



Helping Churches and Schools bring RE to life in Reading and beyond

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## Single Activity Focus: Bible Story Bags. Christmas. Yr5.

### Activity Overview

<b>Description</b>	Reflective storytelling by Margaret Cooling
<b>Year Group</b>	Year 5
<b>Why use it</b>	Simple props unpack a story rooted in scripture. The story is carefully scripted and followed by a wondering and exploring time. An inspiring, reflective and interactive way of sharing and traveling through story and meaning.
<b>Duration</b>	15-20 mins (in a REinspired session context)
<b>Size of group</b>	up to 10 children
<b>Resources</b>	Story bag. All details on how to make and use them, plus scripts can be found in Margaret Cooling's book, Bible Story Bags. Published by BRF.
<b>More Information</b>	For more information on how to use this activity or the session this activity is used for, please contact the <a href="mailto:office@reinspired.org.uk">office@reinspired.org.uk</a> For more information on Bible Story Bags by Margaret Cooling and other BRF resources might like to try <a href="http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk">www.barnabasinschools.org.uk</a>
<b>Instructions</b>	<p>Scripts and questions are shown in Margaret Cooling's book. For this year group we use script 2.</p> <p>Below details how we use the resource in the context of REinspired Year 3 Christmas Session.</p> <p>Introduce the story e.g. 'Today we are having a story which is important for Christians'.</p> <p>Remember the scripts and questions are deliberately 'open' in order to promote curiosity, conversation and discussion.</p> <p>Start by showing the bag. Then unpack the bag. Read the 'unpacking the bag' script as you take out the items, in the order in which they're mentioned. Place them at the side of you ready to use.</p> <p>For this age group follow script 2 from the book, which starts: 'My bag is blue, the colour of our world: the blue planet There are three roads in my bag: the first is...' And finishes 'There is a baby, born into a world he came to change'</p>



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Lay the 'cloth' (bag) flat in front of you and smooth it down. Then the story telling begins.  
Read the script in an unhurried and expressive way, and place the objects as instructed. You could do this alone or, if in a pair, 1 person read and the other unpack the story bag.

After telling the story, ask questions - more in the book. For example:

- I wonder what you find interesting in this story?
- I wonder if this story has a message?
- Whose voice is calling?
- Can a baby change the world?
- Which bit of the story did you like best?
- Which bit of the story do you think is the most important?

Pupils could express what they have learned using writing, art, or discussion.