

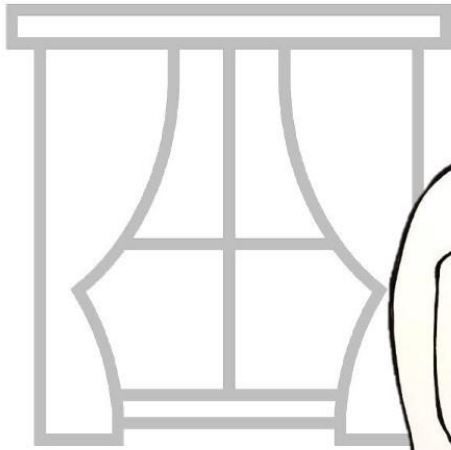


We are so pleased you are taking part in our Nativity trail, we hope that you have lots of fun! If you are wondering where to look then here is a quick guide:

Where to find the trail posters:

- 1) Children's hospice south west
- 2) Julian House
- 3) Hoarders
- 4) Papillio
- 5) Costa
- 6) Oxfam
- 7) Thornbury Baptist Church main entrance door.

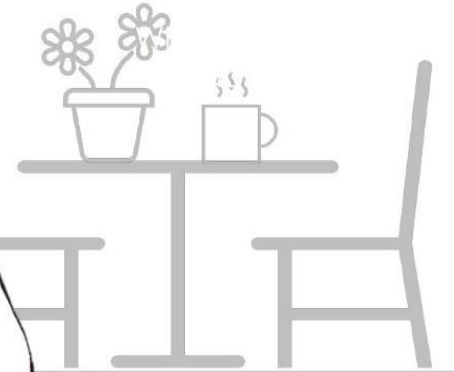
The printable activities that can also be found using the QR codes are below:



Mary was promised to Joseph, she had plans, ideas, hopes and dreams. The angel's news changed all of that. Mary had a choice - would she trust in this adventure?



Mary didn't know what was ahead but she trusted. What do you think might be ahead on your adventure?



You can read Mary's story in
Luke 1:26-38
& Luke 1:46-49

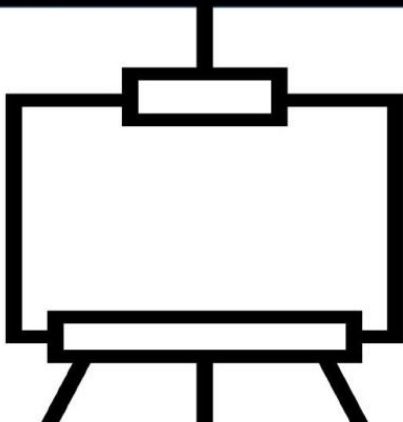
ADVENTURE



I wonder what Mary thought when she met Gabriel?



What did Mary say to Gabriel's news?



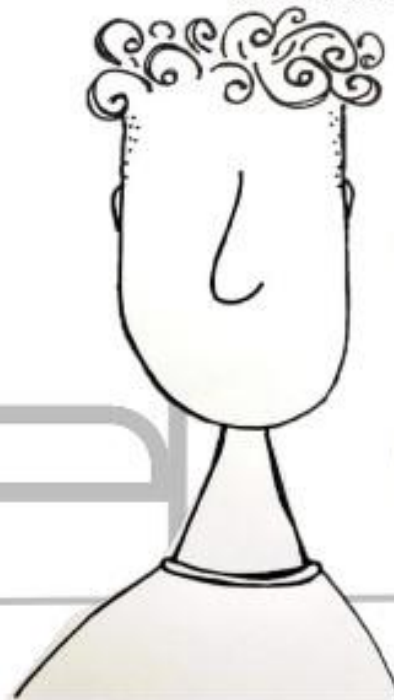
What would you like to be when you are older?



You could write some kind messages to people and hide them around the house.

ADVENTure

Joseph didn't want things to be difficult for Mary, he loved her very much. But God had plans for him too and even whilst he was sleeping God spoke to him.



I wonder if you can remember any of your dreams?

Have you ever been for a wander in the dark?

Have you ever sat outside and watched the stars?

You can read Joseph's story in Matthew 1:18-21



Joseph was a carpenter.

Have you ever built anything out of wood?



ADVENTure

How many wooden things can you see near to you?

Can you put a piece of paper on different trees and rub over it with a crayon to see the different patterns?



