





Instant Christmas Pageant

Say: Today is a very special day in our Christian lives. This morning you'll help recreate the very first Christmas. Everyone is going to have a part in a Christmas pageant right now.

Assigning Roles

Assign the following parts and pause to let each group practice its sounds or actions after you read their name or word.

City: The whole class stands and make Bible city sounds such as yelling, donkey sounds, and trumpets.

Joseph: 1st and 2nd grade boys stand, raise their right hands, and say, "O Holy Night."

Mary: 1st and 2nd grade girls stand, pretend to hold a baby, and say, "Ahhh."

Child: 3rd graders all stand, place their hands over their hearts, and say, "Love."

Angels: 4th grade girls stand, hold out their hands like angel wings, and say, "Peace."

Shepherds: 4th grade boys stand and shake their staffs (*use brooms, umbrellas, or yardsticks*) in the air.

The Christmas Story

Instruct your class to perform their parts after you read the words in the following story.

Read: This is from the book of Luke, chapter 2: **Joseph** (*pause*) went to the **city** (*pause*) of David called Bethlehem, to be registered with **Mary** (*pause*), to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a **child** (*pause*).

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her **child** (*pause*). And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region, there were **shepherds** (*pause*) living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an **angel** (*pause*) of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the **angel** (*pause*) said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. To you, this day is born in the **city** (*pause*) of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: You will find a **child** (*pause*) wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the **angel** (*pause*) a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God in the highest heaven, and saying, "On earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the **angels** (*pause*) had left them and gone into heaven, the **shepherds** (*pause*) said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went with haste and found **Mary** (*pause*) and **Joseph** (*pause*), and the **child** (*pause*) lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what they were told about this **child** (*pause*); and all who heard it were amazed at what the **shepherds** (*pause*) told them, **but Mary** (*pause*) treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Closing Prayer

