

Outcomes:

By the end of this unit all pupils should know:

- Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.
- The Bible points out that his birth showed he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example, to the poor, in Luke).
- Christians celebrate Jesus' birth; Advent for Christians is a time of getting ready for Jesus' coming.
- Christians find out about what Jesus is like and how he wants people to live from the Bible.

By the end of this unit pupils should have developed the following skills:

- Recognise that Incarnation is part of the 'Big Story' of the Bible.
- Tell the story of the birth of Jesus and recognise the link with Incarnation — Jesus is 'God on Earth'.
- Give at least two examples of ways in which Christians use the nativity story in churches and at home; for example, using nativity scenes and carols to celebrate Jesus' birth.
- Think, talk and ask questions about the Christmas story and the lessons they might learn from it: for example, about being kind and generous.
- Understand that Advent is the time before Christmas when Christians get ready for Jesus coming.
- Recall Bible stories associated with the birth of Jesus. Including (a) the meaning of his names Immanuel (God is with us) and Jesus (he saves), (b), the angel Gabriel's message to Mary – that her baby is God's son, (c) his humble birth, (d) visited by shepherds -ordinary people – and the Magi.
- Identify these stories with the religion of Christianity, whose members are collectively called Christians and know that these stories are from the Bible.
- Recognise the order of the key events in the Biblical narrative.
- Raise and suggest answers to relevant questions in response to their enquiry into the Christmas story.

Progression:

Prior Learning: YEAR 1

- Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.
- The Bible points out that his birth showed that he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example, to the poor, in Luke).
- Christians celebrate Jesus' birth; Advent for Christians is a time of getting ready for Jesus' coming.
- Jesus was born among poor and marginalised people
- Give a clear, simple account of the story of Jesus' birth and why Jesus is important for Christians.
- Recognise that stories of Jesus' life come from the Gospels.
- Give examples of ways in which Christians use the story of the nativity to guide their beliefs and actions at Christmas.
- Decide what they personally have to be thankful for at Christmas time.

Building Towards: YEAR 3

- Christians believe God is Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Christians believe The Father creates; he sends the Son who saves his people; the Son sends the Holy Spirit to his followers.
- Christians find that understanding God is challenging; people spend their whole lives learning more and more about God.
- Christians really want to try to understand God better and so try to describe God using symbols, similes and metaphors, in song, story, poems and art.
- Christians worship God as Trinity. It is a huge idea to grasp and Christians have created art to help to express this belief.
- Christians believe the Holy Spirit is God's power at work in the world and in their lives today, enabling them to follow Jesus.
- Identify the difference between a 'Gospel', which tells the story of the life and teaching of Jesus, and a letter.
- Offer suggestions about what texts about baptism and Trinity might mean.
- Give examples of what these texts mean to some Christians today.
- Describe how Christians show their beliefs about God the Trinity in worship (in baptism and prayer, for example) and in the way they live.
- Make links between some Bible texts studied and the idea of God in Christianity, expressing clearly some ideas of their own about what the God of Christianity is like.

Vocabulary

Bible, Parable, Incarnation, Christian, God, Gratitude, Advent

Assessment Opportunities:

By the end of this unit pupils should have had these opportunities:

Questions

Vocabulary check

AMV/UC Assessment Grid