

# The Magi

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of the Magi's visit to Jesus.
- The children will state that the Magi, Joseph and Mary obeyed God.
- The children will state that they want to obey God and will thank him for protecting them.

## Lesson Text

Matthew 2:1-14

## Scripture Memory Verse

"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: The Magi Maze

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: A Visit

Life Application: The Starry Guide

Craft: Lighting the Way

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

# Jesus Is Born

## Lesson 4



Pre  
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# The Magi

## The Magi Maze

The children will lead each of the Magi to the gift he will present to the baby Jesus.

### Materials

For each child:

- a crayon (dark colors only)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

Complete the mazes on an extra copy so that you will be able to help the children.



### Instructions

1. Explain to the children that today they are going to learn about some Magi who visited Jesus. Ask the children if they know what the Magi brought to Jesus. (gifts) Show them that using their crayon they will guide the Magi through the maze to their gifts.
2. Give each child a copy of the maze from Reproducible Page A and a crayon.

### Conclusion

Ask the children to tell you what they know about the Magi visiting Jesus.

### Teacher Tips

- Help any children who may have difficulty with the maze.
- Explain to the children that Magi are wise men.

# The Magi

## A Visit

The children will learn of the Magi (wise men) and their visit to see baby Jesus.

### Lesson Text

Matthew 2:1-14

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 4 sheets or large pieces of fabric (blue, gold or red) to fit 4 children (Magi)
- 2 scarves or caps to fit 2 children
- 2 sheets or large pieces of fabric (brown or beige) to fit 2 children (Joseph and Mary)
- a baby doll (baby Jesus)
- 4 boxes or baskets to represent gifts
- a Bible
- 1 piece of yellow construction paper
- scissors
- yarn
- hole punch

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the star from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Trace and cut out a star from construction paper.
3. Punch a hole in one point on the star and thread a piece of yarn through it.
4. Familiarize yourself with the story. NOTE: You will narrate the story and play the role of King Herod.

### Gifts

Choose six children, four to be Magi, one Mary and one Joseph. Dress the Magi in bright-colored sheets, dress Mary and Joseph in brown fabric with hats. Explain to the children that a Magus is a smart or wise man. More than one Magus are Magi.

Give Mary the baby doll to hold. Give each of the Magi a gift to hold. Create a small stage area. Have the Magi on one side and Joseph and Mary on the opposite side of your stage. Hang the star above the heads of Mary and Joseph.

Open your Bible and place it in your lap.

God put a bright star in the sky to show people where to find Jesus when he was born. Some Magi followed the star from far away and were asking where to find the baby Jesus. They said "Where is the one who was born King of the Jews?" (Matthew 2:2).

Now there was a king named Herod who was upset that Jesus was born. He wanted to be the only king and he was afraid that Jesus would be king instead of him. So he called the Magi, (have the Magi walk to you), and told them, (using a strong voice with an unhappy face), "Find out where this child is and come back and tell me so that I can worship him too" (Matthew 2:8). King Herod pretended he wanted to visit the baby Jesus also.

So the Magi continued to follow the star to the place where baby Jesus was. (Have the Magi walk a little distance towards Joseph and Mary). The Magi had walked a long, long way just to visit Jesus; they were so excited to see him! The Magi saw the star stop over the house where Jesus and his parents were. They were very happy and they went and placed their gifts before the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:9-11). (Have the Magi walk to the place where Joseph and Mary are seated and place their gifts on the floor in front of them.)

When the Magi left Jesus and his parents to go back to their homes, they decided not to go back to King Herod. God had warned them in a dream that Herod wanted to hurt Jesus. So the Magi went home a different way (Matthew 2:12).

Then God talked to Joseph in a dream and told him to go to Egypt because King Herod wanted to hurt Jesus. So in the morning Joseph and Mary took Jesus and went to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-14). (Have Joseph and Mary carry Jesus across the stage area and sit down in 'Egypt'.) King Herod did not know where Jesus was, so he could not hurt him! Jesus was safe!



