



The Teacher's Aid



*"Teacher-Friendly" Ideas and Helps for Your Children's Ministry.
A training resource of BCM International (Canada) Inc.*

**Christmas
2015**

PRE-SCHOOL POINTERS



Christmas Song

"Christmas Bells"

(Tune: Jingle Bells)



*Christmas Bells, Christmas Bells,
Ring them all the day;
For God loved us and sent His Son
To take our sins away.*

(repeat)

Try this familiar tune with new words that reinforce the truth of the Christmas story.

Supplies:

- * Bell Pattern (attached)
- * Light colored poster board or cardstock.
- * Glue stick
- * Red narrow ribbon

Preparation:

Using the bell pattern make 4 bells of light-colored poster board or cardstock. Type each line as a word strip on computer (use broad, large font), print each line and glue onto bells.

Alternate idea: With black broad marker, print one line of the chorus on each bell.

At the top of each bell, punch hole and tie 2 small jingle bells with colored ribbon onto bells.

Procedure:

Have children hold bells and "ring them" as they sing the song.

Christmas Picture Walk

Try this fresh approach to telling the Christmas story. Place objects representing the story in paper bags with # of the scene marked on them. For example:

Scene 1—Angel and Mary (angel figurine)

Scene 2—Jesus in manger (Baby doll wrapped in cloth.)

Scene 3—Shepherd on hillside with sheep (toy lamb)

Scene 4—Shepherds at manger (shepherd from a creche)

Have a child choose an object from a bag in order of the scenes. Tell that part of the story or ask the children how it relates to the Christmas story. Display the object on a table as each is chosen.

Option: corresponding pictures of each scene may also be used as the story is told. Find them on the web at www.freebibleimages.org.



BCM International (Canada) Inc.

685 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON L8M 1K4

Phone 905-549-9810 Toll Free 1-877-272-9262 Fax 905-549-7664

Email: mission@bcmintl.ca Website: www.bcmintl.ca

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Name That Word!

MARY

MANGER

WISEMEN

STAR



A great introduction or review of the Christmas story.

Preparation:

Make a list of groups of 3 words describing similar things. Include one word in each group from the Christmas story. For example: **Jason, Amy, Mary**; **bed, manger, cradle**; **star, moon, sun**; **girl, adult, baby**.

Option: the groups of words could also be rhyming such as **car, jar, star**. The words can also be printed in large clear letters on cards to help visual learners.

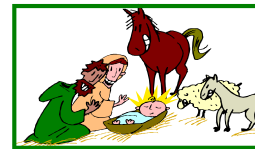
Procedure:

Tell the children you will say and/or show three words in a group (one group at a time) and they are to listen carefully. Think about which word is part of the Christmas story. Repeat the words again and this time have children clap their hands when you say the Christmas word. The action can be changed for each group of words such as jump three times, nod their head, wave their hands, etc. After each group of words, have the children tell you the Christmas word in the group. Then have that or another child tell how it fits into the Christmas story. Be sure to have enough "word groups" so that each child gets a turn.

Supplies:

- * Manger scene pattern (attached) or one from internet
- * 9" x 12" red or green construction paper
- * Cotton balls
- * Crayons, glue sticks
- * Gold star stickers of various sizes

Nativity CRAFT



This craft can be done as a pre-session activity or during class.

Preparation:

