

## The First Christmas

A story for toddlers and nursery children.

You will need a musician who can improvise short musical phrases to reflect the mood of the story at each stage. This could be piano/keyboard or a melody instrument.

“Oh dear,” said Joseph to Mary, “its a long way to go, and we have to walk all the way.”

Mary and Joseph set off on their journey.  
At first they walked quickly.

(Music)

Then a little slower.

(Music)

Then even slower.

(Music)

Then they were so tired, they could hardly walk at all.

(Music)

Suddenly Joseph shouted: “We're there! We've reached Bethlehem!”  
This made them feel a bit happier.

(Music)

But all they wanted to do was to go to sleep. Mary and Joseph were very very tired.

(Music)

But there was no where to stay! No one had a spare bed for them to sleep in.  
They were very sad.

(Music)

“I haven't got a room,” said a man, “but you can stay in my stable with the animals.”

Poor Mary was so tired she just wanted to curl up and go to sleep on the hay. But something was happening. It was time for her baby to be born. Mary and Joseph were very worried. Their baby was going to be born in a stable!

(Music)

In the middle of the night, when it was still very dark, the little baby Jesus gave his first cry. Some shepherds came to see them saying that an angel had told them about the special baby. The Shepherds were very excited.

(Music)

As the sun came up the next day Mary and Joseph looked at the little baby Jesus. They were happy, very very happy. So happy that, if they hadn't been so tired, they would have got up and danced.

(Music)

Mary gave her new baby a big kiss, and, while Joseph cuddled little Jesus, she fell asleep, fast asleep.

All sing ‘Away in a Manger.’

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