

# JESUS WAS BORN



## TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

### SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for volunteers to pray. Lead the kids to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

### MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Guide kids to group time. Lead them to use decorations to decorate the tree.

### INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

#### JESUS WAS BORN—BASED ON LUKE 2:1-20

- Say: “It’s fun to decorate a Christmas tree, but let’s spend time hearing why we celebrate Christmas.”

### SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

*(In advance, read the story from the Bible and the Kids Activity Page. During the session, open the Bible and tell or summarize the Bible story.)*

- Mary and Joseph traveled together from Nazareth to Bethlehem, Joseph’s family’s hometown, to be counted in the census. While in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to Jesus. She wrapped Him in cloths and laid Him in a manger.
- Shepherds were watching their sheep nearby. An angel appeared and said, “Don’t be afraid. I bring you great news for all people. Today in Bethlehem, a Savior is born. He is the long-promised Messiah. You will find Him wrapped in cloths and sleeping in a manger.” Suddenly, other angels appeared saying, “Glory to God, and peace on earth.”
- The shepherds hurried to find Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. The shepherds told everyone the angel’s message and that they had seen Baby Jesus. They praised God for all they heard and saw.

### REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Why did Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem?
- Who was born in Bethlehem?
- What good news did the angels tell the shepherds?
- Think: Why did the shepherds tell everyone about Baby Jesus?

### EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Tell the kids that Jesus was born as God planned.

ROOM
YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS
DATE OF USE

### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God sent Jesus to earth as a real person.

### LIFE POINT

Jesus was born as God planned.

### UNIT VERSE

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Matthew 2:1

### WEEKLY VERSE

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Matthew 2:1

## SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush”:

*Jesus was born in Bethlehem,  
In Bethlehem, in Bethlehem.  
Jesus was born in Bethlehem,  
As God planned for Jesus.*

*Shepherds came to worship Him,  
To worship Him, to worship Him.  
Shepherds came to worship Him,  
Because Jesus is God’s Son.*

## SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Invite the kindergartners to stand with you. Say Matthew 2:1 aloud. Then guide the kids to spread out a little bit. Guide them to repeat the verse with you while marching in place.

## PRAY

Thank God for sending Jesus to be born, just as He planned.

## BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

**Emphasize: Jesus was born as God planned.**

- 1. Make a two-sided Bible verse puzzle.** Remove the fronts of manger scene Christmas cards. Provide each child with a card front, markers, child-size safety scissors, and an envelope. On the back of the card front, help each child write *Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Matthew 2:1* with a marker. Direct kids to cut their cards into five to six large pieces creating a puzzle. Guide kids to put together the picture side of their cards. Show kindergartners how to turn the puzzle picture over to see the verse printed on the back. Read the verse aloud and encourage kids to repeat it. Collect each child’s pieces in an envelope and write her name on her envelope.
- 2. Hook candy canes.** Place several candy canes in a large plastic bowl. Hand a child a candy cane. Instruct the child to put the end of the candy cane (the straight part) in his mouth. Guide him to try to hook a candy cane in the bowl with the hook of the candy cane in his mouth, and then to lift up the candy cane. After

the child hooks a candy cane, invite him to say the Life Point with you. When a child has finished his turn, encourage him to place the candy cane that he had in his mouth with his items to take home. Give each child an opportunity to “hook” a candy cane from the bowl.

### 3. Construct a plastic block manger scene.

Provide kids with plastic blocks and Teaching Picture 3 or the picture from a Kids Activity Page. Invite kids to work either as a group, or as individuals to create a manger scene. Prompt kids to build a stable with a manger. Provide people figures for shepherds, Jesus’ parents, Baby Jesus, and angels. Place farm animal figures nearby. As kids build, ask them to talk about what they remember from the Bible story.

- 4. Ice Christmas cookies.** Write the items to be used on an “Allergy Alert,” and post it for parents to see. Give each child a plain sugar cookie on a plate, and a plastic knife. Show kids how to spread white icing on their cookies with the knives. Then guide each child to shake some Christmas-colored sprinkles on his cookie. Say a prayer, thanking God for the Christmas snack and invite the kids to eat their cookies. As boys and girls eat, remind them Jesus was born as God planned.

## CLEAN UP

Form groups of two or three kids. Assign each group a specific area of the room. Encourage kids to work together to clean up their area.

## KEEP THE BALLOON IN THE AIR

Inflate a round balloon and securely tie it. Lead kids to form a circle in a space free of obstacles. Drop the balloon in the center of the circle and challenge kids to keep it in the air by hitting it up with their hands. As a child hits the balloon, encourage her to say the Unit/Weekly Verse or to repeat the Life Point.

## DISMISS

As parents arrive, help kids to gather their belongings. Thank parents for giving you the opportunity to teach their child. Wish each child a “Merry Christmas.”