

Links to religions



Christianity



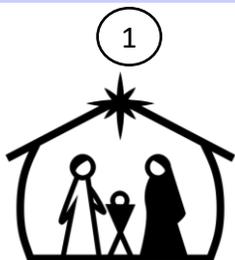
F2, Year 1, 2, 3, 4



Key Vocabulary

Jesus	Christians believe that he is the son of God and was sent to save humans from sins they had committed. He was born to two ordinary Jewish people called Mary and Joseph. Once he was an adult, Jesus travelled all over the country teaching people about God and encouraging people to respect and love one another.	Matthew	Matthew was one of Jesus' followers in the New Testament, an apostle or "messenger" who helped spread Jesus' message throughout the Middle East and beyond. The story of Matthew in the Gospel of Matthew explains that he was a publican, or tax collector, before following Jesus.
Christianity	The religion based on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ, or its beliefs and practices.	illustrate	An illustration is a decoration, interpretation or visual explanation of a text, concept or process.
Christmas	It is a holiday to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, who, according to the Christian religion, is the son of God. The name is a joining of "Christ" and "mass" which means the holy mass (supper, celebration or festival) of Christ.	significance	The significance of something is the importance that it has, usually because it will have an effect on a situation or shows something about a situation.
Art	Art is a creative way to tell our stories.	compare	Comparing involves identifying similarities and/or differences between two or more things.
Luke	He is known as Luke the Evangelist, and is believed to have written both the third gospel and also the Acts of the Apostles. He is thought to have been a physician (or healer) and a disciple of Saint Paul.	contrast	Contrasting involves comparing two or more things in order to show their differences.

WHAT?



1



2

The main people in the Christmas story are: Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Shepherds, Wise-men, Angel, Inn keepers. Artists often use colour symbolically to represent bible stories. Wise men came from the East to Jerusalem, following a star. The star, positioned at the top of the painting directly above the Christ Child and the dove of the Holy Spirit, is also a symbol of God the Father.

Jesus' birth is significant to Christians because Christ is the child born of both the divine and human natures (Matt. 1:20-23) and he is also the Son in the divine nature given by the eternal Father. Through the birth of the divine-human child, the Eternal Father gave us His divine Son as a gift. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and they were terrified. The angel told them not to be afraid and explained the great news about Jesus' birth. They were very joyful and excited about Jesus' birth. Suddenly a large group of angels appeared and sang songs to God for His gift of Jesus. (Luke) His coming means God will make his dwelling among men.

3



Artists use symbolism to illustrate Matthew's gospel. They are often represented with their attributes: the Angel for Saint Matthew. Matthew's most common attributes continue to be the angel and the book.

4



Artists use symbolism to illustrate Luke's gospel, the Ox for Saint Luke. St Luke is suggested by the ox, a sacrificial animal, because his Gospel stresses the sacrificial nature of Christ's ministry.

5



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