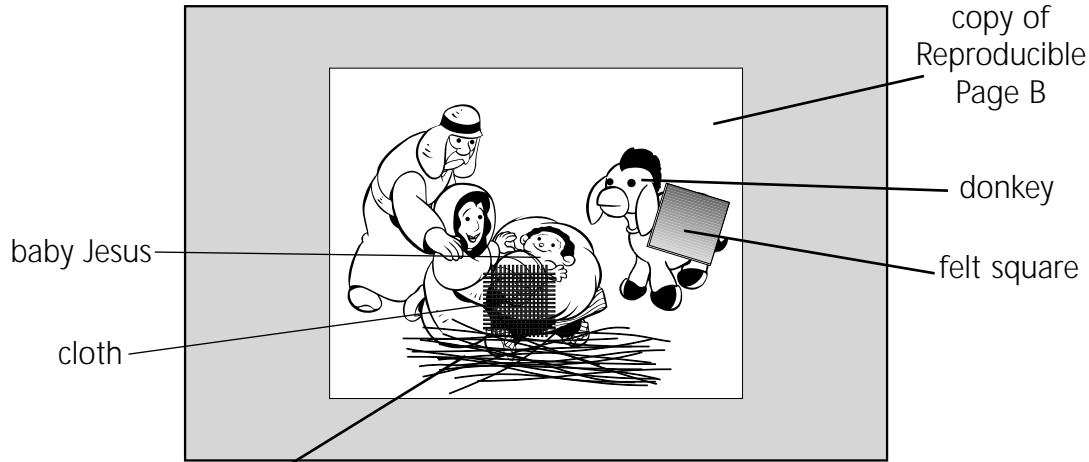


Figure A

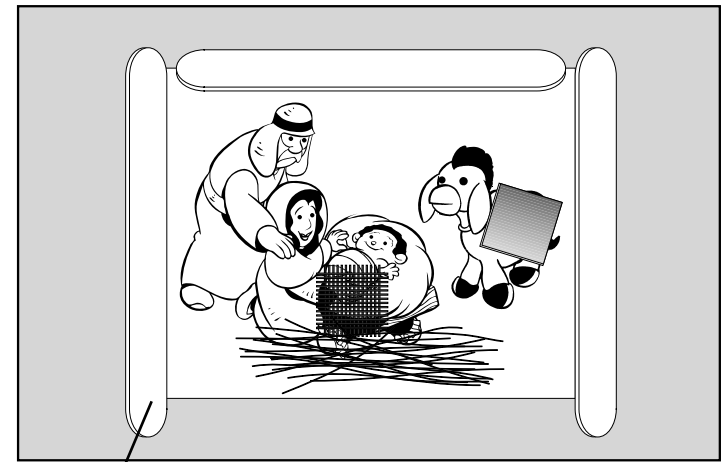
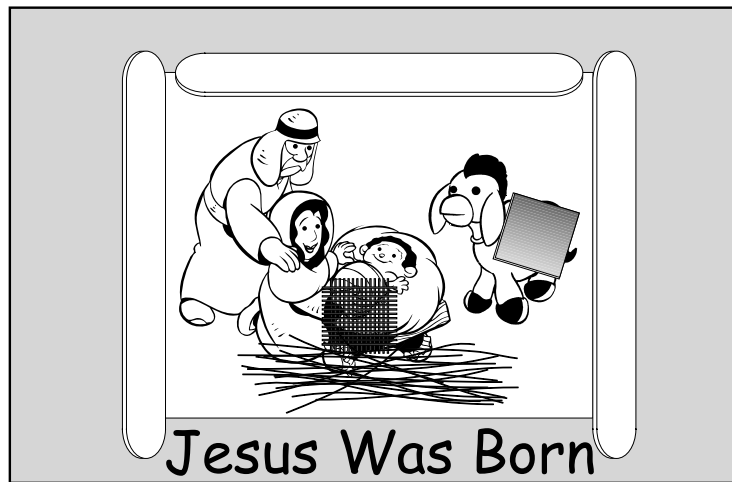


Figure B



Finished Craft



Lesson Objectives

- The children will state that Jesus was born in a stable.
- The children will hear the story of Jesus' birth.
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Bible Story Text

Luke 2:1-7

Bible Truth

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Preclass Centers

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3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

Instructions

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Jesus Is Born

Jesus

Lesson 3

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activities: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: In a Stable

Bible Story: Manger Baby

Craft: God's Gift to Me

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
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Life

Application



In a Stable

The children will pretend to be animals in the stable where baby Jesus was born. This activity will reinforce that Jesus was born with the animals.

