

With thanks to Jane Wheeler and Tina Venton of Carnmarth South Deanery and Hannah Green of Camborne Wesley Methodist Church for sharing their hard work and ideas.

Advent Adventures

A project allowing schools to work in partnership with their local churches in learning about the Christmas story and how Christians prepare for Christmas.



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EDUCATION

Advent Wreath

Craft
Activity

You will need:

- Green and red paper, holly leaves already cut out, Pencils/pens
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Felt Pens
- Paper plates
- Advent wreath to show as an example
- words written out for children to copy (love, joy, peace, hope, Jesus) or print out the words (7)

Show children what they are making. Explain 5 candles (in church we light one for each week in Advent and one for Jesus on Christmas day). Explain how to do it.

1. Stick holly onto paper plate
2. Cut out candles and colour them in.
3. Write or stick on 5 words to candles
4. Colour flames
5. Assemble the wreath.



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Handy Christmas Tree

Craft
Activity

Make a Christmas tree on which to stick your prayer baubles or stars:

- Draw around your hand onto a piece of green paper
- Cut out the shape you have made
- Stick the shapes onto a large sheet of card in a triangle shape with fingers pointing down
- Stick only the palms of the hands allowing the fingers to curl slightly.
- Add a cut out trunk or pot.



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Prayer Decoration

Prayer
Activity

You will need:

- Cut outs of baubles in different shapes (stars work well for this too)
- Pencils/pens
- Glue sticks
- Sequins, stickers or pieces of coloured paper/foil to add decorations
- Biodegradable glitter (if you are feeling brave!)

Ask children to write a prayer for Christmas onto the shape – talk about this and encourage ideas such as peace, time with family, the special gift of the child Jesus rather than a list of things you would like for Christmas.

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Make Props for the Drama

Craft
Activity

Make a headband to use as part of the drama activity. This could be turned into:

- An animal (camel/donkey/sheep) by adding ears/ coloured paper/tissue
- A shepherd's headband by colouring with stripes or spots (tea towels optional!)
- A king's crown by adding shiny/sparkly paper
- An angel's halo by adding tinsel/tin foil

If you choose this activity, the drama would need to be done at the end of the session with all children participating at the same time.

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Make a Christmas Card

Craft
Activity

You will need:

- Black or dark blue card or stiff paper, ready folded is usually easier
 - Star template
 - Silver or white paper
 - Stick on stars
 - Squares of paper to write on
1. Use a template to cut a large star and stick it in the middle of the card
 2. Surround it with small stick on stars
 3. Write a message such as “Christmas Blessings” or “Follow the Star” or just “Merry Christmas” on the square of paper
 4. Write who the card is to and from
 5. Stick the message in the card

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Make a Paper Plate Angel

Craft
Activity

Use a paper plate to create an angel

- Cut out an angel shape from a paper plate (Click on the picture below for a good template)
- Write or stick on the phrase “Do not be afraid, I bring tidings of great joy”
- Talk about what is joyful about the birth of Jesus
- Decorate your angel



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Make a Wax Candle

Craft
Activity

You will need:

- A white votive candle
 - Coloured wax craft strips (see link below)
1. Discuss which colour you feel best matches love, joy, hope, peace and Jesus.
 2. Wind the wax strips around the candle to make five stripes
 3. Take the candle home to burn a layer on each Sunday of Advent and on Christmas Day.



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Make a Stained Glass Candle

Craft
Activity

You will need:

- A piece of black sugar paper
 - Coloured tissue paper
 - Scissors
 - A glue stick
1. Cut out a candle shape from the black paper – be careful you will be using the sheet with the hole in, not the cut-out candle itself
 2. Cut or tear tissue paper into strips or shapes
 3. Stick the tissue pieces over the hole to create a stained-glass window in the shape of a candle

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Act Out the Story

Drama
Activity

You will need:

- Gold, frankincense and myrrh
- 3 crowns
- 3 robes
- 3 stars
- Manger and doll
- Joseph and Mary
- Angel halo
- Script for Wise Men Drama (6)

1. Explain we are going to act the bit about the wise men. Adult retells the story (see script) and children act it out. Turn this into a mini pilgrimage round the church – look for the 3 stars and find 3 gifts.
2. Use the script from Carnmarth South Deanery (6)

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Retell the Story (Godly Play)

Discussion
Activity

If you have a [Godly Play](#) practitioner in your congregation, this is a wonderful way to help the children get inside the Christmas story.

You will need:

- Wooden nativity set
- Bag of sand
- Godly Play script (8)

Sit in a circle on rug. Explain we are going to listen again and do some wondering about the story. Imagine you were there.

I wonder what Mary thought? I wonder which bit of the story you liked the best. I wonder what it was like to be there? I wonder what it would have smelt like in the stable. I wonder what it would have sounded like ... I wonder if you could hear the angels singing ... I wonder what the wise men said to each other as they walked home...



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