

Graphic Organizer

"Good News!"

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Instructions: Cut out these cards. Place them in order. Use them to retell the events in this story from beginning to end.

When Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem, all of the inns were full so there was no place to stay.

Baby Jesus was born in the stable. A bright star shined on Him in the manger. Angels sang.

Three wise men rode camels a long way to bring Baby Jesus rich gifts.

Mary and Joseph had to go a long way on foot and on donkey. It made them very tired.

A kind innkeeper let Mary and Joseph stay in his warm stable with the animals.

An angel came to Mary and Joseph, and told them that they would have God's son, a baby boy named Jesus.

The shepherds heard the angels. They took their sheep and went to see Baby Jesus.

Everyone was joyful. Today we thank God for Jesus by saying, "Merry Christmas."

Mary and Joseph had to leave their home and go to Joseph's hometown for a census.

Name _____

Book Title: _____

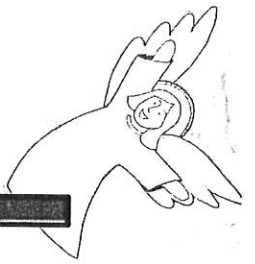


Drawing:

Sentence:

Instructions: Have students write the book title on the line above. Then have them draw a picture about a personal connection they made with the text and then write a sentence to explain their connection.

Good News!



TAKE A SHORTCUT

No room at the inn. GO BACK.

Fast camels. MOVE AHEAD 3 SPACES

Illustration of a man with a staff and sheep

Illustration of a man in a striped tunic and a woman

Illustration of camels and a man

Illustration of a man and a woman with a child

Star icon

Board layout: A large board shaped like the number 8, divided into segments. The top horizontal segment contains the text 'TAKE A SHORTCUT' and an illustration of a man and a woman with a child. The right vertical segment contains the text 'No room at the inn. GO BACK.' and an illustration of a man in a striped tunic and a woman. The bottom horizontal segment contains the text 'Fast camels. MOVE AHEAD 3 SPACES' and an illustration of a man and a woman with a child. The left vertical segment contains an illustration of a man with a staff and sheep. The center of the board features a circular icon with a white star on a black background. An arrow points from the top right towards the board, and another arrow points from the right side towards the center. There are three small circles on the right side of the board.

Game Instructions:

Cut out these game cards. Place them in a stack word-side down on the game board. Players take turns picking a card and reading the word. If word is pronounced correctly, player moves marker on board the number of spaces shown on the card. Place card on bottom of stack and continue playing until one player reaches the finish and wins.

village 2	carpenter 3	angel 1	dream 2
excited 2	Bethlehem 4	bright 3	stable 1
manger 4	shined 3	joyful 1	greatest 2
newborn 3	camel 2	celebrate 5	shepherd 2

Tutor Teaching Tips

Book – “Good News!” Multi-Levels J (1.9) and Q (3.1)

BEFORE READING

1. Have child scan the front and back covers. Have them read the title.
ASK: *What do you see? What do you think the good news might be?*
2. Have child page through the pictures in the book from front to back.
ASK: **What** do you think happens in this story? *Who do you think this story is about?*
Who are some of the characters in the story?
When do you think this story happens – now, the past, or the future? *Why?*

[If the child talks about Jesus being born, ask the child what he/she already knows about it.]

For older children - Sometimes a book has a Glossary and an Index. ASK: *Where in the book would you find the Glossary and Index?* Look at the last page. ASK: *What is the purpose of a Glossary? How can it help you? What is the purpose of an Index? What could you use it for?* Briefly test their ability to use both the Glossary and Index by asking “*What word means...?*” and “*On what page would you find...?*”

3. Explain to the child that there are some vocabulary words in this book that they might not yet know or understand. To help prepare to read, guide the child through the PRE-READING VOCABULARY ACTIVITY included with this book. Be sure the child can pronounce each word and can understand it in a sentence.

DURING READING

Phonics and Word Attack - Help the reader work through unknown words with one or more of the following strategies:

- Read the whole sentence and see if the context helps figure out the correct word.
- Sound out the beginning, middle, and ending sounds and then put them together (/br+ī+d-silent e/ = bride.../in+kēp+er/=innkeeper)
- Look at the illustration for clues to the word.
- Use base words and word families to figure out new words.
(“heard” = base word “hear”, add “-d” to make past tense; word family = hear, heard, hears, hearing, unheard)
- Break compound words apart (hometown, innkeeper, newborn, Christmas)

Synonyms – While reading the story, find as many words as you can that are synonyms for the word “happy” (joyful, glad, merry)

Comprehension – to understand:

- After each page, ask the child how the character(s) is feeling. Discuss why the character might feel that way.
- Discuss the author’s theme of “good news” and discover how the news from event to event. When was the news good? Why? When was the news not so good? Why not? With what kind of news did the story start? How did it end?

AFTER READING – Discussions (be sensitive to the various faiths and beliefs of our Whiz kids families when choosing discussion topics):

1. Reread the last page. Discuss why people celebrate Christmas. Explain that Christ is another name for Jesus.
2. Who gave gifts in this story? Why do people give each other gifts on Christmas?
3. How do people celebrate Christmas now? Do you and your family celebrate Christmas? Talk about family traditions.

Do one or both of the Graphic Organizers.

Instructions:

For each word:

- 1) Pronounce the word correctly.
- 2) Use the word in a sentence of your own, showing its meaning, or give a definition.
- 3) Draw a line to match the pictures to one or more words.
- 4) Circle the 3 words in this list that have no matching picture.



angel



bride

bright star



camel

carpenter



census

crib



inn

Joseph and Mary



manger

merry



shepherd

stable



three magi

village