You could stick four lolly sticks together to make a frame for a picture or photo as a gift for someone



Mary & Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem because Caesar Augustus wanted to know how many people he ruled over. It was a long way travelling over 90 miles along flatlands and hills, rainy, cold weather and would have taken them days. We don't know if they had a donkey but their route took them through forests with wild animals, bandits and many dangers.

ADVENTure

I wonder if you have ever refused to go on a journey God has invited you on?

Have you ever walked until your feet hurt?

I wonder if there are people today taking long and risky journeys?



You can read this part of the story in Luke 2:1-5

Muddy Church

ADVENTure

The journey would have been difficult, long and hard but God was with them.

Can you imagine writing a postcard for the journey?
What might you say?

	 
--	--

BUILD AN OBSTACLE COURSE

Can you build an obstacle course to travel over and under, round and through?



What can you feel with your feet?
See if you can guess what different things are just by using your feet!



Could you make some puppet characters from the Christmas story out of old socks?



Mary and Joseph were tired but the city was so busy and there was no where for them to stay. Eventually one kind person offered them the only space they had, where they normally kept the animals.

I wonder if it was cold or if it was smelly?

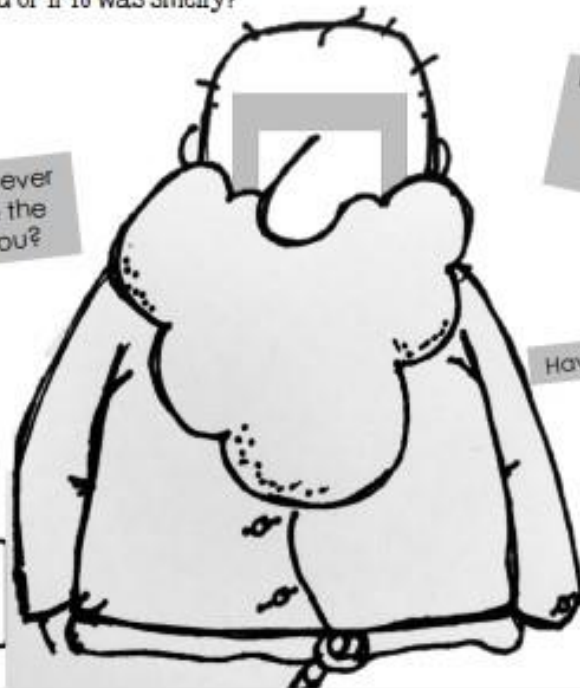
ADVENTure

I wonder if you are ever too busy to notice the people around you?

Have you ever cared for an animal, insect or friend who needed help?

Have you ever stayed in a shelter?

You can read this part of the story in Luke 2:6-7



ADVENTure

Everyone was really busy but one person took time to help Mary and Joseph.

TAKE TIME TO THINK ABOUT PEOPLE AROUND YOU
 Find a piece of ribbon or thread that is long enough to go around your wrist. Tie a knot in it for 5 people who are important to you. Wrap this on your wrist and you could pray for them or thank God for them as you wear it.



BUILD A SHELTER

Can you build a shelter?

If you are outside you could try building it with sticks and branches or inside with cushions and blankets or under a table or chair.

INSECT HOUSE

You could build an insect house using a box or bottle from your recycling.

Fill it up with different items that offer shelter to bugs - pinecones, twigs, cardboard, sticks, moss, leaves, shells, stones - whatever!

Pack these into your 'house' in layers or groups and then place it outside. Check back after a few days and see who has come to visit!

