MADE WITH LITTLE STORYBOOK

The Story of the First Christmas



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A Giraffe in the Stable

On Christmas Eve, Luca and Amara set out the little wooden stable scene. Amara added her toy giraffe, right next to the sheep. Luca giggled. "Were there giraffes?" Grandma Bea laughed. "No. But come and sit. I will tell you the story of the first Christmas."





Mary and Joseph

Long, long ago, in a small town called Nazareth, lived Mary and Joseph. They loved each other very much. And soon, Mary was going to have a baby.

A Long Way to Go

One day, everyone had to go to their family's home town, to be counted. Joseph's family came from Bethlehem. So off they went. Mary rode on a little donkey, and Joseph walked beside her. Clip, clop. Clip, clop.





No Room

When they reached Bethlehem, it was dark, and the town was full of people. "Is there a room for us?" asked Joseph. But every room was full. There was no room for them at the inn.

The Stable

So Mary and Joseph rested in a stable, where the animals slept. It was warm, and it smelled of hay. A cow munched, and a sheep went "baa".





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The Baby Is Born

That night, Mary's baby was born. She wrapped him snugly in soft cloth. She laid him in the manger, the box the animals ate from, on a bed of sweet hay. They called him Jesus.

A Light Over the Hills

Out on the hills, shepherds were watching their sheep. Suddenly the sky filled with light! An angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring good news. A baby is born in Bethlehem."





The Shepherds Visit

The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem. They found the baby lying in the manger, just as the angel said. They tiptoed in and knelt quietly. Then a little lamb said "baa!" and everyone smiled.

The Wise Men and the Star

Far away, some wise men saw a bright new star.
They followed it on their camels, over sandy hills.
Some time later, it led them to Mary and the child.
They brought him gifts of gold and sweet-smelling treasures.





A Star on Top

"And that is the story Christians tell at Christmas," said Grandma Bea. Luca placed a golden star on the little stable. Amara's giraffe stood with the sheep. "Now everyone can find the baby," said Amara.

THE END

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