

December — Week 1

Large Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Kids arrival : 9:25 / 11:10

Play high-pitch music as kids arrive

Countdown : 9:30 / 11:15

Start the countdown with excitement!

Large Group : 9:30-9:55 / 11:15-11:40

→ Opener

→ Bible Story

→ Talk It Out!

→ Memory Verse

→ Prayer

Transition to Small group : 9:55-10:00
/11:40-11:45

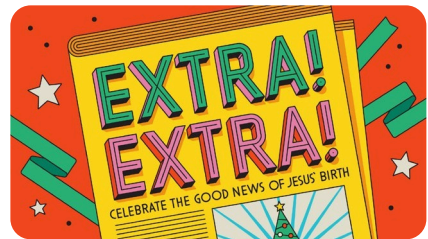
Kids move with their leader to small groups

Small group : 10:00-10:25 / 11:45-12:10

Creating a safe place to connect.

✧ Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd guide.

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

Jesus Is Promised
Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2

Bottom Line

Jesus is good news
for everyone.

Memory Verse

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:11 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

10 MINUTES

OPENER

① Opener

AUDIO 01 → Play high-energy music as kids enter.
SLIDE → Theme

→ Host enters.

Optional Video → Countdown
Optional Video → Theme Intro

HOST: "Hey friends, welcome to *[Name of environment]*! We're so glad you're here today. This month we're discovering something super-special—it's all about Christmas, the time when we celebrate Jesus, God's greatest gift to all of us!

"Extra! Extra! Read all about it! God sent His Son because He loves us!

"But before we dive into learning more about God's great gift, we're going to start off with something super-fun! Let's get started with our game called 'Gift Shuffle.' This game is all about celebrating the gift of Jesus by moving with joy!

SLIDE → Game_Gift Shuffle!

"Here's what you need for our game today: Just your smile and some space to move around. That's it!

"Here's how you play: I'm going to call out a Christmas/ wintertime activity, and when I say 'freeze,' you will freeze into a frozen version of that activity.

"Okay, are you ready? Let's all spread out so we've got room to move. *(Pause as the kids spread out.)*

"Great! Now that we've all got room to move, let's play our first round!"

→ For round one, call out a wintertime activity. *(Several are listed below.)* Comment on the action, then say, "freeze," and comment on the kids' poses.

AUDIO 02 → Christmas Background Music

10 MINUTES

OPENER

→ Play several rounds.

→ Christmas/wintertime activities: *(Feel free to add your own.)*

→ Open a gift

→ Make a snowman

→ Decorate a Christmas tree

→ Wrap a gift

→ Drink hot chocolate

→ Warm yourself by the fire

→ Have a snowball fight

→ Decorate Christmas cookies

→ Go caroling

“Great job! That was so winter-y and Christmas-y!! I want to grab a candy cane just because I felt the season so much through you guys! Please take a seat. *(Pause as the kids sit down.)*

Let’s hear our true story from the Bible today!”

10 MINUTES

Story

③

Bible Story

SLIDE -> Story Lab W1

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Wow, I'm so thankful for the words God spoke to Isaiah and Micha.

"Well, as we just saw, the Christmas story isn't just about a baby in a manger, it's about a promise that God kept. Before the shepherds, the star, even Mary and Joseph, God had a plan to rescue us. And that plan is Jesus. He's the reason we celebrate Christmas. God loves you so much He sent you Jesus!

"So let's celebrate Jesus this Christmas. He is the best gift ever—the best gift from a God who loves you so, so much that He worked for years and years to bring you a rescue.

"And this gift is not just for you—it's for everyone! That's our Bottom Line for today:

SLIDE -> Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "Jesus is good news for everyone. Say that with me."

STORYTELLER and KIDS: *[Bottom Line]* "Jesus is good news for everyone."

SLIDE -> Memory Verse

Memory Verse

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."

Luke 2:11 NIrV

5 MINUTES

TALK IT OUT



SLIDE -> Talk It Out

Talk It Out Questions

- Q: Who made a promise to send a Rescuer?
- A: God did!
- Q: Who is the Rescuer God promised to send?
- A: Jesus!
- Q: Who told people that Jesus would come?
- A: The prophet Isaiah.
- Q: Where did Micah say Jesus would be born?
- A: In Bethlehem.
- Q: What are some names Isaiah said Jesus would have?
- A: Wonderful Adviser, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.

5 MINUTES

Prayer

Prayer

STORYTELLER or HOST: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus, the promise that You kept. Help us to always remember that You love us so much that You sent us Jesus. Help us remember Your great love this Christmas and beyond! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Transition → Dismiss kids to their small groups.
AUDIO → Play high-energy music as the kids exit.
SLIDE → Theme
Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE) → Theme Loop

PLANNING

Getting Ready: Opener

What You Need

☐ Host

Music and Sound Effects

☐ Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room

Large Group Visuals

☐ Theme Slide
☐ Memory Verse Slide

Optional Videos

☐ Theme Loop
☐ Countdown
☐ Theme Intro

What You Do:

1. Download the slides or optional videos and have them ready

to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.

2. Download music and/or sound effects on an authorized basis from a resource such as Apple Music®, Amazon Music®, and/or a sound effect library and have it ready to play. Or, if you choose to stream music, refer to the terms and conditions of your streaming service. Note that you will likely need a commercial license in order to stream music publicly. Also confirm that your church has appropriate licensing to perform music and sound effects in your kids' environments, such as a blanket PERFORMmusic™ license from CCS.

→ Note: Legally a song and/or sound effect belongs to the

songwriter/composer who created it and the publisher who markets it. Performance rights organizations (PROs) license public performances (live or recorded) of their members' music. PROs in the U.S. are ASCAP, BMI, and SESAC. It is up to you to make sure your church has permission to perform or play a recording of a song and/or sound effect.

APlay

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