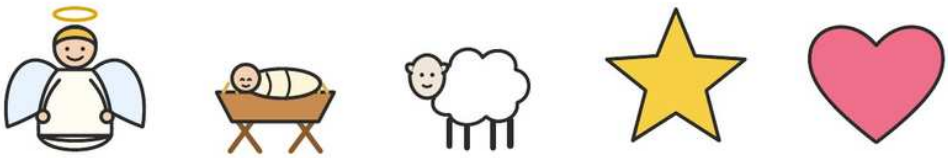
Kids Church 兒童主日學 · Ages 3 to 5 · 3至5歲

The Christmas Story

聖誕故事



Teacher Guide 導師手冊

5-week framework + full 50-minute Week 1 plan
五週教學框架 + 第一週50分鐘詳細教案

Wk 1 · 15 Nov | Wk 2 · 22 Nov | Wk 3 · 29 Nov | Wk 4 · 6 Dec | Wk 5 · 13 Dec

Built for a class of about 7 children (4 girls, 3 boys) with only a printer, A4 paper and colouring pencils. Based on Mustard Seeds "Bible Tots Part 5: The Life of Jesus" (TnT Ministries). Chinese text and all printables in this pack are new.

1. Content check 內容審查

I read all five lessons and every activity sheet. **All five lessons are suitable for 3 to 5 year olds.** The stories are gentle, the activity pictures are simple line drawings, and nothing is frightening on the page. A few wording points are worth adjusting for this age group:

Week	Verdict	What to adjust
1 Angel's Announcement 天使報喜 Luke 1:26-38	**Suitable**	The script says Mary "didn't understand because she wasn't married yet". Little ones don't need this detail and it invites questions you can't answer in 2 minutes. Use "Mary wondered how this could happen" instead (already done in this guide).
2 Birth of Jesus 耶穌降生 Luke 2:1-7	**Suitable**	The script says "Joseph wasn't Jesus' daddy. Instead, God was his daddy." This can confuse 3 year olds and may be tender for children in blended or single-parent families. Suggest: "God is Jesus' Father in heaven, and Joseph loved and looked after Jesus." The journey is "over 70 miles": say "a very, very long walk" (about 110 km).
3 Shepherds 牧羊人 Luke 2:8-20	**Suitable**	The shepherds were "very frightened". Keep your voice calm and land on the angel's words "Don't be afraid!". The lesson uses "rescuer" instead of "saviour", which is good for this age. In Chinese use 「拯救我們」 rather than 「救贖」.
4 Wise Men 東方博士 Matt 2:1-18	**Suitable with care**	The Bible reference runs to verse 18, which includes Herod killing the baby boys (2:16-18). **Do not tell this part to 3 to 5 year olds.** The lesson script already leaves it out; stop at the gifts (2:11). Soften "the king was angry and tried to trick them" to "the king was not happy". If you bring scented oils, check for allergies or asthma and let children only sniff from a distance.
5 Jesus Loves the Little Children 耶穌愛小孩子 Luke 18:15-17	**Very suitable**	Lovely ending to the series. The parent slip asks parents to examine their own lives and repent, which may feel heavy for parents who don't attend church. Consider sending only point 1.

Practical notes

- Almost every original craft needs scissors, glue, card, toilet rolls, cotton wool or googly eyes. You have printer, A4 and pencils only, so this pack replaces them with a **fold-only craft** that needs no cutting or glue.
- The zip files contain **English only** (no Chinese text and no video or audio files). The Traditional Chinese wording in this guide is new. Please ask a Cantonese-speaking teacher to read it aloud once before Sunday so it sounds natural.
- This guide uses 「神」 (和合本 style). If your church uses 「上帝」, swap it throughout.
- Avoid "boys vs girls" teams. With 4 girls and 3 boys it is uneven, and mixed pairs build friendships.

2. The 5-week framework 五週框架

Same shape every week, so children know what comes next. Each week adds one picture to the story: **angel, manger, sheep, star, heart**.

