

The first Christmas



1. As the pupils enter

Have the webpage open:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-christianity-the-first-christmas/z9sc3j6>

Play your chosen Christmas music and display the gallery images (if used):

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-christianity-the-first-christmas-gallery/z6kmjsg>

2. Introduction

Prepare beforehand by wrapping the Christmas items and labelling them with a number. Have them placed under your school tree if you have one. Introduce the fact that it will soon be Christmas and that there are five 'presents' that you need some help opening. Open them in turn and ask the children about the significance of each.

1: A Christmas decoration. (*At Christmas, we often put up special Christmas decorations.*)

2: Some Christmas role play food. (*At Christmas we often have a special meal together.*)

3: A Christmas party popper / cracker / blower. (*Christmas is often a time for parties and celebrating.*)

4: A family photo. (*Christmas is often a time for families to get together.*)

5: A small baby Jesus nativity figure. (*For Christians Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, an event that they remember every year on Christmas Day. For Christians, the story of his birth is the biggest and most important part of Christmas.*)

Alternatively, use the image gallery called '**Christmas is..?**' (see Key links).

3. Play the video

Click on the 'Play video' button to load the video page. The video should play automatically. Display the video full-size using the toolbar buttons. The duration is 3' 38". The final words are: '...as one of their main holy days - Christmas Day.'

4 & 5. Time to talk

Use the story questions to help children talk about the story they have watched and to recall the main events. Ask them to think about why it is so important to Christians that this story is remembered every year and what they think the most important part of the story is.

6. Time to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Play video



7. Opportunity to reflect

We've been thinking today about a very special story - the nativity - the story of the very first Christmas...

We've heard how the special baby, Jesus, was born in a stable - and how angels announced the news of his birth...the birth of Jesus, God's Son...

This story is one of the most important of all stories for Christians and a really important part of the celebration of Christmas...

I wonder what's important about Christmas for you..?

Think quietly to yourself for a few moments now...

8. Opportunity for prayer

Dear God.

Thank you for Christmas time and for all the wonderful things that we have thought of that are a part of our celebrations.

As we enjoy Christmas, please help us to remember that we celebrate because of the story of the birth of Jesus.

Amen.