

Why is Christmas special for Christians?

End of Unit Goal – Children will recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.

Date	Objective (s)	Task/activity	Resources	Key Vocabulary
Lesson 1	I can talk about similarities and differences about when I was a baby.	<u>Main Teaching</u> Children and staff to bring in a photograph of themselves as a baby. Children to have the opportunity to share their photograph with their friends and talk about what is the same and what is different e.g. eye colour, hair colour. Speaking and listening opportunities. Show the children a picture of Baby Jesus – who is this? Gather the children's thoughts and ideas. <u>Differentiated Activities/Challenges</u> Children to complete baby animal matching jigsaw	Baby photographs, picture of baby Jesus.	Baby, newborn, grow, older, younger
Lesson 2	I can explain some of what happens in the Christmas Story.	<u>Main Teaching</u> Ask the children to share their thoughts about what Christmas is – record on a mind map – put on washing line as we will be revisiting this at the end of the unit. Show the children the video of the First Christmas. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrTFAZPQxpE Share with the children the true meaning of Christmas. <u>Differentiated Activities/Challenges</u> Children to explore the nativity scene.	Youtube video	Jesus, birth, mary, joseph, Bethlehem, stable, manger, shepherds, wisemen, special, light, nativity.
Lesson	I can sing traditional Christmas songs.	<u>Main Teaching</u>		

3		Discuss with the children that we have been beginning to learn our songs for the nativity. There are some traditional Christmas carols that Christians sing to remind them of the true meaning of Christmas. Sing 'Little Donkey' - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVQPmtjHzh4 Sing 'Away in a Manger' - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zi45JkZtUnM Sing 'Silent Night' - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEH7_2c644Q <u>Differentiated Activities/Challenges</u> Have a CD with traditional carols for children to explore		
Lesson 4	I can explain why we give gifts at Christmas.	<u>Main Teaching</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plhZ9iPC3qc Show the children the video of the Wisemen visiting Baby Jesus. Talk about how the Wisemen knew how to get to Jesus, children to discuss the video. Explain that the three gifts are called gold, frankincense and myrrh. Explain that gifts show that Jesus was a special baby and the wisemen travelled a long way to worship Jesus and give him special gifts. The meaning of each gifts are – Gold – symbol of Jesus as a King, Frankincense – Symbol of Jesus as God (divine), Myrrh – Symbol that Jesus will suffer one day (die) <u>Differentiated Activities/Challenges</u> Show children a box wrapped in paper – children to unwrap the box and discover a paper heart which represents love. Circle time – children to talk about which gifts they hope to receive at Christmas. Talk about gifts they might give someone they love. Explain and discuss about what gifts they can give, even without money e.g. helping others, smiling, being kind, a hug etc. Children to each	Youtube, gold, frankincense and myrrh/ a gift wrapped box, paper heart. Gift tags.	old, frankincense and myrrh, gift present, love, thanks

		have a gift tag – children to imagine a ‘present’ they could give to show love and peace to someone (no monetary value). Children to then place their gift tag on the class Christmas tree. LA/SEND to draw gift and attempt to label it. T to take a photo of each child with their tag and placing it on the tree.		
Lesson 5	Visit from Reverend Katherine Bagnall – evidence for journals.			
Lesson 6	Christmas preparations – nativity practise, cards, calendars			
Lesson 7	Christmas preparations – nativity practise, cards, calendars			