Week	Picture	Big idea 重點	Memory phrase 金句 (with actions)
1 · 15 Nov Angel's Announcement		Jesus is God's Son, King forever. 耶穌是神的兒子，永遠作王。	"Jesus is God's Son, King forever!" 「耶穌是神的兒子，永遠作王！」 Luke 路加福音 1:32-33
2 · 22 Nov Birth of Jesus		Jesus is the King God promised. 耶穌是神應許的王。	"God keeps his promise! Jesus is born!" 「神守應許，耶穌降生！」 Luke 2:7
3 · 29 Nov Shepherds		Jesus came to rescue everyone. 耶穌來拯救所有人。	"Good news for everyone! Jesus came to rescue us!" 「大好消息！耶穌來拯救我們！」 Luke 2:10-11
4 · 6 Dec Wise Men		Jesus is the one we worship. 我們要敬拜耶穌。	"Let's worship Jesus the King!" 「我們一起敬拜耶穌君王！」 Matthew 馬太福音 2:11
5 · 13 Dec Jesus Loves the Little Children		Jesus loves me. 耶穌愛我。	"Jesus loves me!" 「耶穌愛我！」 Luke 18:16

Three things that repeat every week 每週固定三樣

1. Story Path chart 故事小路
Each child has their own A4 chart with 5 circles. Every week they colour that week's picture. Keep the charts at church in a folder. In Week 5 they take the finished chart home. This is the weekly "review" moment: "What did we colour last week?"

2. Stand-up story card 企立故事卡
One fold, no cutting. Each week the child colours and folds a card that stands on a table at home. After 5 weeks they have a little row of 5 cards that tells the whole Christmas story, ready for Christmas Day.

3. Online game 網上小遊戲
Tap-only game on a tablet: story, "find it", story order, crown. Read aloud in English and Cantonese. For early finishers, 2 children at a time. Later weeks can be added.

Weekly routine (50 min) 每週流程

Time	Part	What happens
0-5	Welcome 歡迎	Same name song every week
5-10	Hook + review 引入及溫習	Surprise, then Story Path review
10-22	Bible message 信息	Listen-and-do, act it out, True or Silly
22-27	Memory phrase 金句	Actions + passing game
27-40	Craft 手工	Story Path, main craft, stand-up card
40-47	Games 遊戲	Two active games (+ online game)
47-50	Prayer + home 禱告及回家	Prayer, deliver the good news to parents

3. Week 1 at a glance 第一週一覽

Bible text	Luke 1:26-38 路加福音 1:26-38
Aim 目標	To teach that Jesus is the Son of God who will be King forever. 讓孩子知道耶穌是神的兒子，要永遠作王。
Memory phrase 金句	**"Jesus is God's Son, King forever!" 「耶穌是神的兒子，永遠作王！」** Based on Luke 1:32-33 (和合本：「他要為大，稱為至高者的兒子……他要作雅各家的王，直到永遠」)
Two big words for the day	**Message 消息** (the angel brings God's message) and **King 王** (Jesus is King forever). Everything today comes back to these two.

Running order (50 minutes) 流程

Time	Part	Fun element	From the Mustard Seeds lesson
0-5	Welcome: Jesus' birthday 歡迎	Pretend birthday cake, blow out the candles	Lesson intro ("we are remembering someone's birthday")
5-10	Hook: the secret message 神秘信封	Mystery envelope + Pass the Message whisper game	Game Option 1 "Pass it on"
10-15	Message part 1: Listen and do 聽故事做動作	Children do an action every time they hear a key word	Lesson script + Visual Aids
15-20	Message part 2: Act it out 演故事	Children take turns as the angel and Mary holding big picture signs	Lesson script (retold by children)
20-22	Message part 3: True or Silly? 真定假	Thumbs up or "silly face" for silly sentences	Preparation questions, simplified
22-27	Memory phrase 金句	Actions + Pass the Crown, voice levels	Aim (Luke 1:31-33)
27-40	Craft: King crown + Story Path 手工	Colour and wear a no-glue crown band	Activity B "Make a crown"
40-47	Games: Angel Says + Pass the Parcel 遊戲	Wearing crowns; parcel layers hide story pictures and surprise actions	Game Option 2 "Pass-the-Parcel"
47-50	Prayer + Angel delivery 禱告及送消息	Children deliver "good news" to parents with their stand-up card	Prayer + Reinforcement slip

