



# THE ANIMALS TALKED (THE BIRTH OF JESUS)

Lesson 2

## BIG IDEA

A skit about the birth of Jesus, from the point of view of the animals in the stable.

## KEY VERSES

Luke 2:1-7

## MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 1:21

“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

## • PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

### BIBLE LESSON SKIT

- Copy of Script
- Signs or masks for each animal character
- Narrator (actor)
- Donkey (actor)
- Cow (actor)
- Sheep (actor)
- Goat (actor)
- Doves (actor)

### GAME

- 20 cards with a different animal name written on each one (dog, cat, snake, frog, etc.)
- Stopwatch or 1-minute sand timer

### CRAFT

- Experience Mission provides scissors, hole punch, stapler, staples
- Popsicle sticks, 6-8 per person
- Markers
- Decorative sequins, gems, glitter, etc.
- Thin ribbon 6 inches, 1 per child
- Glue (or glue dots)

### WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)
- Photocopies of Crossword Puzzle (domestic communities only)





# THE ANIMALS TALKED

BIBLE LESSON • SKIT

Lesson 2

Narrator: We have read about the animals in the stable the night Jesus was born. There's even a song about, but what did you ever wonder what the animals thought? Let's take a look at the night through the eyes of the animals...

Donkey: When is the innkeeper going to feed us? I'm starving..

Cow: Pipe down over there. I'm enjoying some down time before the Innkeeper needs more milk.

Donkey: Come on now, a cow's life isn't that tough. At least you get some attention. All I get is hitched to a wagon and whipped. Thank goodness for tough hide.

Sheep: Will both of you quit the moanin! At least you won't end up on the dinner plate!

Goat: (Monotone) Goats have it made. Eat. Sleep. Eat some more. Sleep....

Doves: Hey guys, we've got company!!!

Cow: Whoooooo is it???

Doves: It's a man and woman on a donkey..

Donkey: Alright. Oh great. They probably want a ride somewhere. Just when I thought my work was done for the night.

Cow: Can the chatter!!! What can you see??

Doves: They went to the door of the inn and were turned away. Wait, the innkeeper is leading them this way...

Cow: RED ALERT!! Let's keep the talking to a minimum...

Sheep: Not a Baaaad Idea.

Goat: Suits me

Sheep: My goodness. That girl is HUGE!!!

Donkey: I wonder what her problem is?

Cow: Hush up and maybe we'll find out! (Long Pause) Well, I'll be!

Doves: What??

Sheep: Yeah, Gertie. What?

Cow: She's going to have a baby...

Goat: Can't have a baby here! Wouldn't be right.



# THE ANIMALS TALKED

BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (PAGE 2)

Lesson 2

Donkey: I can't believe it! Are you sure?

Cow: Positive.

Sheep: What else are they saying?

Cow: They have come a long ways, all the way from Nazareth. Something about a census. Oh, my.

Donkey: What? What?

Doves: What?

Cow: She's about to have that baby! Alright team, let's pitch in. Brutus. Let's sacrifice some straw.

Donkey: OK, but I don't have much.

Cow: It will be enough. Beatrice, why don't you move close to the mother and let her rest on you.

Sheep: You bet Gertie.

Cow: Antoine.

Goat: Yeah.

Cow: Don't chew on anything.

Goat: Ok.

Cow: Harry and Jerry, you keep watch.

Doves: We'll do.

Cow: My word... What's going on?

Donkey: I don't know, but I think something BIG is happening!

Doves: I'd say you're right. There's a huge star in the sky and the light is beaming right on the stable!

Sheep: Oh my. He's Beautiful.

Goat: What a shame that the only soft place to lay him is in our manger.

Cow: Oh my word. I think we've just witnessed something.

Donkey: I'm speechless.



# THE ANIMALS TALKED

BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (PAGE 3)

Lesson 2

Sheep: I can't believe my eyes.

Goat: WOW...

Cow: Who knows? They may write a song about this amazing night.

Donkey: We could be immortalized.

Sheep: We could become the things legends are made of.

