



Why does Christmas matter to Christians? 1



What I already know

In EYFS we learned, retold and performed the Christian Christmas Story.
 Christians believe in one true God and Jesus His son.
 Christians believe God is like a Father to all people and that He created the Universe.



What I will know at the end of this unit:

Give a clear, simple account of the story of Jesus' birth and why Jesus is important for Christians.
 Recognise that stories of Jesus' life come from the Gospels.
 Give examples of ways in which Christians use the story of the nativity to guide their beliefs and actions at Christmas. Decide what they personally have to be thankful for at Christmas time.

Resources

- Lion Storytelling Bible
- Beginners Bible clips on Youtube
- Christmas Story books from our school library
- (Luke 1:26-38/Matthew 1:18-25)
- Jesus is born in Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-7)
- Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20) and magi (wise men) visit (Matthew 2:1-12)
- Song Lyrics – Come and join the celebration
- Away in a Manger
- Class advent calendar

Concepts I need to understand

Building Blocks

Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.

- The Bible points out that his birth showed that he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example, to the poor, in Luke).
- Christians celebrate Jesus' birth; Advent for Christians is a time of getting ready for Jesus' coming.



Challenge and Support

Challenge: Why do Christians celebrate Christmas? Do they enjoy Christmas more than those who believe differently? How will a Christian Christmas be different? What if..?

Support – Sharing basic Christmas story picture books – sequencing using small world people, asking more closed questions – Who was Mary? What happened to her? Where was Mary when she had her baby? How do we know? Use the Bible to show them the story. Why were they visiting Bethlehem? What is a census?

Ideas for tasks

- Circle time – Christmas artefact to discuss,
- Role-play post office – wrapping, writing paper – lists – cards
- Advent calendar – explain advent
- Different versions - reading/ watching Christmas Story.
- Look at viewpoints of people in the story – shepherds, Mary, Joseph, animals..
- Look at Christmas art work – which are Christian, which are not Why?
- Nativity Play

[Please read the Understanding Christianity Booklet before planning!](#)

Incarnation_unit_WEB.pdf:http://www.understandingchristianity.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/KS1_1.3_-Incarnation_unit_WEB.pdf

Reflection/Evaluation

Time to evaluate after story reading or advent discussions.
 Time with tree lights on . Use of RE working wall and reflection area.

What does Christmas meant to you? What might it mean to someone who lives alone? How do Christians celebrate? Why?

Vocabulary

Nativity - The story of Jesus' birth, called the **nativity** , is often retold by children in **nativity** plays. ...

Christmas - is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration by billions of people around the world.

Jesus - Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God. Other Faiths see him as a prophet.

God – Christians believe there is only one true God who made heaven and Earth.

King – Jesus is born a servant King not in a palace

Advent – a time of preparation for Jesus' birth