# The Magi

## Jesus Is Born

Lesson 4

### Conclusion

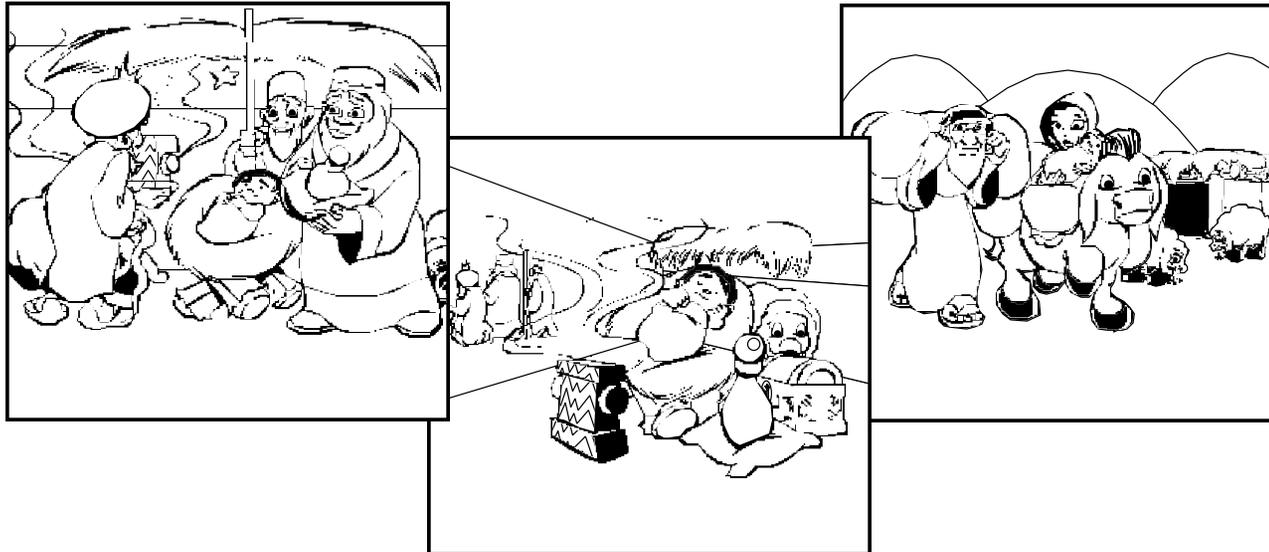
Review the story by asking the following questions:

- Who came to see Jesus? (Magi)
- What did they bring for Jesus? (presents)
- Who wanted to hurt Jesus? (King Herod)
- Did the Magi help Herod? (no)
- What did God tell Joseph to do? (go to Egypt)
- Did Joseph obey God? (yes)
- Who obeyed God? (the Magi, Joseph and Mary)

Because Joseph obeyed God, Jesus was safe. It is always good for us to be obedient. When we are obedient, it helps us and the people with us to be safe.

### Teacher Tips

- Depending upon the number of children in your small group you can adjust the roles accordingly. For instance, more or less Magi, an extra sheep or donkey, etc.
- Do not emphasize Herod's desire to hurt Jesus but God's ability to protect him through the obedience of the Magi and his parents.



# The Magi

## The Starry Guide

The children will pretend to follow the star as the Magi did.

### Scripture Memory Verse

"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."  
Matthew 3:17

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of yellow construction paper
- scissors
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the star from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Trace and cut out a star from construction paper.
3. Before the children arrive, roll a piece of tape and put it on the back of the star.

### Instructions

1. Choose a child to go first. Have that child hide their eyes while you tape the star to an object in the room.
2. Have the child uncover their eyes and look for the star from her seat as the group sings "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" from the Unit 13 Song Sheet.
3. When the child finds the star have her go and get it.
4. Choose another child to have a turn.
5. Continue until each child has had at least one turn to look for the star.

### Scripture Memory Activity

Place the star in the center of the group. Ask the children why God put the star in the sky. Yes, God wanted people to know that Jesus was born and how special he was. Have the group recite the Scripture Memory Verse together.

### Conclusion

The Magi, Joseph and Mary obeyed God as he watched over them. He told the Magi not to go back to Herod. And he told Joseph and Mary to take Jesus to Egypt. God always kept the Magi, Joseph, Jesus and Mary safe. Who obeyed God? (Magi, Joseph and Mary) Do you want to obey God?

God watches over us everywhere we go. When you are playing with your friends you can tell them that God is watching and taking care of you.

Choose a child to pray and thank God for sending Jesus and watching over them.



# The Magi

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“This is my Son, whom I love;  
with him I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:17



## The Magi

### Lighting the Way

The children will make a mobile to remind them of the Magi and their visit to baby Jesus.

#### Materials:

For each child:

- crayons
- 1 piece of yellow poster board, 9" x 12"

For the teacher:

- hole punch
- yarn
- poster board
- glue
- clear tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page D, 1 copy for each child

#### Preparation

1. Prepare a star for each child as follows:
  - A. Cut out the star stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page C.
  - B. Trace and cut out one star for each child from yellow poster board.
  - C. Write "Jesus is born." in the center of each star.
  - D. Punch four holes in each star. See Figure A.
2. Cut out the figures from the copies of Reproducible Page D.
3. Glue each figure onto poster board and cut them out.
4. Punch holes in the figures as follows:
  - A. Punch a hole in the top of each Mary, Joseph and Magi figure.
  - B. Punch a hole in the bottom of each star figure.
  - C. Punch a hole in the top and bottom of each Jesus figure.
5. Cut five 8" pieces of yarn for each child.
6. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