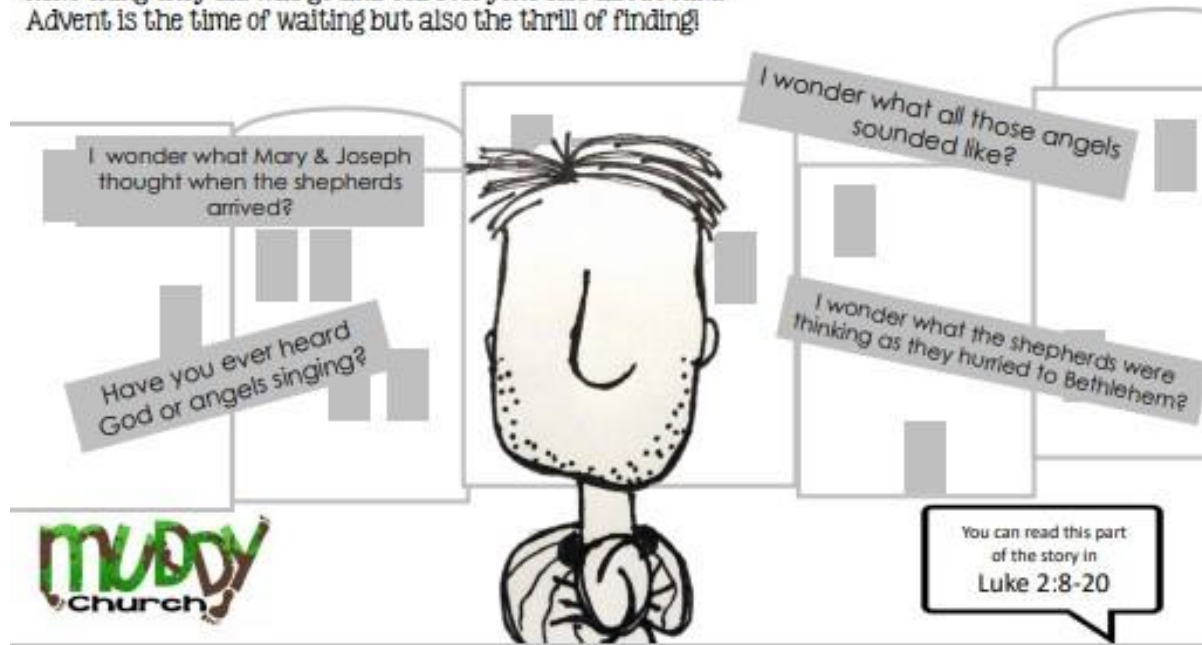


How long is a minute?
 Can you guess when a minute has finished?
 Get someone to keep the time and see who can get closest to 60 seconds!



As the shepherds sat, like any other night an angel appeared - I wonder what the sheep thought? They were told where to find Jesus and then all of heaven burst out like they couldn't wait any longer, singing their happiness. They went and found Jesus and then the very next thing they did was go and tell everyone else about Him. Advent is the time of waiting but also the thrill of finding!

ADVENTure



ADVENTure

From sitting in a field, watching sheep to meeting with God – everyone is invited.

Can you spot 10 sheep?



Perhaps you could paint some rocks with sheep or faces and hide them around the house, garden or area. How many can be found?



Can you be a sheep dog and guide someone with their eyes closed around a room or around some obstacles?

If you sit outside in the evening or night-time what can you hear? Are there any noises that are different to the daytime?



Could you make a card to share some happy news or thoughts with someone?





The Magi or Kings came on a long journey searching for Jesus, they had been waiting for this King for many years. They expected to find Him in a place of importance, they asked people where He was but no one knew. It was the star that led them to that small town, no where special and yet one of the most important places in history.



I wonder what gift you would give to Jesus?



When they found the baby they bowed down in worship - I wonder how Mary and Joseph felt with these important people bowing to them and their child?

ADVENTure

I wonder where you expect to find God?

You can read this part of the story in Matthew 2:1-12

ADVENTure

Sometimes it can seem hard to find God. Sometimes we find God in the most unexpected places.



The BIG DIPPER

CASSIOPEIA

CANIS MAJOR

If the sky is clear ask someone to go with you or look outside at the night sky. Can you see any of these shapes or maybe you notice the stars making another shape?



You could make a star decoration out of 5 twigs or sticks (equal length), fasten them together and then decorate. Maybe you could add some items you find that are golden or that smell nice.





We hope you have enjoyed our

Muddy Church ADVENTure

and meeting all our characters. But who is missing?



We've taken a journey, wandered and wondered but where we are now is not the end. Our story has not introduced the reason for our adventure. Sometimes Christmas can become so full of things to do, places to be, things to get or buy that we miss out on meeting with Jesus.



I wonder if you miss anyone?



John 3:16 tells us of God's gift for every person. The gift of Jesus.

I wonder what has been your favourite moment?

I wonder which character you feel most like?

I wonder if you have discovered any treasures?

I wonder what you would say to Jesus?

ADVENTure

I wonder why this was the greatest gift?



ADVENTure



The bible tells us the Jesus is the Light of the World. You could light a candle (or ask someone to), place it safely and think about the story and journey you have been on.



Can you add yourself to this story?

God became one of us to share in life, to understand joy and sadness, fun and laughter. We hope you know this presence and peace at Christmas and into the coming year.

We hope that you have enjoyed this Nativity Trail. Check out our website www.thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk/families to stay in touch with what else we have going on through the year. Merry Christmas!