

Topic:	Year group	Term Autumn
Christmas - Journeys	Year 3	7 Sessions

Background knowledge

Pupils look at how Christians find meaning in the stories of Jesus' birth. Using visual and written sources and music, pupils learn about and develop their understanding of some of the ways in which Christians celebrate Jesus' birth. They encounter biblical stories, develop their understanding of the use of symbolic language and examine how religious beliefs and ideas can be conveyed through the arts.

What should I already know?

I can talk about the festival of Hannukkah.
 I can describe the importance of light.
 I understand the idea of something being special.
 I can describe some of the things Christians do to celebrate Christmas.
 I can retell the story of the birth of Jesus.

R.E. Agreed Syllabus / Key Skills	The Journey
Know the annunciation to Mary (Luke Ch 1 v 26-56); and the birth and role of John the Baptist (Luke Ch 1 v 57-66 & Mark Ch 1 v 1-8) Explore Advent themes eg. preparation, hope, prophecy - their role within the festival. Know the real message of Christmas - that of giving to reflect God's gift of Jesus. Know how and why Christians prepare to give and help people in need at Christmas. <i>I know about the angel visiting Mary</i> <i>I can explain Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.</i> <i>I can talk about the role of the shepherds.</i> <i>I know about the journey of the three wise men and the gifts they brought for Jesus.</i>	1. Know about the visit of the Angel Gabriel to Mary and Elizabeth. 2. To find out about the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. 3. Explore the feelings of the shepherds through music. (Handel's Messiah) 4. Explore Advent themes and investigate Christingle. 5. Know the real message of Christmas - that of giving to reflect God's gift of Jesus. <u>Spring 1.</u> 6. Use art to explore the journey and symbolism of the gifts of the three wise men. Taught on Epiphany Jan 6th. 7. Know who King Herod was and why Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus on a long Journey to Egypt. Taught following Epiphany.

I know about King Herod and the journey of Mary and Joseph to escape to Egypt. I can explain how Christians today help people in need through Christingle.	
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Outcomes

An overview of what children will know / can do

Working towards: I can retell the visits by the angel.

I can explain why Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem.

I can talk about a piece of music. (Handel's Messiah.)

I can make a Christingle and begin to understand the symbolism.

I can explain what Christmas means to me.

I can retell the story of the Magi accurately, according to Matthew chapter 2.

I can explain why King Herod wanted to find Jesus.

Expected: I can identify possible responses to the visits from the angel.

I can explain how Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem.

I can identify different moods created by the music. (Handel's Messiah.)

I can explain the meaning of each part of the Christingle with support.

I can start to tell you what Christmas means to Christians and what it means to me.

I can explore the beliefs expressed in the story of the Magi and explain why this story is important to Christians

I can explain how Jesus found safety from Herod

Exceeding: I can make links between Jesus and John the Baptist.

I can describe the journey Mary and Joseph went on.

I can reflect on how the shepherds may have been feeling.

I understand the symbolism of the Christingle.

I recognise that Christmas means different things to different people.

I can look at the idea of symbolism and explore some possible meanings for each of the gifts

I can reflect on how difficult it may be to settle in a new country as refugees.

Key Vocabulary	Timeline / Diagrams
Angels - are powerful, smart spirits that obey God's commands and praise him with singing. They sometimes appear to humans in human form. They can deliver messages to people in person or in dreams. Jesus - Jesus of Nazareth, is the central figure of Christianity. Christmas - is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child Jesus. Frankincense- burned in Jerusalem's sacred temples during ancient times. Myrrh - is used as a medicine and a perfume. Gold - Gold is very valuable and represents God's love because His love is more precious and more valuable than all the gold. The three gifts (gold, frankincense and myrrh) had a spiritual meaning Hope - To desire especially with expectation that the wish will be granted Love - Strong and warm affection Joy - Joy is the expression of inner happiness and contentment. Peace - Agreement and harmony among people. Advent - is time of preparation and waiting for the birth of Jesus. Magi - wisemen	The symbolism of Christingle Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story: The orange represents the world The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.

Key people / places

Important people or places

Mary

Joseph

Elizabeth

John the Baptist

Baby Jesus

Angel Gabriel

Shepherds

Inn Keeper

Three wise men

King Herod

Jerusalem

Nazareth

Bethlehem

Egypt

Assessment questions / outcomes

Why is the story of Jesus' birth so important to Christians?

What are the key features of the nativity stories and what do they mean?

How do Christians express their beliefs today?

What can we learn from the nativity stories to help us in our lives today?

What does each part in a Christingle represent?