## Jesus Is Born

### Lesson 4

#### Instructions

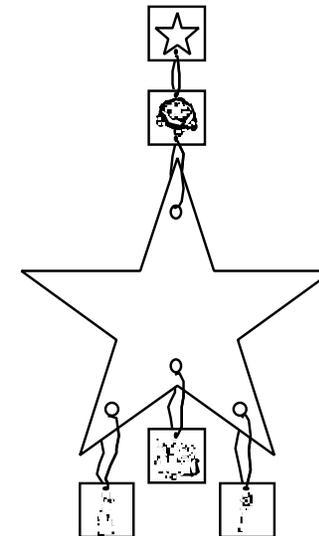
1. Give each child the figures to color.
2. Help each child to thread a piece of yarn through the hole in the Mary, Joseph and Magi figures.
3. Help the children to tie these three figures to the bottom of the big star.
4. Help the children to thread a piece of yarn through the bottom hole in the Jesus figure and tie it to the top hole in the big star.
5. Help the children to thread a piece of yarn through the hole in the bottom of the small star figure and tie it to the top hole of the Jesus figure.

#### Conclusion

Have the children use the craft to help them retell the story of when Jesus was born.

#### Teacher Tips

- If there is extra time have the children color in the large star.
- Copy Reproducible Page D onto cardstock and then cut out the figures.



# CRAFT

## The Magi

### Jesus Is Born Lesson 4

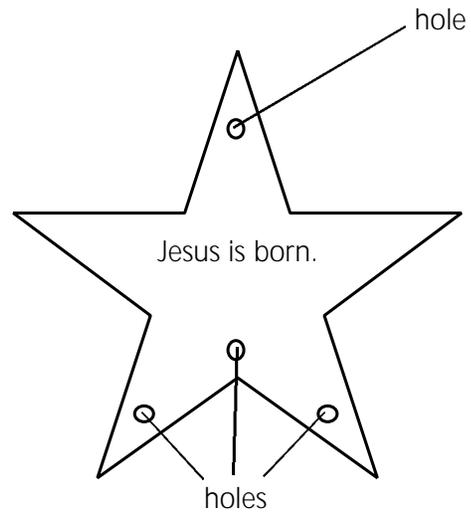
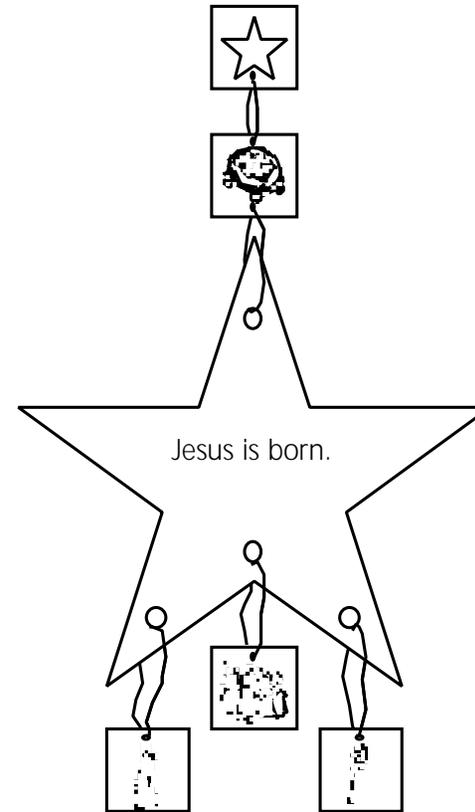


Figure A



Finished Craft



# The Magi

## Jesus Is Born Lesson 4

Pre class

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### Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of the Magi's visit to Jesus.
- The children will state that the Magi, Joseph and Mary obeyed God.
- The children will state that they want to obey God and will thank him for protecting them.

### Lesson Text

Matthew 2:1-14

### Scripture Memory Verse

"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."  
Matthew 3:17

### The Star-1

The children will prepare their stars for the Craft Center.

#### Materials

For each child:

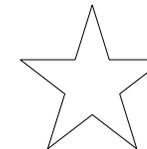
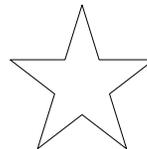
- scissors
- envelope

For the teacher:

- yellow construction paper
- pencil
- hole punch

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher



### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: The Star-1

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: In Order

Craft: The Star-2

Life Application: The Starry Guide

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

#### Preparation

1. Cut out the star stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page E.
2. Trace four stars for each child onto yellow construction paper.

#### Instructions

1. Have the children cut out the stars from the construction paper.
2. Have the children help you punch a hole in one corner of each star.
3. Have the children write their names on the envelope and place the stars inside.

#### Conclusion

As the children work, help them to remember the story of the Magi following the star to visit Jesus. Ask them who Herod was and what he asked the Magi to do.

#### Teacher Tips

- Cut out extra stars for any children who may arrive late.

# The Magi

## Jesus Is Born

### Lesson 4



### In Order

The children will sequence the events for the Magi's trip to see baby Jesus.

