


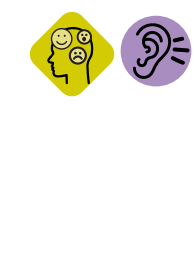




Theme: Advent

1 Snack idea	Biscuits, sandwiches or toast cut out with an angel cutter. Or decorate digestives to look like a candle – three white marshmallows, yellow, red, or orange smarties for the flame – sprinkles for the light.	
2 Craft or Game	Craft: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advent Candle paper craft - see online: Paper Advent Candle to make & colour - see resources link in talk at section 7 	
3 Lighting the candle	Use the same words as the local school when lighting the candle.	
4 Welcome	Song: Prayer: You could use ' welcome everybody ' by Fischy music You could use this gathering prayer by Sam Hargreaves	
5 Collect	Say: A collect is a gathering prayer The collect for the day can be found here: Join us in a service of Daily Prayer The Church of England , then select Morning Prayer and scroll to the end to find the collect.	
6 Bible passage	You could explore this by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use an advent calendar to explore the theme of waiting Advent play (see additional resource) Assembly style idea The Meaning of Advent Out-of-the-box advent (see additional resources) (similar to Godly Play) 	
7 Biblical link	Why it matters Advent, a time for waiting and preparing, a time for getting ready, maybe gifts that you can't open yet, not until Christmas Day, waiting, waiting, waiting. Talk about the advent calendar and the 24 stars on the candle craft. It isn't often that we have to wait for things in our world now, the internet provides us with information we might want at the touch of a button, and we can order a parcel today and have it delivered tomorrow, we can sent a question in a text, message or whatsapp and get a reply before we have even put our phones down. The pace of life is fast, maybe we should slow down, and remember all the good gifts we have been blessed with, including the gift of Jesus as we wait to celebrate His arrival again, this year.	
8 Take away response	Say: How will you respond to the message we have heard from God today? As we move closer to Christmas, day by day, think about the characters of the Christmas story. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The waiting of Mary and Joseph for the baby to be born, The preparation of the wise men made getting their gifts ready and of the long journey they made while they waited for the birth of Jesus, The angels waiting for their time to tell the shepherds, The inn keeper waiting for all the people to arrive to register for the census Herod who was waiting for The Wise Men to go back to him to tell him about Jesus. 	

<p>9 Prayer</p>	<p>Say: We say prayers to talk to God ...</p>	<p>Lord God, at this time of Advent, when the world around us is busy getting ready for Christmas, we pray that You will be with us in this waiting time. Remind us of how You came to earth as a vulnerable baby, and fill us with Joy, peace and humility. Amen.</p>	
<p>10 Song</p>	<p>Say: We sing songs to praise God and thank God</p>	<p>Away in a manger. Jingle bells (see resources for adapted words).</p>	
<p>11 The Lord's Prayer</p>	<p>Use the same version as the school.</p>	<p>Or ask people to pray using whichever version they know.</p>	
<p>12 Blessing</p>	<p>Say: We are now to go out, empowered by Jesus' special presence with us, in communion with one another to share the Gospel with others.</p>	<p>As we are waiting..... May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. Amen.</p>	

Symbols for Spiritual Styles



Word
the path of the intellect



Symbol
the journey of mystery



Emotions
the way of the emotions



Action
The road to justice

Symbols for Learning Styles



Visual



Kinaesthetic



Auditory



Read/Write

You can read more about Spiritual Styles at rootsontheweb.com or [Going 4 Growth](http://Going4Growth.com) (www.going4growth.com/growth_in_faith_and_worship/spirituality/spiritual-styles)

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