

Matthew 2: 1-2,9-11 Ordinary Stargazers

Watch the cartoon by Saddleback Kids <https://youtu.be/22SMUUMsx0o>

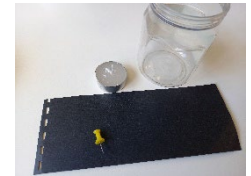


The stargazers watched the sky at night and, when they spotted a new star, recognised that it was a sign from God that God's son had been born.

The stars appear every night and we can easily take them for granted, but the whole universe can remind us of God's power and creativity. We can't count the stars, but God made each one of them – a beautiful display.



This week's activity is to choose a night when it is not raining, wrap up warm, and head outside to look at the stars. Perhaps you could use a night sky app to help you recognise some of the constellations (groups of stars) you can see. If you have a telescope or binoculars, they can help you too. But you don't need any of these things – you can just gaze up at the stars. The longer you look, the more you can see.



Why not make a star nightlight? You need some black paper, a sharp point (pin or pencil point), a jar and a battery nightlight. Use the sharp point to make holes in the black paper, maybe in the shape of a constellation. Then stick it to the inside of your jamjar. Pop the nightlight inside and see the light shine through.



A prayer for when you see the stars at night:

Jesus, shine your light and show me how to follow you. Amen

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Bible Reading

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2 Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him."

9-10 And so they left, and on their way they saw the same star they had seen in the East. When they saw it, how happy they were, what joy was theirs! It went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. **11** They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshiped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and presented them to him. *Good News Translation® (Today's English Version, Second Edition) Copyright © 1992 American Bible Society. All rights reserved.*

I wonder why the stargazers brought such extraordinary gifts for the baby?

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