### Materials

For the teacher:

- contact paper
- scissors
- construction paper
- glue

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for every 3 children

### Preparation

1. Cut out the cards from the copies of Reproducible Page E.
2. Glue each card onto construction paper and cut them out.
3. Cover the cards with clear contact paper.

### Instructions

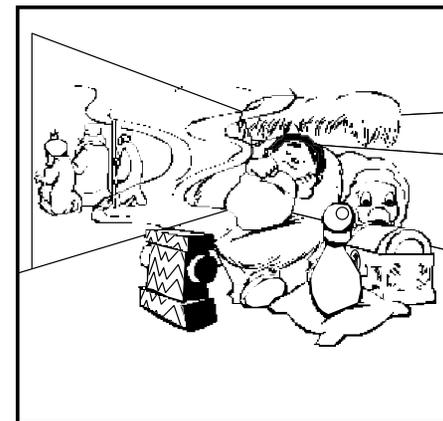
1. Have the children sit in groups of three.
2. Show them the cards, in order, and have them tell you what is happening in each card.
3. Place a set of cards face down in front of each group of three.
4. Have the children take turns turning over the cards and putting them in the correct order.
5. Have them turn the cards back over, mix them up and start again.
6. When they are familiar with the game have them compete to see which group can finish first.

### Conclusion

Have the children work together using the cards to tell you the story of the Magi.

### Teacher Tips

- Make the copies of Reproducible Page F onto cardstock instead of gluing it to construction paper.
- Encourage the children to work together in their groups of three.



# CRAFT



## The Star-2

The children will be reminded of the story of the Magi visiting baby Jesus.

### Materials

For each child:

- envelope of stars from the Preclass Activity
- crayons

For the teacher:

- hole punch
- yellow construction paper
- yarn

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the star stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Trace and cut out one star for each child from yellow construction paper.
3. Punch five holes in each star. See Figure A.
4. On each star write "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Matthew 3:17"
5. Cut four 4" pieces of yarn and one 6" piece of yarn for each child.
6. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

# The Magi

## Jesus Is Born

### Lesson 4

### Instructions

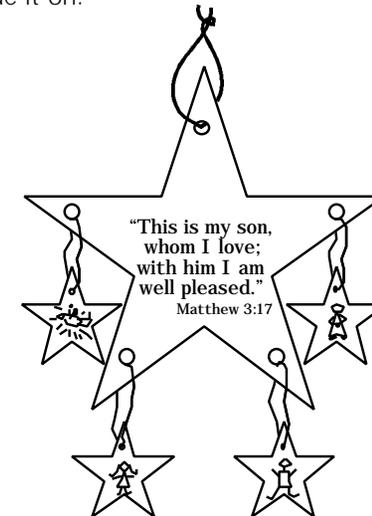
1. Give the children their stars from the Preclass Activity. Have them draw the following pictures, one on each star:
  - a picture of the Magi
  - a picture of Jesus
  - a picture of Mary
  - a picture of Joseph
2. Give each child a large star and the 4" pieces of yarn. Help them to thread a piece of yarn through each star and tie it to a hole on the larger star. See Figure B.
3. Help the children to tie the 6" piece of yarn to the remaining hole in the large star.

### Conclusion

Ask the children why the star was important to the Magi. Who were they going to see? Who else wanted to see Jesus? Why?

### Teacher Tips

- Cut the large star out of poster board and cover it with aluminum foil. Then punch the holes and write the scripture on construction paper and glue it on.



