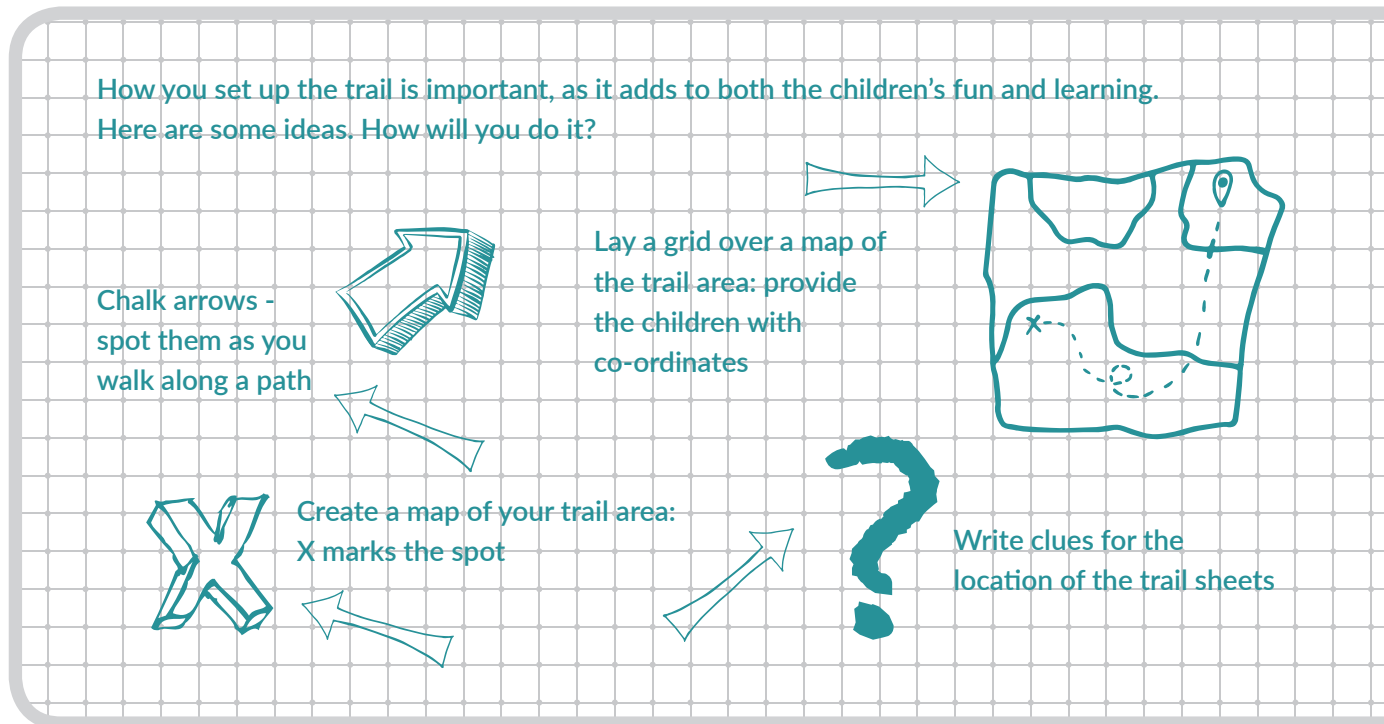


## Christmas Story Trail

## First Level

### Here's how you enjoy this trail:

Print the 7 trail sheets and place them around your trail area.



The trail works best if the children are in small groups or pairs. Depending on the reading ability of the children they may need an adult (or older child) supporting each group. Plan how you'll organise the activity to ensure everyone isn't crowding around one trail sheet at the same time. The children don't need to find the trail sheets in a particular order.

Watch or read the Christmas story. You can find it in the Bible in Luke chapter 1, verses 26-38, Luke chapter 2, verses 1-20 and Matthew chapter 2 verses 1-12. A PowerPoint to help you tell the story is included in the downloads.

Ensure each child/pair has an answer sheet, a pencil and a clipboard and understands how they find the trail sheets and what they do when they find them.

Visit the trail sheets. They can be visited in any order. Children are challenged to find the characters and to collect a letter. If you wish to add an extra challenge there is also a decoded letter to collect. The decoder is part of the resource and could be printed on the reverse of the answer sheet.

After everyone has completed the trail discuss the answers (The letters spell the phrase: Son of God, the coded letters spell the word: Immanuel). Can they find out what Immanuel means? (God is with us).

Once the trail is completed, continue the learning. You'll find some ideas on the next page.

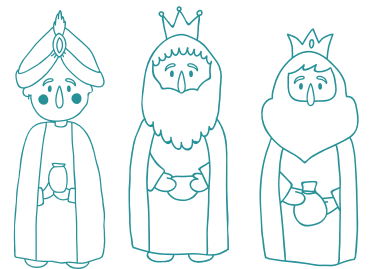
## Extend the Learning

There are lots of ideas in our lesson plans included in the downloads.  
Here are a few of our favourites:

Ask them what their favourite part of the story is and invite them to create it. What will they use?  
Natural objects outside?  
Construction toys?  
Craft materials?



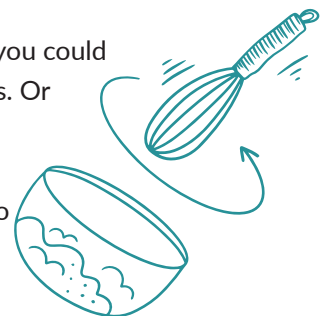
Hide the characters from a nativity set and invite the children to find them. Afterwards talk about the characters and their role in the story or play Kim's game with them.