Running short of time? Drop the online game and Part 3. Running long? Pass the Parcel can be shortened to 4 layers.

Before Sunday 主日前準備 (about 30 minutes)

- Print the **Craft Pack** (41 pages, single-sided, black and white is fine).
- **Crown bands:** fold the 16 crown pages into strips (see section 5). Write each child's name on one strip. This is the only fiddly prep, about 10 minutes.
- **Mystery envelope:** fold one A4 sheet around an angel picture card.
- **Pass the Parcel:** wrap 7 layers of A4 around each other (see section 6). Fold the corners in; it doesn't need tape.
- Fold and tear the picture cards and action cards apart (fold sharply, then tear along the crease).
- Write names on the stand-up cards and Story Path charts.
- Phone with a happy song for Pass the Parcel; tablet with the online game, sound tested.

4. Week 1 step by step 第一週詳細教案

Teacher devotion (from the lesson's Preparation section)
Read Luke 1:26-38 and think about: How did the angel greet Mary (1:28)? What did this mean for her (1:30)? What names does the angel give the baby (1:31-33, 35), and what do they promise? Jesus is the Son of God and will reign forever. God is not distant: he came into our world as a baby born to a humble young woman. Pray that the children feel the excitement of Christmas: God's promised King has come.

0-5 min • Welcome: whose birthday? 歡迎：誰的生日？

Sit in a circle and sing your name song. Then hold your hands like a big cake:

> "It will soon be Christmas! At Christmas we give presents and have parties, because we are remembering someone's birthday. Let's make a pretend birthday cake! Stir, stir, stir... put it in the oven... ding! Now let's put candles on it. How many? Let's count: 1, 2, 3! Whose birthday is it? It's JESUS' birthday! Blow out the candles! Whoosh!"
> 「快到聖誕節啦！聖誕節大家會送禮物、開派對，因為我們在記念一個人的生日。我們一起整個假裝的生日蛋糕！攪呀攪……放入焗爐……叮！插蠟燭，數吓：一、二、三！是誰的生日呢？是耶穌的生日！一齊吹蠟燭！呼！」

Sing one line of "Happy birthday, dear Jesus" together.

5-10 min • Hook: the secret message 神秘信封

Pass the Message (the lesson's "Pass it on" game, made easier for 3 year olds). Whisper two words to the child on your left: **"Jesus... King!"** 「耶穌……王！」. Each child whispers to the next. The last child says it out loud. Did it arrive? Do it a second time with "Good news!" 「好消息！」. Three year olds may just giggle or shout it, and that's fine.

Then hold up the mystery envelope:

> "A message is something someone wants to tell you. I have a message here! Who wants to open it?" (Choose a quiet child.) "It's an ANGEL! An angel is God's special messenger. Today God sends an angel with a VERY special message. Let's find out what it is!"
> 「消息就是有人想告訴你的事情。我這裡有一封信！誰想打開它？……是天使！天使是神特別的信差。今天神派天使送來一個非常特別的消息，我們一起看看是甚麼！」

Show the Story Path chart: "Every week we colour one picture of the Christmas story. Today is number 1: the angel!"

10-15 min • Message part 1: Listen and do 聽故事做動作

Teach the 4 key-word actions first. Practise them twice, getting faster. Then tell the story with the picture cards (or the Children's Bible). Every time the children hear a key word, they do the action.