supplement

# CRAFT

## The Magi

### Jesus Is Born

Lesson 4

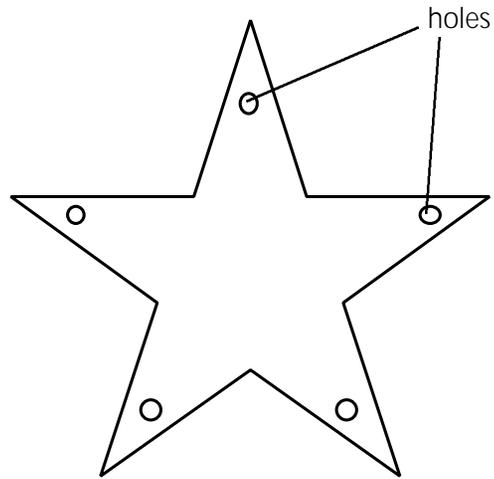


Figure A

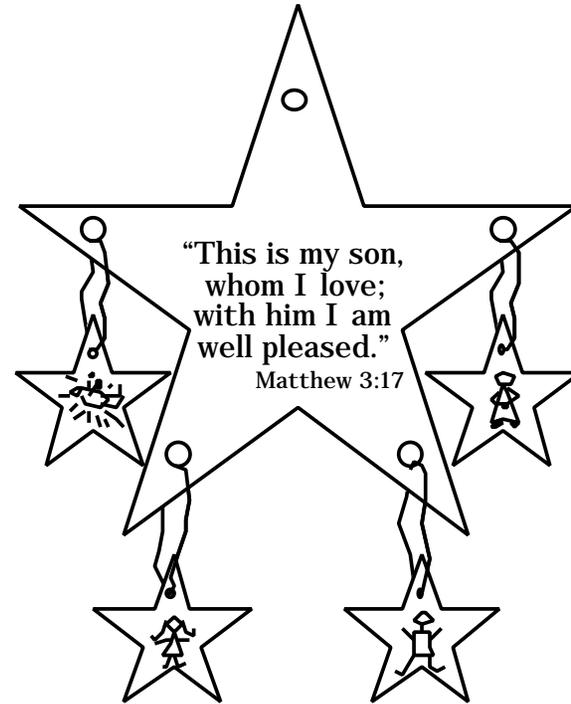


Figure B





## The Starry Guide

The children will pretend to follow the star as the Magi did.

### Scripture Memory Verse

"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."  
Matthew 3:17

### Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of yellow construction paper
- scissors
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the star from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Trace and cut out a star from construction paper.
3. Before the children arrive, roll a piece of tape and put it on the back of the star.

### Instructions

1. Choose a child to go first. Have that child hide their eyes while you tape the star to an object in the room.
2. Have the child uncover their eyes and look for the star from her seat as the group sings "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" from the Unit 13 Song Sheet.
3. When the child finds the star have her go and get it.
4. Choose another child to have a turn.
5. Continue until each child has had at least one turn to look for the star.

# The Magi

## Jesus Is Born

### Lesson 4

### Scripture Memory Activity

Place the star in the center of the group. Ask the children why God put the star in the sky. Yes, God wanted people to know that Jesus was born and how special he was. Have the group recite the Scripture Memory Verse together.

### Conclusion

The Magi, Joseph and Mary obeyed God as he watched over them. He told the Magi not to go back to Herod. And he told Joseph and Mary to take Jesus to Egypt. God always kept the Magi, Joseph, Jesus and Mary safe. Who obeyed God? (Magi, Joseph and Mary) Do you want to obey God?

God watches over us everywhere we go. When you are playing with your friends you can tell them that God is watching and taking care of you.

Choose a child to pray and thank God for sending Jesus and watching over them.

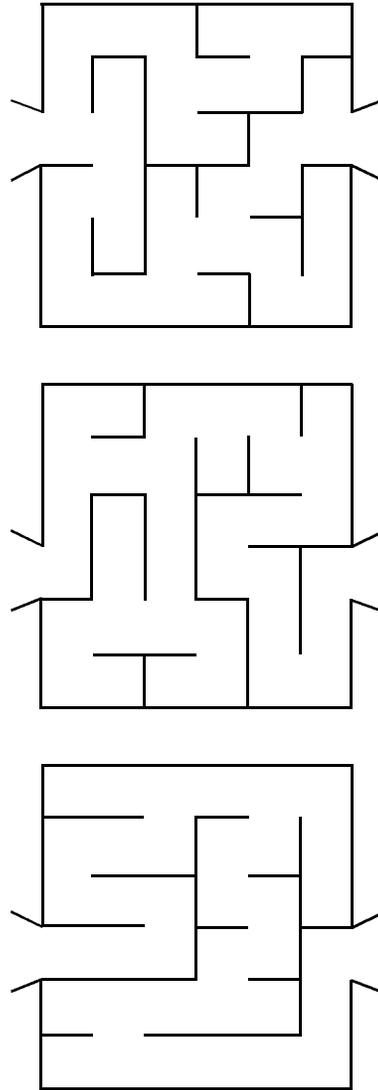
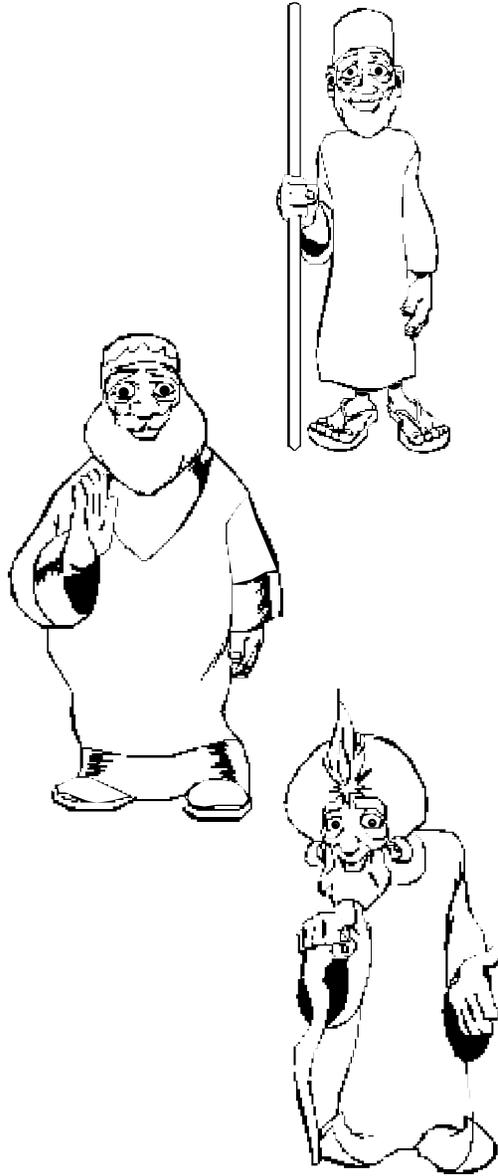


“This is my Son, whom I love;  
with him I am well pleased.”

