

Why do Christians give gifts at Christmas : RE : Year 1

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To discuss their experiences of giving and receiving presents.	Children will think about some of the reasons why people give gifts. They will consider how it feels to both give and receive gifts, drawing on their own experiences. They will start to consider what makes a present precious.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can children identify aspects of their own experience and feelings in relation to giving and receiving presents? • Can children identify what they feel to be of value and explain why? • Can children use words and pictures to describe a present that is special to them? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Worksheet 1A/1B/1C • Present Cards (FSD? activity only) • Card Template (FSD? activity only) • Word Bank (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To find out about the story of Jesus' birth.	Children will recap what they already know about Christmas and why it is celebrated. They will read the story of the nativity, focusing on why the three wise men gave gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Jesus when they visited him. They will start to relate this to Christian ideas of giving and receiving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do children understand the story of the birth of Jesus? • Can children explain why they think the wise men gave gifts to the baby Jesus? • Do children know that the concepts of giving and receiving are important in Christianity? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Worksheet 2A/2B/2C • Character Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To think about a gift a Christian might give to baby Jesus.	Children will recap the story of the nativity and recall the gifts given by the three wise men. They will consider gifts that babies receive today and think about what they would give to baby Jesus if they had visited him in the stables today.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do children know that the wise men brought baby Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh? • Can children offer suggestions for what a Christian might give baby Jesus as a gift? • Do children know the significance of giving and receiving gifts for Christians? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Worksheet 3A/3B/3C • Role-play area with baby and manger (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To think about presents that can be given that you can't see.	Children will think about why people give gifts at Christmas and consider presents that can be given but not seen. Children will think about concepts such as kindness, friendship and love as presents they can give their loved one instead of presents that go under the Christmas tree. They will compare the importance of these 'invisible' presents compared to physical gifts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can children talk about why giving presents is an important idea for Christians? • Can children relate giving presents at Christmas to the gifts that were given to Jesus? • Do children understand that some gifts are 'invisible' but are still important? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Worksheet 4A/4B • Heart Template • Digital Cameras (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 5	To explore the Christian belief that Jesus is God's gift to the world.	Children will think about why Christians remember the birth of a baby more than 2000 years ago and discuss the Christian beliefs that Jesus was a gift from God to the world. It also teaches them Christian beliefs about what Jesus brought to the world, such as hope and peace. They will also consider what gifts they would like to give their loved ones at Christmas and why.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do children know that Jesus is important to Christians because he is the son of God? • Can children suggest some things that Jesus brought to the world (e.g. love, hope, etc.)? • Do children know that not all people who give and receive gifts at Christmas are Christians and that some people do not give or receive gifts at all at this time of year? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Word Cards • Paper cut into strips • Worksheet 5A/5B