Cow: Tonight has been a special night. One I know people will be hearing about for generations.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What special event was this skit about?
2. Who was the large lady that the animals observed?
3. Who was the baby?
4. Why is the birth of Jesus so important?
5. When do we usually celebrate the birth of Jesus?
6. Can you think of any songs that tell about this special event?

Read Luke 2:1-7

### SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- Tell the account of Jesus birth as a simple story or read it from a children's bible.
- Ask 3-4 of the simpler discussion questions.



# THE ANIMALS TALKED

## CRAFT & GAME

Lesson 2

### • CRAFT •

#### OBJECTIVE: STAR ORNAMENT

Make and decorate a star ornament out of popsicle sticks.

#### DIRECTIONS

- Color popsicle sticks with markers (optional)
- For a 6-sided star, create triangles using 3 sticks and gluing ends together. Overlap triangles so one points up and one points down. Glue.
- For an 8-tipped star, create two X shapes by gluing 2 popsicle sticks at the center. Lay them on top of one another one straight and one at a diagonal. Glue.
- Decorate with sequins, gems, glitter, etc.
- Tie ribbon to star for use as an ornament.

#### SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Use colored popsicle sticks
- Use lots of stickers rather than markers or glitter pens
- Use glue dots

#### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Popsicle sticks, 6-8 per person
- Markers
- Decorative sequins, gems, glitter, etc.
- Thin ribbon 6 inches, 1 per child
- Glue (or glue dots)

#### EXAMPLES



### • GAME •

#### OBJECTIVE: CHARADES

Act out various animals for your team to guess.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide group into 2 teams: Team A and Team B
- Choose a player from Team A to choose a card and act it out
- Team has 1 minute to guess the correct animal
- If Team A guesses correctly with the time limit, they get a point.
- If Team A does not guess correctly, Team B may take a guess and earn the point.
- Teams alternate until all cards have been used.

#### MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- 20 cards with a different animal name written on each one (dog, cat, snake, frog, etc.)
- Stopwatch or 1-minute sand timer

#### VARIATIONS

- Allow actors to make animal sounds
- Allow several children to act out the same card at the same time (if you have a large group)
- Add up time used rather than points. The team with the lowest total time wins.

#### SIMPLIFIED GAME OPTIONS

- Mission team members act out animals for kids to guess
- Divide kids into smaller groups with one team member leading each group

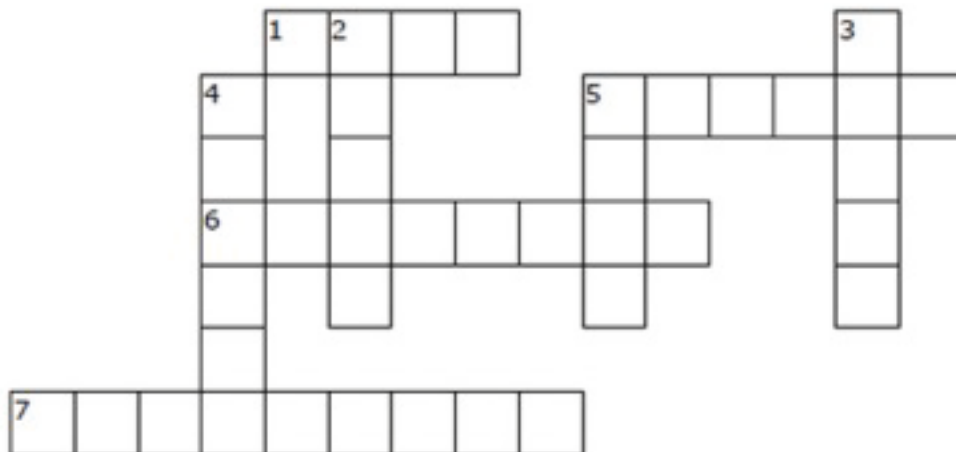


# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 2:1-20



### ACROSS

1. An infant or very young child
5. The place where Mary laid the baby Jesus
6. A person who takes care of sheep
7. The city where Jesus was born

### DOWN

2. Heavenly being that told the shepherds about Jesus' birth
3. The savior of the world
4. The earthly father of Jesus
5. The mother of Jesus

JOSEPH	ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	BABY
MARY	SHEPHERD	JESUS	MANGER