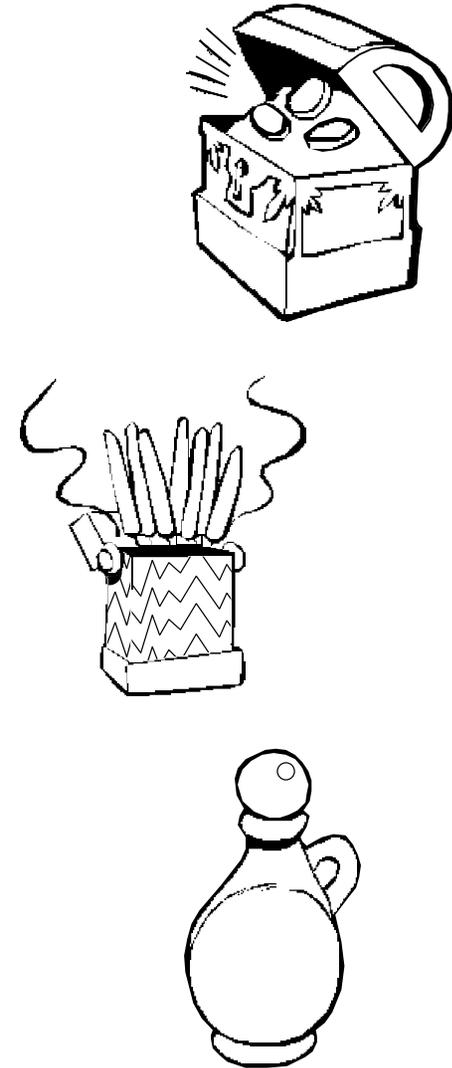
Matthew 3:17



Core/Preclass  
1 copy for each child



Jesus Is Born  
Lesson 4



Core/Bible Story/1 copy for the teacher  
Core and Supplement/Life Application/1 copy for the teacher  
Supplement/Craft/1 copy for the teacher