When you hear...	聽到……	Do this 動作
Angel	天使	Flap your wings 拍翼
Mary	馬利亞	Wave hello 揮手
Jesus	耶穌	Point up 指向天
King	王	Hands on head like a crown 雙手扮皇冠

English
A long, long time ago, God sent an **angel** to a young woman called **Mary**.
The **angel** said, "Hello **Mary**! God is with you. Don't be afraid!"
Then the **angel** told **Mary** some VERY good news: "You are going to have a baby boy. You will call him **Jesus**."
"**Jesus** will be God's Son. And he will be **King**, forever and ever and EVER!"
Mary wondered, "How can this happen?" *(scratch head)*
The **angel** said, "God can do ANYTHING!" *(arms up high)*
Mary trusted God. She said, "Yes! I will do what God wants." And **Mary** waited for baby **Jesus**, God's **King**.

中文
很久很久以前，神派了一位**天使**，去探望一個名叫**馬利亞**的年輕女子。
天使說：「**馬利亞**，你好！神與你同在，不要害怕！」
天使告訴**馬利亞**一個大好消息：「你會生一個男孩子，要給他起名叫**耶穌**。」
「**耶穌**是神的兒子，他要作**王**，直到永永遠遠！」
馬利亞心裡想：「這怎麼可能呢？」*(抓抓頭)*
天使說：「神甚麼都做得到！」*(雙手舉高)*
馬利亞相信神，她說：「好！我願意照神的意思去做。」於是**馬利亞**就等待**耶穌**寶寶出生，祂是神的**王**。

Tip: tell it once in English and once in Chinese if you have two teachers, or alternate line by line. The second time, slow down and speed up for fun ("Mary waited... and waited... and waited...").

15-20 min • Message part 2: Act it out 演故事

Children now tell the story with their bodies. Use the two big picture signs from the craft pack (Angel and Mary). A child holds the sign in front of them to "become" that person.

1. Choose an **Angel** and a **Mary**. Everyone else is the "night stars": they sit and twinkle their fingers.
2. The teacher narrates; the children say the lines after you. Angel: "Hello Mary! Don't be afraid! You will have a baby called Jesus. He will be King forever!" Mary: "Yes! I will do what God wants."
3. Everyone claps, then swap. With 7 children, 3 pairs takes about 5 minutes (the 7th child can be the angel twice or join the teacher as narrator).

Shy children can be "stars" or hold the sign together with a teacher. Never force a turn.

20-22 min • Message part 3: True or Silly? 真定假？

Say a sentence. If it is true, thumbs up and shout "True!" 「真！」. If it is silly, make a silly face and shout "Silly!" 「假！」. Little ones love the silly ones.

Sentence	句子	Answer
God sent an angel to Mary.	神派天使去探望馬利亞。	True 真
God sent a big elephant to Mary.	神派了一隻大笨象去探望馬利亞。	Silly 假
The baby's name is Jesus.	寶寶的名字叫耶穌。	True 真
The baby's name is Bob.	寶寶的名字叫阿Bob。	Silly 假
Jesus will be King forever.	耶穌要永遠作王。	True 真
Jesus will be King for one day.	耶穌只作一天的王。	Silly 假
Mary said "Yes" to God.	馬利亞對神說「好」。	True 真

22-27 min • Memory phrase 金句

Words	字句	Action 動作
Jesus	耶穌	Point up 指向天

is God's Son	是神的兒子	Rock a baby 抱寶寶
King	作王	Hands on head like a crown 雙手扮皇冠
forever!	永遠！	Arms make a big circle 張開手畫大圓

1. **Voice levels:** say it as a mouse (whisper), as a lion (big voice), as a sleepy baby (yawning), as a happy angel (flapping).
2. **Pass the Crown:** pass the "King" picture card around the circle while everyone chants the phrase. Whoever holds it when the phrase ends stands up and leads it with the actions. Play until every child has had a turn (about 3 minutes).

5. Craft 手工 (27-40 min)

Three short pieces, so nobody sits colouring for too long. Order matters: do the crown first, because the children wear it for the games.

