

The Young Jesus at the Temple

- **Introduction:** Ask what sports or games they like to play?
- **Activity:** Play some games with your child/children that they enjoy: Toss the bean bag into a hoop/bin, catch the ball, Kim's game, hide and seek etc
- **Sing:** Great Big God, Superhero, Lighthouse, Wiggle Freeze, Wiggle like a worm.
- **Talk:** When you are not at school or nursery or doing school work, what do you like to do? What do you do to chill out or relax from your day? Why do you like doing this? What do you think Jesus would have liked doing as a child? The Bible doesn't tell us a lot about Jesus as a child, and we can often forget that he was once a child too. Children in Jesus' time did go to school, but they also played.
- **Watch/Read:** 'Jesus in the Temple' on YouTube at https://youtu.be/ho_3gviWzbw or Luke 2:41-52
- **Discussion:**
 - Where did Mary and Joseph find Jesus? **In the temple talking to the religious leaders and priests.**
 - Do you think Jesus studied and talked about God all the time when he was young? **No, Jesus would have played like any other child. Jesus knew the importance of fun, and of having time to get away from the busyness of life. Even as an adult, Jesus would send the disciples off across the sea of Galilee ahead of him while he went up a hill to pray and have time alone (see Matthew 14:13 or Luke 5:16). I'm sure as a child Jesus enjoyed having time out to play and have fun with friends to escape from study and learning to be a carpenter.**
 - What sorts of games do you think Jesus would have liked playing? What do you think it would be like to play your favourite game or sport with Jesus? Would he want to win all the time? Would he sulk if he lost? Do you think he would wait his turn or try and take his turn early? Do you think he would cheat?
 - **Next time you play your favourite game or sport, can you play like Jesus would play?** Can you wait your turn, and if you lose, be a 'good' loser? Maybe even stop yourself from slide tackling someone in football or cheating so you can win?
- **Pray:** Ask Jesus to help you to find things that help you chill out and relax, away from some of the difficult things in life. Ask Jesus to help you enjoy those things like he would do.

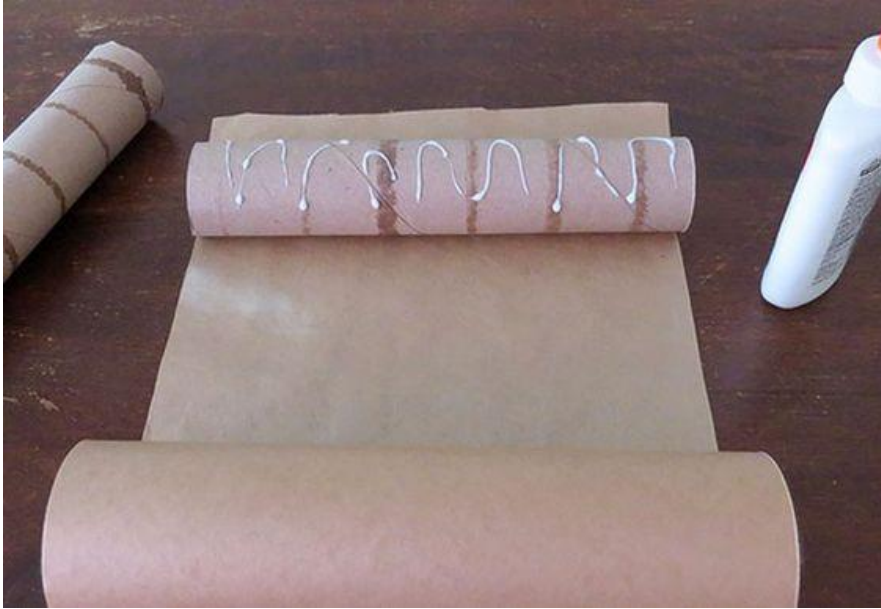
- **Make:** A 'Jesus and me' scroll of you doing your favourite activity with Jesus:
 - Draw a picture or cut out some pictures from a magazine to make a picture of you and Jesus doing your favourite activity. It could be football, running, Legos, jigsaws or playing a game.
 - Put it on grease proof paper to make it look old, or use a teabag to age an A4 piece of paper. Having your paper landscape way up works best, but leave a gap at the left and right edges so you can stick two kitchen roll tubes, lollipop sticks or straws either side as the ends of the scroll.
 - Then roll each side up into the middle and tie a ribbon or string round it to look like a scroll.
 - Scrolls are what they read from in the temple when Jesus was a boy - see below for an example.

- **Make:** 'I Spy Jesus Bottle/Jar'. **This craft involves small objects that may be a choking hazard, and a hot glue gun. Be sure that children are monitored at all times.*
 - You will need: a water bottle/jar, funnel, enough rice to fill each water bottle/jar about $\frac{3}{4}$ full, two of [these miniature pictures of Jesus](#) cut to size and glued back to back, a variety of small objects such as beads, buttons, pom-poms, sequins, jewels, etc (use whatever you have!), PVA glue or hot glue gun if you have one.
 - Use the funnel to pour the rice into the water bottle/jar. Let the children choose some objects (beads, pom poms etc), and put the objects in the bottle with the picture of Jesus (see below). Glue the cap of the bottle with either PVA or a glue gun, if you have one.
 - Shake the bottle to mix up the contents. Can you find Jesus?

- **Copy:** The attached and colour in colouring pages, search for the objects and the words, do the crosswords and the anagrams.