**Jesus Is Born**  
Lesson 4

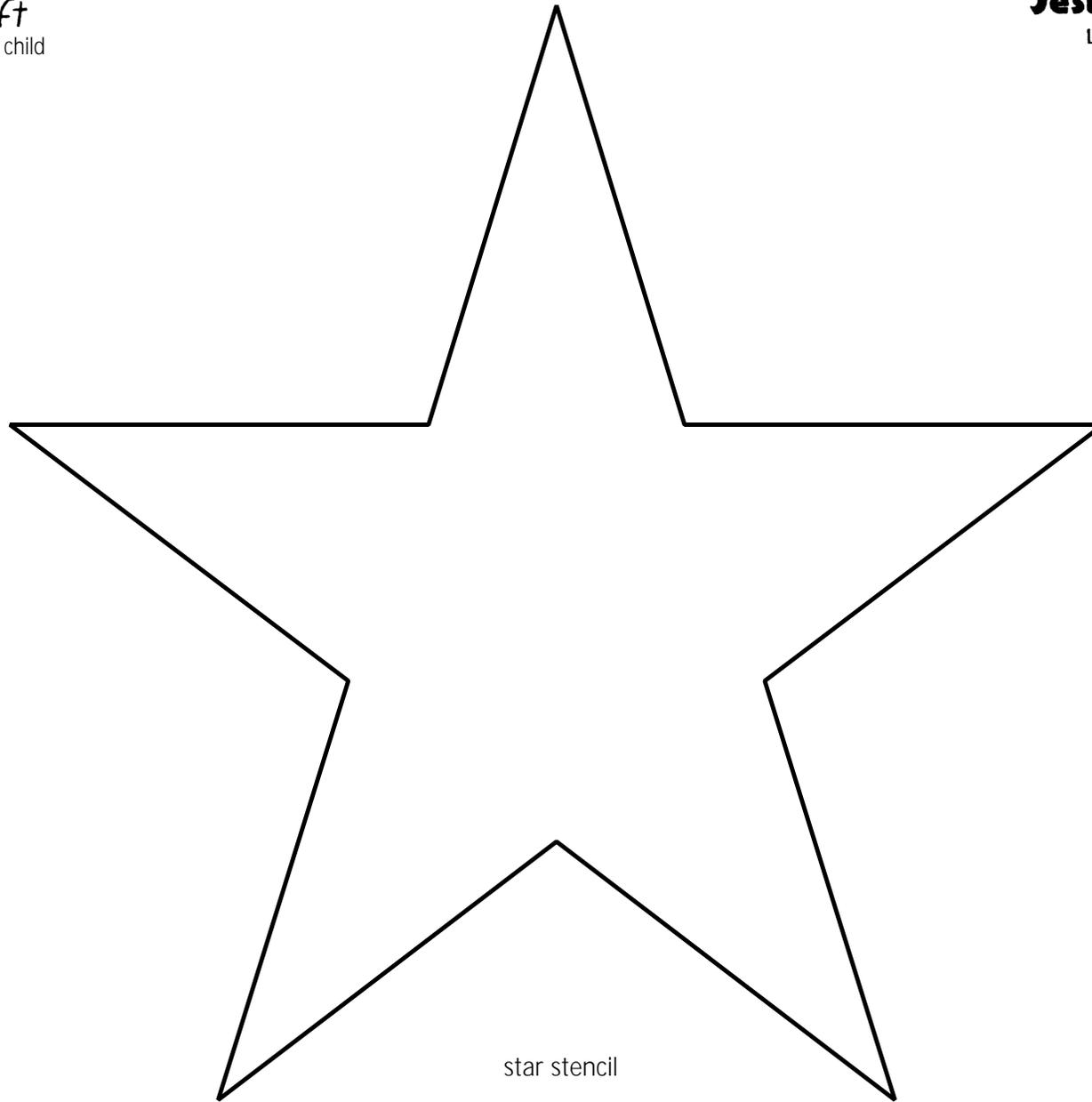


large star stencil



Core/Craft  
1 copy for each child

**Jesus Is Born**  
Lesson 4



star stencil

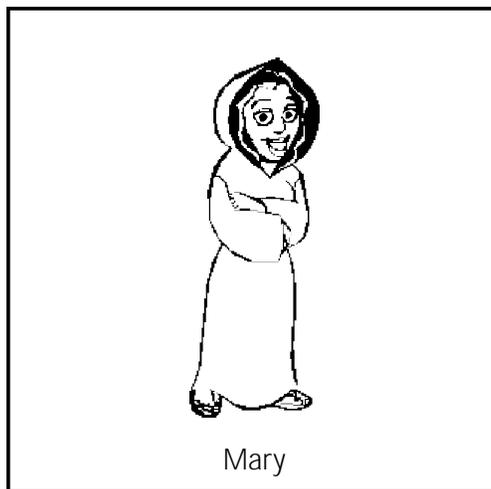


# Jesus Is Born

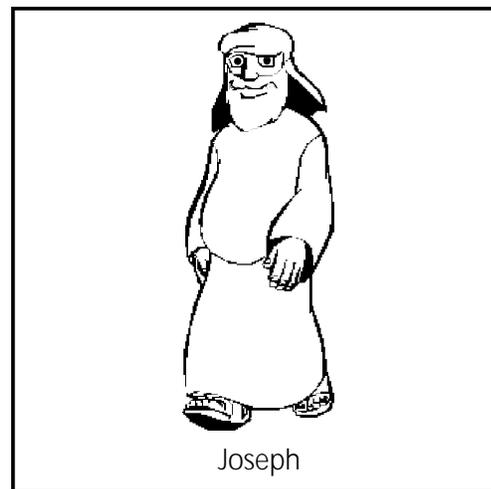
Lesson 4

Core/Craft  
1 copy for each child

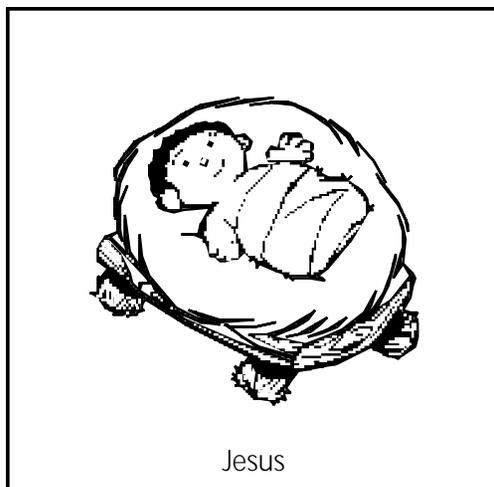
Read-Aloud  
Page  
D



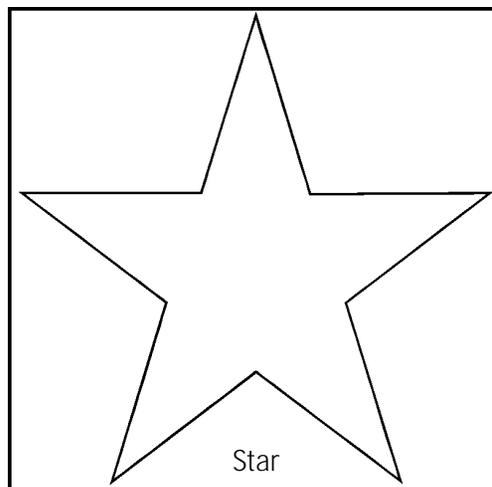
Mary