Time	Piece	What to do
27-29	Story Path circle 故事小路	Colour circle 1 (the angel). Collect the charts straight away into the folder.
29-38	**King crown band 君王皇冠**	Colour the crown band, then the teacher joins the two strips around the child's head. (Adapted from the lesson's Activity B "Make a crown".)
38-40	Stand-up card 企立故事卡	Fold the card and show how it stands. Children colour it at home ("homework for you and Mummy or Daddy").

What's in the craft pack (41 pages) 手工材料包內容

Pages	Item	Qty	Used in
1-8	Stand-up card: angel / baby King	8	Craft (take home)
9-16	Story Path chart	8	Craft (stays at church)
17-32	Crown band, part A and part B alternating	8 crowns	Craft, then worn for games
33-34	Picture cards: angel, Mary, baby Jesus, King (4 per page)	8 cards	Story, Pass the Crown, Pass the Parcel, Picture Hunt
35	Action cards (4 per page)	4 cards	Pass the Parcel
36-37	Big signs: Angel, Mary	2	Act it out
38-41	Parent slip, bilingual (2 per page)	8 slips	Going home

How to make the crown band (no scissors, no glue)

Each child needs **2 crown pages** (part A says "Jesus is King forever!", part B says 「耶穌永遠作王！」).

1. **Before class:** each crown page has two dashed lines across it. Fold the top part back along the first line, then fold the bottom part back along the second line. You now have a long, strong strip with the crown picture on the front.
2. **In class:** children colour the jewels and points (yellow and gold for the crown, any colours for the jewels).
3. Wrap strip A around the child's head. Slide the end of strip B **inside** the folded layers of strip A at the back and push it in until it fits snugly. The folds grip each other.
4. Do the same with the other end. If you have one stapler or a bit of sticky tape at church, one staple at each join makes it last longer.

Say while they colour: "Who is the real King, forever and ever? JESUS! We wear our crowns to remember that Jesus is the King God promised." 「誰是真正的王，直到永遠？是耶穌！我們戴皇冠，記住耶穌是神應許的王。」

Why a crown?
The lesson suggests four crafts. Activity B (a crown) fits best with your materials and with the aim "King forever". The others need card, glue, toilet rolls or a craft blade:

- A: tube "baby king" (toilet rolls, cloth, googly eyes)
- C: 3D angel page (glue for the arms)
- D: Christmas tree angel (card, glue)

The angel idea from Activity D still comes home on the stand-up card.

Early finishers 提早完成
Draw stars in the sky on the back of the stand-up card, or 2 minutes each on the online game.

Tips for 3 year olds
Praise effort, not neatness: "I love the colours you chose!" Have a spare finished crown ready for a child who gets upset.

6. Games 遊戲 (40-47 min, wearing crowns!)

Game 1: "The Angel Says" 天使話 (3 minutes)

Like "Simon Says", but nobody is out. The teacher is the angel with God's message. If you give an action *without* "The angel says", everyone just giggles and keeps going.

- "The angel says: flap your wings!" 「天使話：拍拍翼！」
- "The angel says: touch your crown!" 「天使話：摸吓你個皇冠！」
- "The angel says: rock baby Jesus!" 「天使話：抱住耶穌寶寶！」
- "The angel says: tiptoe like Mary!" 「天使話：好似馬利亞咁踮腳行！」
- "The angel says: jump and shout 'Jesus is King!'" 「天使話：跳起大聲講『耶穌係王！』」

Let 2 or 3 children have a turn being the angel. **Link:** "Mary listened to God's message and said yes. You listened to the angel's message too!"

Game 2: Pass the Parcel 傳禮物 (4 minutes)

From the lesson's Game Option 2, made bigger so each of your 7 children unwraps one layer.

