

## Activity Instructions

Today we are thinking about how God comes close to us, in a baby born in Bethlehem all those years ago on the first Christmas night.

### Activity 1: Bible timeline slider

Colour the pictures, cut along the lines and join the two parts together and then thread it through the slits in the card strip so that one of the pictures show between the slits, as you pull the strip through. Do you know what story each picture represents? We will be using this in the story video and then you will be able to use it to tell other people the story.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

### Activity 2: Heart with baby Jesus

Make an origami heart (see the video for how to do this) and draw a picture of baby Jesus and place it in the pocket of the heart. This will remind you that Jesus came because he loves you so much.

*She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the village inn. Luke 2:7*

### Activity 3: Stained-glass window

Colour in the pictures with markers. Then apply glue on the parts marked glue and place the dark card window shape on top lining up all the edges.

Hang up your picture in a window to remind you about today's story and the reason why we have Christmas.

*'And this is how you will recognize him: You will find a baby lying in a manger, wrapped snugly in strips of cloth!' Luke 2:12*

### Activity 4: Joy ribbon

Take three caps from milk or juice cartons and write the letters J O Y on the inside of them using either a permanent marker or nail varnish. Then attached the caps to the ribbon using sticky fixers (or glue dots). Then attach a loop to hang up your Joy ribbon decoration. (As an alternative you could cut out letters from coloured paper and stick them onto the caps)

The angels brought the message of JOY to the shepherds who went and saw Jesus for themselves and then shared the JOY with all those who they met. How and with who will you share the JOY this Christmas?

*Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others – the armies of heaven – praising God: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to all whom God favours.' Luke 2: 13-14*

### Activity 5: Nativity scene

Have fun playing with the Nativity sticker scene in you pack. (If you have not requested a pack there is an alternative activity at this link: [https://af51dd98-adab-4c43-ba03-c87e019551a5.filesusr.com/ugd/ebdd71\\_432c59803df544ac896ad2b9e152f2a5.pdf](https://af51dd98-adab-4c43-ba03-c87e019551a5.filesusr.com/ugd/ebdd71_432c59803df544ac896ad2b9e152f2a5.pdf) )

I wonder can you use your stickers (or the figures) to tell the story.

*The shepherds ran to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. Luke 2: 16*

### **Activity 6: Hot chocolate and marshmallows**

Make your hot chocolate and top with the marshmallows and then sit down in a comfortable space to enjoy it while you watch today's story video.

*The angel reassured them. 'Don't be afraid!' he said. 'I bring you good news of great joy for everyone!! The Saviour – yes., the Messiah, the Lord – has been born tonight in Bethlehem, the city of David!' Luke 2:10-11*