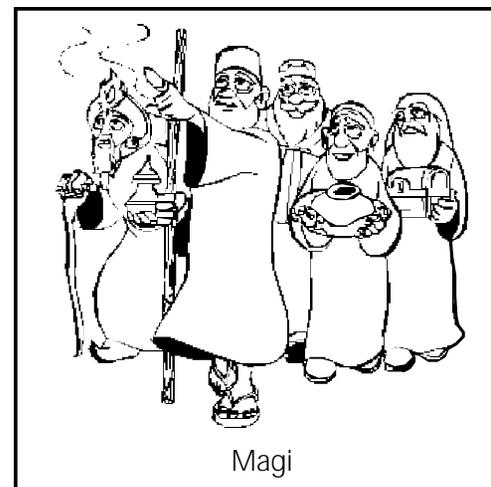
Joseph



Jesus



Star

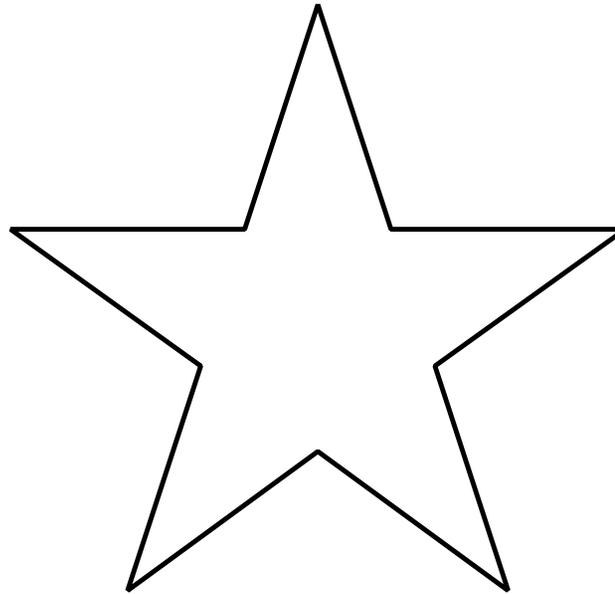


Magi



Supplement/Preclass  
1 copy for the teacher

**Jesus Is Born**  
Lesson 4



star stencil

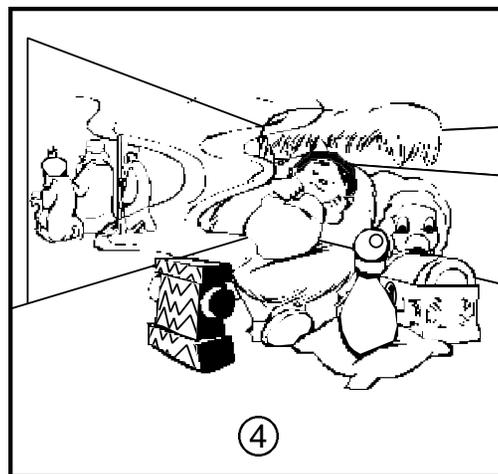
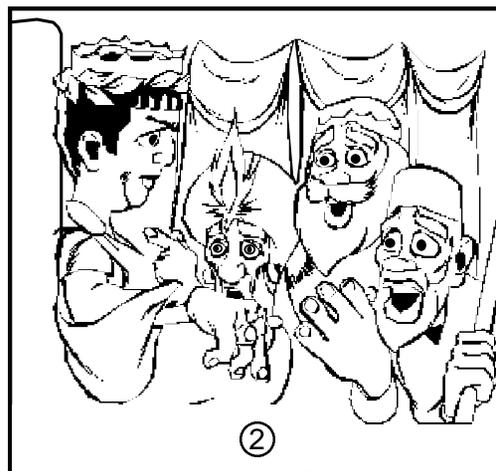
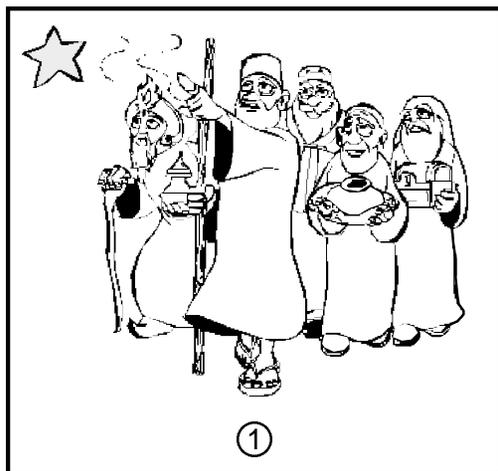


# Jesus Is Born

Lesson 4

Supplement/Game

1 copy for every 3 children



Read-About-Page  
Page  
F