Bible Truth

Jesus was born.
(Luke 2:6-7)

Materials

For the teacher:

- small piece of poster board or cardboard
- scissors
- aluminum foil
- table or large cardboard box, large enough to fit one child
- large sheet or tablecloth, large enough to hang over three sides of the table
- small baby doll
- baby blanket
- open shoe box or other box to hold baby doll
- tape

Preparation

1. Cut a star out of the poster board and cover it with aluminum foil.
2. Wrap the baby in the blanket and place it in the shoe box.
3. Drape the sheet over three of the sides of the table to form a "stable."
4. Place the shoe box with the baby doll inside the stable.
5. Tape the star to the top edge of the table.

Jesus Is Born

Jesus Lesson 3

Instructions

1. Ask the children what animals might have been with Jesus when he was born.
2. Pretend to act out each animal along with the children.
3. Sing "In Bethlehem There Was a Barn" from the Unit 4 Song Sheet.

Bible Truth Activity

Hold the baby doll in your arms. *What was the baby's name who was born? His name was Jesus. Jesus was born. Let's all say it together: Jesus was born. Jesus was a special baby. He was God's son!*

Conclusion

Let's pray. Thank you, God, for giving us Jesus. Amen.

Many people need to know about Jesus being born. Who can you tell? Some people don't know that Jesus was born. We need to tell them.

Teacher Tips

- Some children will not want to share the baby doll. Help them by using words like "taking turns." *First, it was Mark's turn, and now it is Meredith's turn. It will be your turn in a minute, but now it is Meredith's turn.*
- For a class of all twos, you may want to have a baby doll for each child in the center. The concept of sharing is usually not learned until a child is three.

Manger Baby

The children will learn about the birth of Jesus.

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Luke 2:1-7

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- markers
- angel stick puppet from Unit 4 Lesson 1, Bible Story
- Mary and Joseph stick puppets from Unit 4 Lesson 2, Bible Story

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

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2. Color the picture of the manger scene.

Instructions

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Jesus Lesson 3

This is where baby Jesus was born. Do you see the baby? Can you find the baby's mommy? Yes, that is Mary. Can you find Joseph, the baby's daddy? Mary and Joseph took good care of baby Jesus. They put a blanket around him to keep him warm.

"Wah, wah," cried the baby. "Shh, shh," said Mary, "Don't cry." She fed him and patted him to sleep. The animals all gathered around and looked at the sleeping baby.

Save the manger scene for Unit 4 Lesson 4.

Conclusion

Sing the song, "Baby Jesus Was Born" from the Unit 4 Song Sheet.

Ask the following questions to review the story:

- Where was baby Jesus born? (with the animals)
- Who was his mommy? (Mary)
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Teacher Tips

If you can find a manger set, use it in place of the copy of Reproducible Page A. You will also need the manger set for Unit 4 Lesson 4.



God's Gift to Me

The child will make a "gift" reminding them that Jesus is God's gift to them.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of bright-colored construction paper
- 1 piece of Christmas gift wrap, 5½" x 8" rectangle
- 1 self-adhesive bow
- crayons for children
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- white paper
- marker
- ribbon
- tape (optional)

Reproducible Page:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures of Jesus in the manger from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. Align and then fold the construction paper, as shown in Figure A.
3. Cut the white paper into 1" x 8½" pieces, one for each child. Write on each paper "God's Gift to Me Is Jesus."
4. For each child cut one 5½" and one 8" piece of ribbon.

