

Story Time

What You Need

- ☐ Preschool Bible
- ☐ Little People® Nativity

① What You Do

1. Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story.

② What You Say

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. **(Place the Nativity in front of you.)** I need your help telling our Bible Story today. Today's true story from the Bible **(hold up the Bible)** is the true story of Christmas.

"Our story begins with Mary **(hold up Mary figure)** and Joseph **(hold up Joseph figure)** had to travel a long way to Bethlehem, so Mary rode a donkey. **(Walk Joseph and Mary on a donkey in front of you.)** When they got there, they stayed in a place with a manger **(Hold up or point to the manger.)** A manger is what animals eat from, so there may have been animals there too. **(Pick up each animal.)** Like a horse, a cow, or a sheep! This is where baby Jesus was born! **(Put Jesus in the manger between Mary and Joseph.)** Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger. God loves us so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus. **[Bottom Line]** God gave us Jesus."

SOCIAL 2/3

Star Pick-Up

What You Need

- ☐ Lint rollers
- ☐ Foam stars or metallic star confetti
- ☐ Plastic container
- ☐ Optional: Yellow construction paper, permanent marker, and scissors in place of foam stars or metallic star confetti



① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Scatter the stars along the table and place the container in the center.
2. Unwrap or remove the outer layer of each lint roller.
3. Option: Cut the paper into 1-inch pieces and draw a simple star shape on each and scatter on the table.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to roll the lint roller over the stars to see how many they can pick up.
2. Have them remove the stars from the lint roller and place them in the container. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity

Introduce the Bible Story.

② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Join me over here at the table."

During the Activity

"There are stars scattered all over the table, and I need your help picking them up. I have these rollers for us to use to make it more fun! To use them, you just roll them over the table like this. **(Demonstrate.)** Okay! Let's get rolling! **(Pause.)** After you've collected the stars on your roller, pick them off and put them in the container then do it again. **(Have children share the lint rollers if needed. Reset and repeat as desired.)** That was a fun using these rollers to pick up all the stars."

After the Activity

"Look at all the stars you collected. God put so many stars in the sky but today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about one very special star that helped show them the way to Jesus!"

Transition → Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to follow you as you walk a few steps then do a star jump. Repeat as desired as you travel to your designated area.

GROUPS 5/6

Story Star Ornament

MADE TO
↓
Create

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Story Star Ornament" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Hole punch
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Permanent marker

Inclusive Pro Tips



Provide adaptive crayons

① What You Do

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Story Star Ornament" on cardstock and cut, one set per child.
2. Fold each child's paper in half along the line.
3. Punch a hole at the top and bottom of each child's star.
4. Cut yarn in 8-inch lengths, two per child.
5. For each child, thread one piece of yarn through the hole at the top of their star and knot the ends.
6. Thread the other piece of yarn through the hole at the bottom and tie a knot.
7. Write each child's name on their star.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to color both sides of their picture.
2. Ask children to flip their picture over and rub glue all over the back of their paper.
3. Help children fold their paper and sandwich the end of the yarn inside.

After the Activity

Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

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② What You Say

Before the Activity

"Friends, come to the table and let's create a super special star ornament."

During the Activity

"We're going to make a special ornament today. This fun ornament will help us remember when the wise men followed a special star God put in the sky to find Jesus."

Color the pictures on your paper. **(Pause.)** Flip your paper over and rub glue all over the back. **(Pause.)** Great job! Now let's fold your pictures up with the end of the yarn inside. **(Help fold each child's picture with the yarn inside.)** Hold your ornament up by the loop. **(Pause.)** See how the wise men are following the star on one side and on the other they're at Jesus' house! What a neat ornament!

After the Activity

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with some wise men who believed God's words and knew that God was giving us someone very special. God put a special star in the sky to show the wise men the way. They followed the star until it stopped over Jesus' house! Jesus is the special person God gave us! When the wise men saw Jesus, they bowed down, worshiped Jesus, and gave Him very special gifts. We can worship Jesus too because God loves us so much **[Bottom Line]** God gave us Jesus! How do we know God loves us? **[Bottom Line]** God gave us Jesus!"