

## The Nativity Story

Long, long ago, in a town called Nazareth, there lived a young woman called Mary.

Mary was engaged and looking forward to being married to a carpenter called Joseph.



### 1. Where did Mary live?

Bethlehem

Nazareth

Liverpool

America

### 2. Who was Mary going to marry?

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One day, an angel appeared before Mary and told her that she had been chosen by God to have a very special baby.

The baby would be the son of God and should be called Jesus.

### 3. Who appeared before Mary?

Jesus

God

An angel

A fairy

#### 4. What was the special baby to be called?

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After that, Mary and Joseph were married. Months passed by and the time came for Mary to have her baby. Unfortunately, it was just at this time that Mary and Joseph had to go on a long journey to Bethlehem to pay their taxes. Mary had to ride all the way there on a donkey.

#### 5. Why did Mary and Joseph have to go to Bethlehem?

For a holiday.

To see a pantomime.

To visit their friends.

To pay their taxes.

#### 6. How did Mary travel to Bethlehem?

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When Mary and Joseph finally arrived in Bethlehem, the town was crowded because lots of other people had arrived to pay their taxes.

Mary and Joseph tried very hard to find an inn where they could rest for the night but at every inn they tried the innkeeper replied  
“There is no room at the inn”

## 7. Why was Bethlehem so crowded?

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Eventually, one kind innkeeper said he had a stable where he kept his animals. He told Mary and Joseph that they were welcome to stay in his stable.

## 8. Where did the kind innkeeper say Mary and Joseph could stay?

In his shed.

In his kennel.

In his stable.

In his barn.

That night Mary gave birth to the baby Jesus. She wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger full of hay.

## 9. Where did Mary lay Jesus?

In a cot.

In a cradle.

In a bed.

In a manger.

That same night, some shepherds were watching over their sheep on a hillside near Bethlehem.

A bright star was shining in the sky. Suddenly, an angel appeared. The shepherds were very frightened.

“Do not be afraid!” said the angel

“I have been sent by God to give you some good news.’

The angel told the shepherds that the son of God had been born and they would find him in Bethlehem

### **10. What news did the angel give the shepherds?**

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Straight away, the shepherds made their way to Bethlehem.

When they arrived and found baby Jesus in the stable, they were filled with joy.

They knelt down and worshipped the new King. The shepherds told Mary and Joseph how the angel had appeared in the sky and told them how Jesus would be the Saviour of the World.

### **11. How did the shepherds feel when they found baby Jesus?**

Joyful

Worried

Sad

Angry

Far away in the East, three wise men saw a bright new star shining high in the sky. They knew this meant that a great new ruler had been born. The wise men followed the bright new star, knowing that it would lead them to this great new ruler.

## 12. Who saw a bright new star?

Three silly men

Three angry men.

Three wise men.

Three wise monkeys.

Before they reached Bethlehem, the wise men went to Jerusalem to see King Herod. They thought the new baby would be in the palace. When they asked to see the new baby king, King Herod was angry because he thought that this new king would try to take away his throne.

King Herod told the wise men to return when they had found the baby king so that he could go and worship the child as well.

## 13. Do you think King Herod really wanted to worship the new baby king?

The wise men set off from King Herod's palace to find the baby. They were guided to the stable in Bethlehem by a bright star.

When they found the baby, the wise men knelt down and worshipped him. They gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

That night, the wise men had a dream where an angel warned them that King Herod wanted to kill Jesus. The angel told them not to go back to the palace.

#### **14. What gifts did the wise men give to Jesus?**

***Tick 3***

gold	.....	silver	.....	myrrh	.....
a donkey	.....	frankincense	.....	a car	.....

#### **15. What did the angel tell the wise men?**

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The wise men returned to their country without going to see King Herod.

Soon after, Joseph also had a dream where an angel told him that King Herod had ordered that Jesus should be killed. Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus left Bethlehem immediately and fled to the safety of Egypt.

**16. Why did Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus go to Egypt?**

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Can you draw a picture of baby Jesus lying in a manger with Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and the three wise men?

