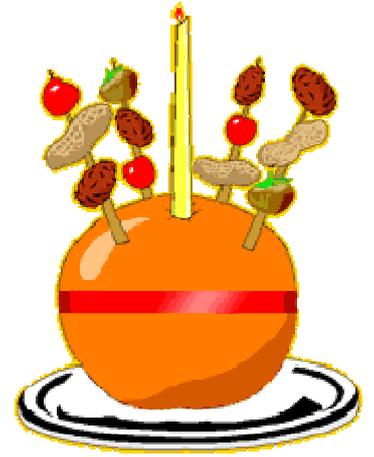


The Christingle Story



Many years ago in a village there lived a young girl called Sophie.

Sophie had no parents and no house to live in so she had to live on the street.

1. What was the young girl's name?

Sandra

Sophie

Janet

Anna

2. Why did Sophie live on the street?

One cold night Sophie walked past the church in the village. The priest felt sorry for Sophie and invited her to come inside the church for something to eat and drink.

3. Who invited Sophie into the church?

An angel

A shopkeeper

A priest

A fairy

4. Why did the priest invite Sophie into the church?

Inside the church the priest gave Sophie a red scarf to keep her warm, a candle to light the dark nights, an orange, some dried fruit and some hot soup.

5. What did the priest give Sophie? *Tick 3*

an apple some dried fruit a candle
some hot soup an orange a hat

That night Sophie thought how she could say thank you to the priest. As she looked at the stars she had an idea.

The next day Sophie wrapped a piece of red wool from her scarf around the middle of the orange. Then she pushed her candle into the top of the orange. Next she found four small twigs and pushed them into the orange. To finish she carefully pushed the dried fruit onto the twigs. Sophie smiled when she had finished because she was sure the priest would be happy.

6. What did Sophie do with the piece of red wool from her scarf?

7. Why did Sophie smile when she had finished?

The next night, Sophie wrapped her scarf around her neck, lit her candle with a match she had found and stood outside the church. As people started to go into the church she sang. Everybody stopped and listened and when Sophie had finished everyone thanked her for reminding them about Jesus.

8. What did Sophie do as people started to go into the church?

Danced

Laughed

Sang

Cried

9. Why did people thank Sophie?

Everything Sophie had put on her orange represented a part of Jesus. The orange is the world he provides, the scarf is the blood he shed, the fruit is the food he gave to the needy, the twigs are the seasons God created and the candle shows how Jesus is the light of the world. This special Christmas symbol is known as a **Christingle**.

9. Which part of Jesus does the candle on the Christingle represent?

This is how Sophie made her Christingle:

'Sophie wrapped a piece of red wool from her scarf around the middle of the orange. Then she pushed her candle into the top of the orange. Next she found four small twigs and pushed them into the orange. To finish she carefully pushed the dried fruit onto the twigs.'

Can you draw a picture of what you think a Christingle might look like?