



Religion /Worldview: CHRISTIANITY		Enquiry Question: What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?		Autumn 2			
This enquiry investigates the significance and symbolism of elements of the Christmas story to Christians today.							
Learning Objective: We are learning to understand the symbolism in the Christmas story and think about what the different parts mean to Christians today.							
BAS: Inspirational People Symbols Sacred Texts- Teaching and Authority							
Core Knowledge			Link to other aspects of belief				
<p>Jesus was born in Bethlehem and Christians believe he was God’s son. Mary was his mother and Joseph was engaged to her at the time. The elements of the Christingle have a symbolism: The orange represents the world. The candle reminds Christians of Jesus whom they believe to be the light of the world. The red ribbon goes all round the 'world' and being the colour of blood, reminds Christians that Jesus died. The four cocktail sticks are the four seasons The sweets (or sometimes dried fruit) remind Christians of God's gifts to the world Nativity Symbols: The angel symbolises that Jesus was a special gift from God /the Incarnation of God. The wise men and the Shepherds are a contrast between rich and poor, symbolising that Jesus is a gift from God to everyone. Gold is a precious metal symbolising how precious Jesus is and represents his Kingship. The stable represents humble beginnings.</p>			<p>Jesus as the Son of God and light of the world – leading Christians to God hence the star and the candle in the Christingle. The Annunciation: that Mary agreed to the Angel Gabriel’s request when God sent him to ask her to be the mother of Jesus.</p>				
Vocabulary			Other RE Curriculum links				
<p>Incarnation: God becoming man or literally being “made flesh Christingle: An ornament made in many homes and church at Christmas with significance to each part of it. Angel: A spiritual being that serves as a messenger from God. God’s messenger to Mary was called the Angel Gabriel. Three Wise Men: Gentile sages who visited Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in Bethlehem shortly after the birth of</p>		<p>History/Context See Yr3 Autumn 2 for the contextual significance of the shepherds. The Christingle (which means “Christ-light”) started in Germany in 1747. The tradition spread with the movement of the church. In 1968 the Christingle Service was brought to the Anglican Church of</p>		<p>Impact on believer/daily life Symbols are still used today e.g. the Christingles, a star or angel on the top of the Christmas tree. Christians may also have a “crib” or nativity scene in their own home to remind them of the elements of the Christmas story. Many Christians will attend Church services over the Christmas period to commemorate the birth of Jesus.</p>		<p>Many religions use symbols to represent their beliefs. The Seder Plate (Judaism). The Seder plate traditionally holds five or six items, each of which symbolises a part of the Passover story. The 5Ks (Sikhism). The 5 Ks symbolise that the Sikh who wears them has dedicated themselves to a life of devotion and submission to the Guru. Each K has an important significance, and symbolises something a Sikh should remember. Easter (Christianity). There are lots of symbols associated with Easter, for example Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns.</p>	



Jesus. They were guided by a star and brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh	England although many different denominations now use it.		
--	---	--	--

Possible Homework links	Other Curriculum Links	Personal connection / resonance
Could our household make a Christingle or some other symbolic home decoration which shows the things that are important to us in our lives? Can we discuss what is important to each of us and to us all?		<p>What symbols are meaningful to me?</p> <p>What could I use as symbols to portray things that are important to me in my life?</p> <p>Is it important that others understand my symbolism or is it something personal that only I comprehend?</p>

Prior Knowledge

Builds on previous Christmas enquiries:
 EYFS: What is Christmas? Giving, thanks, Christmas story, shepherds, wise men, Nativity
 Year 1: The meaning and symbolism of Christmas
 Year 2: Why do Christians believe that God gave Jesus to the world?
 Year 3: Has Christmas lost its true meaning?

Suggested Activities	Questions to support greater depth
----------------------	------------------------------------

<p>Teacher to stick events from the Christmas story around the room. Each child to have a piece of multilink and chose which part of the story is the most significant for them and place their piece of multilink in the basket by it. As a class, look at the part of the story that the children have voted is the most significant and explore why. Children could then pair up with someone who thinks differently and (nicely) try to persuade them about their choice – let pairs become fours and repeat the process – this way they can all justify their choice as well as listen to the arguments of others)</p> <p>Using an actual nativity scene, remove different parts of the scene and explore with the children what that would mean for the original story, e.g. if the wise men hadn't followed the star, if there had been room at the inn? Does this help the children with their reasoning about the most significant part of the story? Try to see the story as a whole, not just small pieces – what links the pieces together?</p> <p>Make Christingles</p>	<p>What do the parts of your Christingle represent? Is there any part of your Christingle that represents a part of the original nativity story?</p> <p>What part of the Christmas story do you think might be the most important for a Christian and why?</p> <p>What does the concept of Incarnation mean? Do you have any questions about this concept? What do you think about incarnation?</p>
---	--

British values



MUTUAL RESPECT

TOLERANCE of those of different faiths and beliefs

End Point Expectations

I can design a symbolic object to show the significance of Christmas or the Christmas holiday to me.

I can describe one thing a Christian might learn about Jesus from a Christmas symbol.

I can ask questions about what Christmas means to Christians and compare this with what it means to me.

SEND core skills

VISIT A CHURCH – St John’s Church Friern Barnet Road, London N11 Church Of England

Assessment Opportunity

Personal resonance/reflection

I can tell you / talk about the concept / belief e.g. belonging and start to relate this to the people I am studying e.g. Jews.

I can express my own opinions and start to support them with rationale.

Knowledge and Understanding

I can recall facts about religions I have studied, select the facts that are most significant to the enquiry and start to explain their relevance / importance.

Skills of evaluation & Critical thinking

I can apply my knowledge to the enquiry question and give an answer supported by one or more facts.