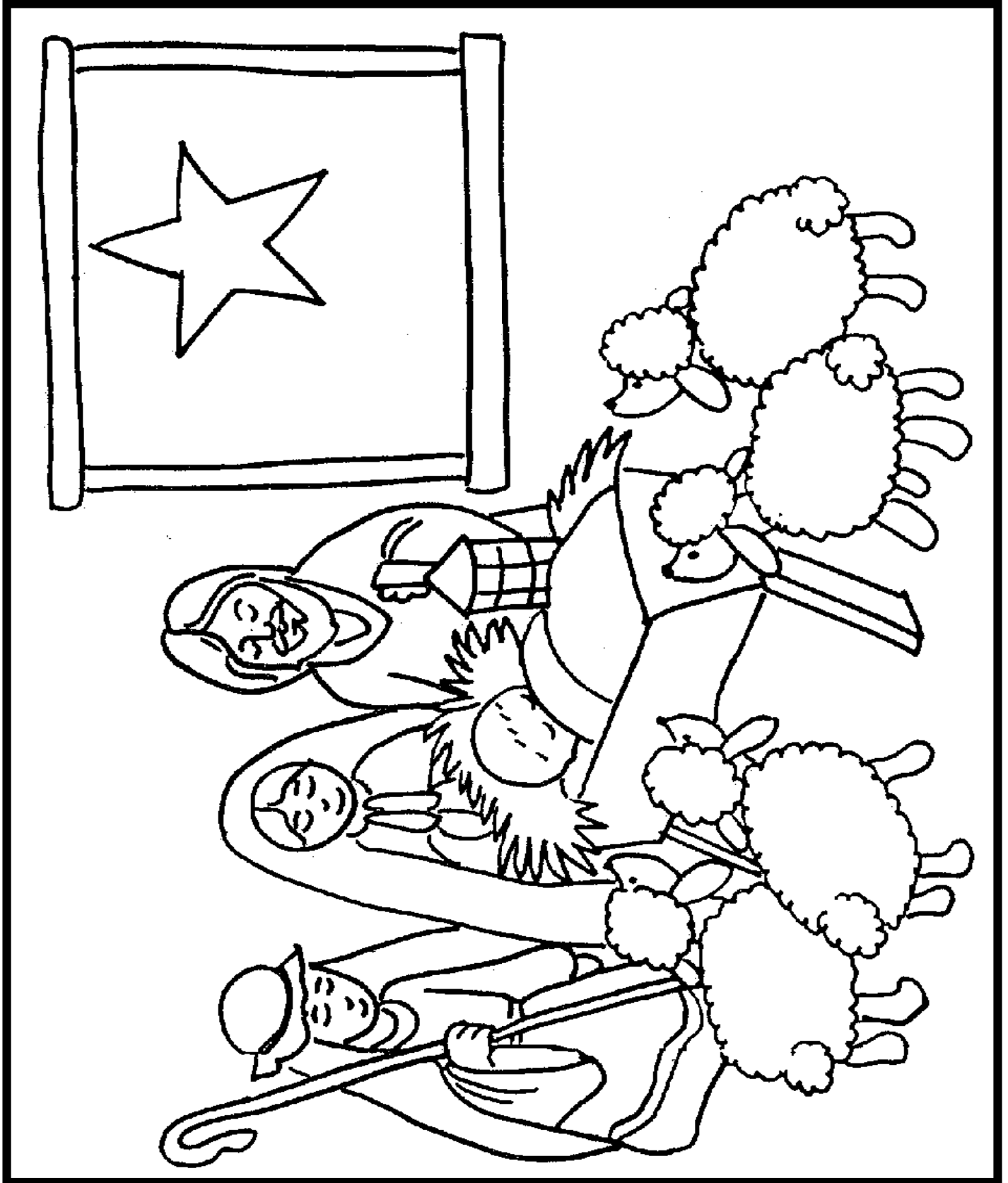
Make a copy of the manger scene for each child. Glue the scene to the construction paper so that a paper-framed edge is created around the scene.

Procedure:

Attendance/Memory Motivator: Use this for whatever number of weeks needed before Christmas. The first week each child can be given a scene to color. Write each child's name on the back of their scene. Then have each child glue 1 cotton ball onto the back of 1 sheep for attendance. If the child can say last week's memory verse, a star sticker can be put in the sky. After the last class before Christmas, allow children to take their scenes home as a Christmas decoration.

Craft: Use as a Christmas craft idea for one or more weeks. Have children talk about each part of the Christmas story as they color and glue.

Review: The scene can be enlarged to one 8x14 or 11x17 inch poster. Have a supply of cotton balls and stickers ready. The scene can be colored in ahead of time or coloring can be part of the review. This can be done in one class or spread out over several weeks. When questions about Jesus and Christmas are answered, each child can come and color a part of the scene or glue a cotton ball or place a star on the poster.





Bell

Pattern