Jesus Is Born

Jesus Lesson 3

Instructions

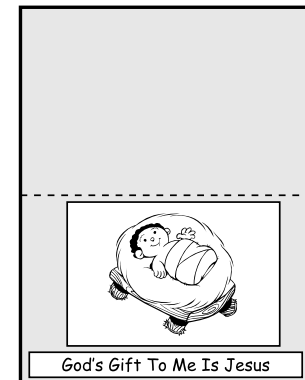
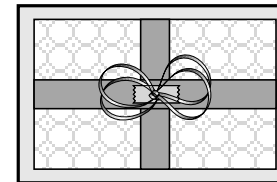
1. Give the children each a piece of folded construction paper and help them to glue the picture of Jesus (copy of Reproducible Page C) and the "God's Gift to Me Is Jesus" paper on the inside. See Figure B.
2. Give them each a piece of wrapping paper and help them to glue it to the outside of the construction paper. See Figure C.
3. Give the children their ribbon, and help them glue these across the center of the wrapping paper, as shown in Figure D.
4. Have the children stick their bows in the center where the ribbon crosses.
5. If time allows, give the children crayons to color their "gifts."
6. After the children are finished working, sing "Baby Jesus Was Born" from the Unit 4 Song Sheet.

Conclusion

After everyone is finished, make sure everyone closes their "gifts." Ask them: *What is the very best present of all?* Have them open their gifts and say, *Jesus! Who gave us Jesus? God did! Who loves Jesus? I do!*

Teacher Tips

You may want to use tape to reinforce the bow so it stays in place.



craft

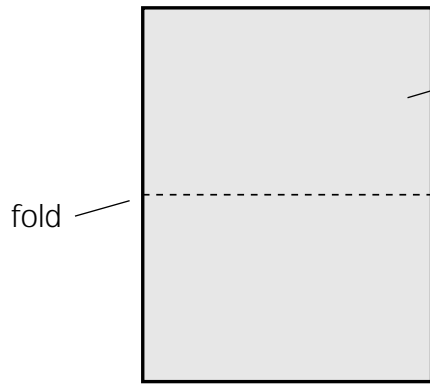


Figure A

construction paper

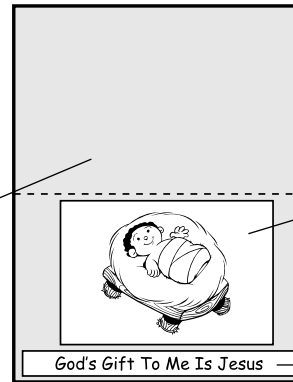


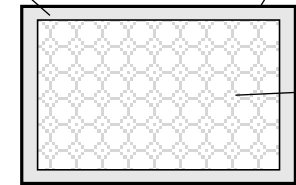
Figure B

outside of construction paper

fold

copy of Reproducible Page C

white paper



wrapping paper

Figure C

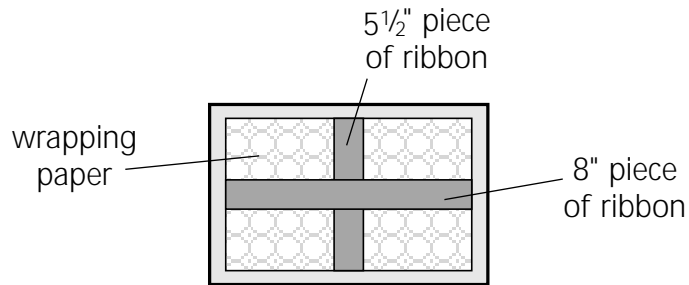
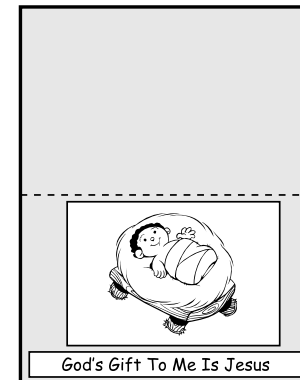
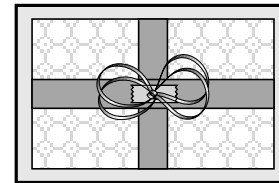


Figure D



Finished Craft





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manger scene





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manger picture





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baby Jesus drawing