Make it: put a **King** card in the middle. Wrap it in an A4 sheet. Then add a card and wrap again, building outwards so the layers come off in this order:

Layer	Card inside	What everyone does
1 (outside)	Action card: Flap your wings	Everyone flaps like an angel 一齊拍翼
2	Angel picture	"Who is this? What did the angel bring?" (a message)
3	Mary picture	"Who did the angel visit?" Everyone waves to Mary
4	Action card: Sing Happy Birthday to Jesus	Sing one line 唱一句生日歌
5	Baby Jesus picture	"What's the baby's name?" Everyone rocks a baby
6	Action card: Say "Jesus is King!"	Shout it with crown hands 雙手扮皇冠大叫
7 (centre)	King picture + Rock-the-baby action card	Last child puts all 4 picture cards in story order with help

Play: sit in a circle, play a happy song, pause it. Whoever holds the parcel opens one layer. **Fairness tip:** watch where the parcel is and stop the music on a child who hasn't had a turn. Finish by holding up the four pictures in order and saying the story together.

Backup game: Picture Hunt 尋寶 (if you have extra time)

Hide the 8 picture cards. Each child finds one. Make two mixed teams (not boys vs girls) and each team puts its cards in story order.

Online game 網上小遊戲

Link: **https://claude.ai/artifact/H2k9uDxiXnC6isW4DP5U4n** (private until you share it from the page's Share menu). Tap-only, with read-aloud in English and Cantonese (needs a Cantonese voice on the device; iPads usually have one). Use it for early finishers or while waiting for parents: 2 children at a time, about 2 minutes each. Parts: Story, Find it!, Story order, Crown the King, True or Silly (the same sentences as the classroom game).

47-50 min • Prayer and Angel delivery 禱告及天使送消息

> Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to be King forever. Amen.
> 親愛的天父，感謝你差耶穌來到世上，永遠作我們的王。阿們。

Children repeat line by line with hands together. Then: "Today YOU are the angels! When Mummy or Daddy comes, give them your card and tell them the good news: **Jesus is King forever!**" 「今日你哋就係天使！爸爸媽媽嚟接你嘅時候，將故事卡送畀佢哋，話佢哋知個好消息：耶穌永遠作王！」

Each child goes home with: crown (wearing it), stand-up card, parent slip. The Story Path chart stays at church.

The parent slip follows the lesson's Reinforcement section (the "messages" activity and using Christmas preparations to talk about Jesus' birthday).

7. Ideas for Weeks 2 to 5 (same pattern) 第二至五週構想

Week	Stand-up card	Main game (no extra materials)
2	Manger and baby / "God keeps his promise!"	"Long walk to Bethlehem": follow-the-leader around the room, knock on "doors" (other teachers) who say "No room!", end at the manger card. Sing "Away in a Manger" with actions.
3	Sheep / "Good news for everyone!"	Sleeping sheep: children lie down as sheep; the angel says "Good news!" and they hop up and hurry to Bethlehem. Then "What's missing?" with the picture cards.
4	Star / "Let's worship Jesus the King!"	Follow the star: hide a printed star; children find it and bring a drawn "gift" to the baby card. Children can wear their Week 1 crowns again.
5	Heart / "Jesus loves me!"	"Jesus loves..." circle game from the lesson (say each child's name). Take home the finished Story Path chart.

8. Week 1 checklist 第一週清單

✓	Item	Qty
☐	Craft pack printed (41 pages)	1 set
☐	Crown pages folded into strips, names written	16 strips (8 crowns)
☐	Names on stand-up cards and Story Path charts	8 + 8
☐	Mystery envelope with an angel card inside	1
☐	Pass the Parcel wrapped (7 layers)	1
☐	Angel and Mary picture signs for acting	2
☐	Picture cards and action cards torn apart	8 + 4
☐	Phone or speaker with a happy song	1
☐	Colouring pencils (yellow, blue and skin tones in each tub)	enough for 8
☐	Folder for the Story Path charts	1
☐	Tablet with the online game, sound tested	1
☐	Your own finished crown and stand-up card as examples	1 each