The Wise Men followed a star to find Jesus. Challenge the children to create and follow a trail of stars. What will they put at the end of their trail?



Enjoy some Christmas baking, you could make and decorate star biscuits. Or how about making 'Jesus in a manger'? Mix some shredded wheat with melted chocolate to make straw and pop a jelly baby on top!



Draw a simple baby Jesus onto a pebble. Can the children make a manger for the baby?

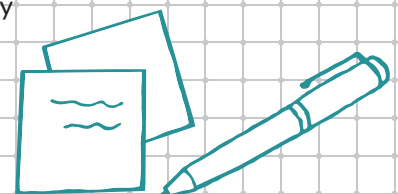
## GAME

Play 'Port, Starboard' with a Christmas theme or other Christmas games. There are instructions in our Early Year resources.

Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem because of a census. Can the children find out what a census is and then carry out a census of their class or the school?



Link to literacy by asking the children to pretend they are one of the characters and either writing a postcard home or some diary entries.





Put the letters in the right order to discover something Christians believe about who Jesus is.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Decoder

a	b	c	d	e	f	g
☿	♌	✈	♍	♎	♊	■

h	i	j	k	l	m	n
☼	♋	□	◻	●	◯	◻

o	p	q	r	s	t	u
◻	💧	◆	◆	✦	☼	☒

v	w	x	y	z
⬆	⌘	⌚	📺	❄

Decode the coded letters and put them in the right order. They will spell another name for Jesus. Can you find out what it means?

\_\_\_\_\_

1.



2.

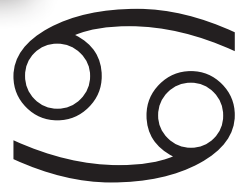




3.



4.





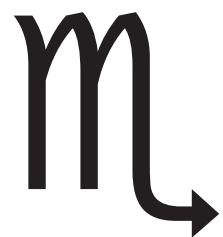
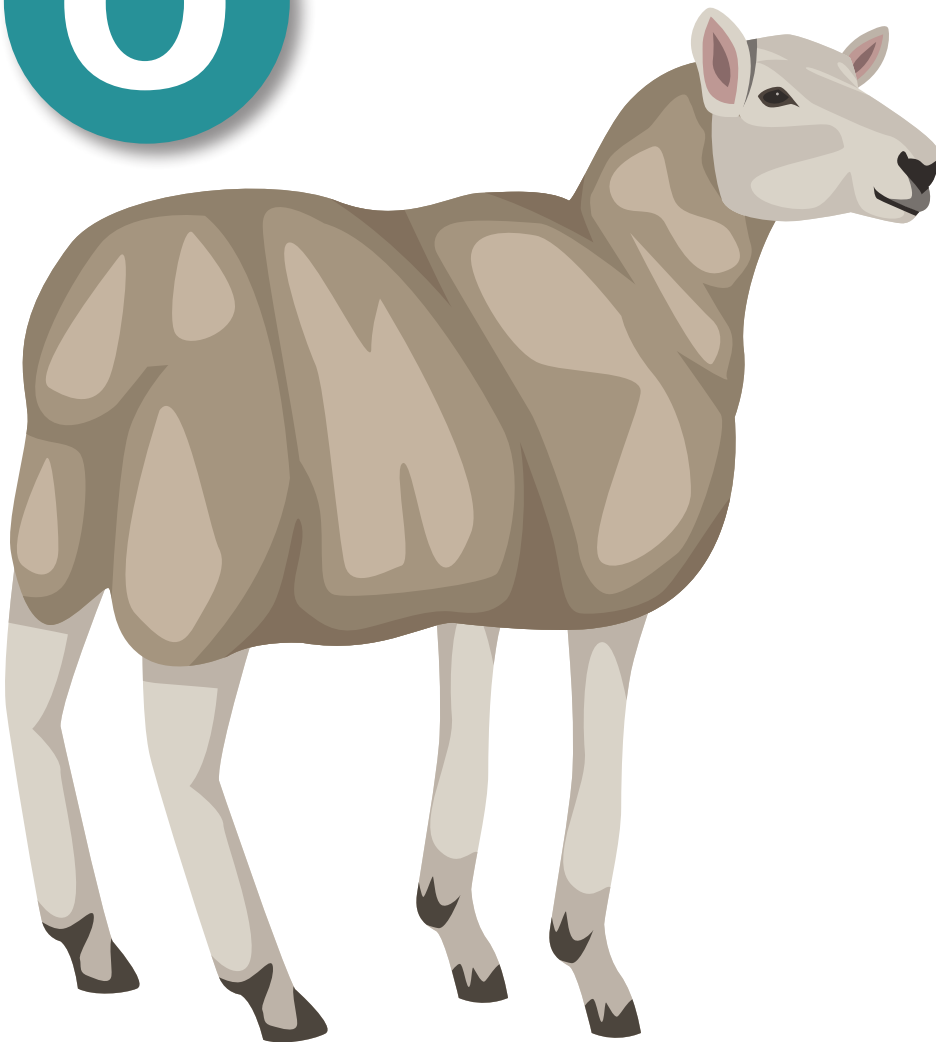
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8.

