



WEEK 2

AT HOME LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

We can celebrate Jesus' birth.

THE BIBLE

Jesus is Born: Luke 2:1-7;
(Isaiah 9:6-7)

MUSIC | Celebrate and Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show or play some songs for worship time. It's time for Christmas Songs! Try something like: [Joy to the World \(Unspeakable Joy\)](#), [O, Come All Ye Faithful](#), [Light of the World](#)

ACTIVITY | Match the Babies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a worksheet to each kid and have them try to correctly match the animals to the names of their babies.
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Consider making this a paired activity, so kids with special needs can work with a peer buddy to complete the exercise.
- **Which of these names were you the most surprised about?**
- Today we are going to learn about a special baby who also has a unique name!

QUESTION | Why Celebrate Birthdays?

- **Why do you think we celebrate birthdays?**
- **Do you ever count down the days to a birthday or special event/holiday in your family?**
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** Have students share about their own favorite birthdays or things they have done for others to celebrate.

THE BIG IDEA | We can celebrate Jesus' birth.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids go out of the space and line up by the door. Tell them that we're celebrating a special birthday today, but you need an invitation to attend. Hand out invitations (available in your printables folder) while they're waiting in line, and have them show it to you before re-entering the room. You could even do the



MAIN EVENT | WEEK 2 ELEMENTARY LESSON

previous activities in another room and have your main meeting space decorated ahead of time, so it feels like they're really coming to a birthday party!

- Today's Big Idea: **We can celebrate Jesus' birth!**

VIDEO | Main Event, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).

SCRIPTURE | Luke 2:1-7

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Luke 2:1-7 aloud with or to your kids.
- Before Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had a long journey ahead of them to Joseph's hometown of Bethlehem. They were traveling such a long way because King Caesar Augustus declared that all people needed to be counted, and to make this easier, they needed to go back to their hometown.
- Before any great celebration, there must be preparation! So, Mary and Joseph prepared for Jesus' birth by arriving safely to Bethlehem. Can you imagine how tired they must have been after such a long journey while also waiting for a baby to be born? I would've been thinking, "Are we there yet?" Wouldn't you?
- To make matters worse, once they finally arrived, there was not enough room for all the people. Mary and Joseph ended up having to place baby Jesus in a manger – which is not a place for babies at all!
- Even though the conditions surrounding the birth of Jesus was not the best, God sent Jesus to us anyway! God knew we needed a savior and that's reason enough to celebrate!

DISCUSSION

- **Why did Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem?**
- **Why was Jesus placed in a manger?**
- **What about Jesus' birth should we celebrate?**
- **Re-read Isaiah 9:6-7. What other names can we call Jesus?**
- **What is your favorite part of birthdays?**
- **What are some ways you and your family celebrate?**
- **Why do you think Jesus came to us as a baby?**

PRAYER

- Dear God, we want to celebrate You in this season. Please show us the many different ways we can prepare our hearts for that celebration. Thank You for using Mary and Joseph to teach us the importance of Your birth, and why we should celebrate that.



MAIN EVENT | WEEK 2 ELEMENTARY LESSON

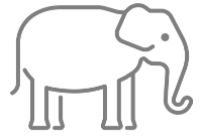
ACTIVITY | Birthday Card

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a piece of paper and art supplies. Have them fold the paper in half and make a birthday card to Jesus. Make sure they decorate the cover and write a heartfelt message inside.
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Write out phrases the kids can copy on to their card. This can be useful for the younger kids in your group, as well.
- Even though it's Jesus' birthday, we are the ones who got the gift! Let's remember to thank Jesus for being born for us!

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 1:46-47 (NIV)

INSTRUCTIONS: Practice the memory verse together!

Baby Animal Match-Up



Cat _____

Dog _____

Duck _____

Elephant _____

Fox _____

Goat _____

Monkey _____

Pigeon _____

Rabbit _____

Deer _____

Sheep _____

Tiger _____

Goose _____

Chicken _____



- A. Lamb
- B. Chick
- C. Duckling
- D. Gosling
- E. Puppy
- F. Kid
- G. Pup
- H. Fawn
- I. Cub
- J. Calf
- K. Kitten
- L. Infant
- M. Kit
- N. Squab