- **Play:** Have the children play some of the games from earlier, or get out some other toys they may find fun - Playmobil or Lego usually work well. Play along with the children if you can!

Jesus and Me Scroll



I Spy Jesus in a bottle/Jar Craft





Where is Jesus?

Help Mary and Joseph find Jesus at the temple.



































YOUNG JESUS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



Jesus Christ Teaches at the Temple



 grew  in the city of Nazareth. As a boy,  learned many things and was strong in spirit. When  was **12** years old, He went with  and  to a celebration in . After the celebration,  and  started  home. They thought  was  with His . When  and  started looking for , they could not find Him. They went back to  to look for . They looked for  days. They found  at the temple,  with some . The  were surprised at how much  knew.  told  she had been worried about Him.  told  and  that He had been doing Heavenly Father's work.  went back to Nazareth with  and .

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Complete the paragraph by filling in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank at the bottom of the story.

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

When Jesus was _____ years old, he went with his _____ to Jerusalem for the _____ of the _____. After the Feast was over, they were returning home when his parents realized that _____ was not with them. They returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After searching for _____ days, they found him in the _____ sitting with the _____.

When she saw him, Jesus' mother said, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Your father and I have been searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" Jesus asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my _____?"

Paraphrased from Luke 2:41-49

Father's	house	parents	teachers	three
Feast	Jesus	Passover	temple	twelve

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, Luke 2:46 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 2:41-52

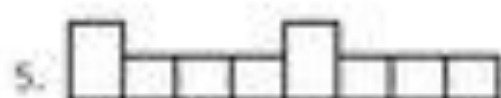
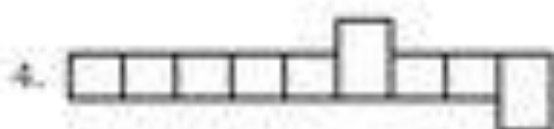
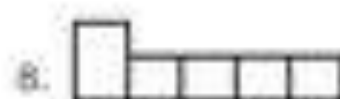
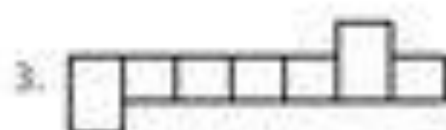
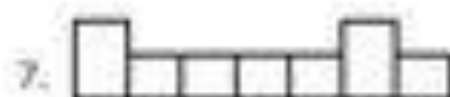
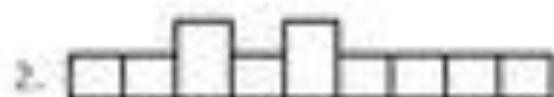
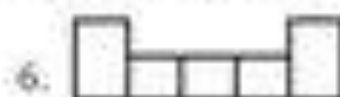
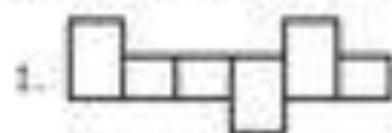
Q L U T E M P L E R E T U R N
A C T L S A R P R V Q I E D M
E T F R E U M E A N U P H I O
U T E Y A P P A L R P T B R T
D D I A R V T L Z A E S L H H
P H Q H C A E A N E T N J K E
E Y M O H H R L N L D I T C R
J K P M I B E Q E S H A V S V
L U W E N K X R M D W B C E W
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P Z A F R I E N D S T E R Z C
W F E V C L G N J S X C O S Z
G W B B F J Q M A R D I R P E
X W P V J O M E P F A T H E R
U E F V F C F O U N D Z X A W

FRIENDS	ANSWERS	FOUND	AMAZED	TEACHERS
MOTHER	FEAST	SEARCHING	FATHER	RELATIVES
PARENTS	RETURN	TEMPLE	HOME	TRAVELED

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" Luke 2:49 (NIV)

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.

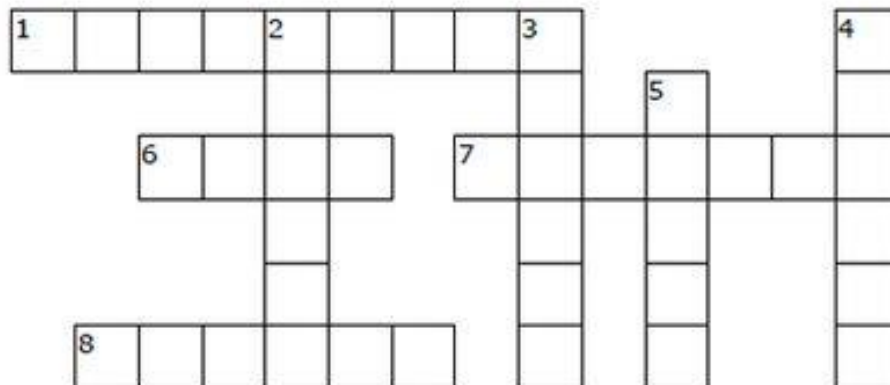


parents	home	friends	teachers	searching
feast	relatives	temple	mother	house

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

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ACROSS

1. People related by kinship, common origin, or marriage.
6. A place where a person or family lives; a residence
7. A father and mother
8. Someone you know, like, and trust

DOWN

2. A building used for religious ceremonies or worship
3. To look carefully in order to find something
4. The ability to judge what is true or right
5. A large meal; A periodic religious festival

PARENTS	RELATIVES	TEMPLE	WISDOM
FRIEND	FEAST	HOME	SEARCH