**The Nativity Story**

**adapted for children to shout out the correct word.**

A long time ago, there was a lady called **~~Mary~~**. SUSAN

The man she was going to marry was called**~~Joseph~~.** JEREMY

One day, while ~~Mary~~ SUSAN was doing the washing up, she saw a **bright light.**

She had to **cover her eyes** because it was so bright *– let the children cover their eyes*.

The bright light was an **~~angel~~**~~.~~ RAINBOW Angels are very beautiful creatures who live in Heaven and work for God.

The angel gave ~~Mary~~ SUSAN a **message** from God – he said she was going to have a **baby**. PUPPY

Soon Mary’s tummy started to get bigger as the baby in her tummy started to grow *– can you point to your tummy?*

Just a few weeks before her baby was ready to be born, the **king** told all the people in the country that they had to **travel** to the place where their family was from.

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth.

Mary had to travel a **long way** to a town called **~~Bethlehem~~**. BLACKPOOL

She had to walk **very slowly** because she had a baby in her tummy *– have a go at walking slowly*.

When Mary got to ~~Bethlehem~~, BLACKPOOL all the hotels were **full**, so she had to sleep in a **barn**, where the animals sleep *– what animals might live in a barn? Can you make their noises?*



Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus had to sleep in a barn with the animals

That night, Mary’s baby was **born**. She called him ~~‘~~**~~Jesus~~**~~’~~. MATTHEW

Mary didn’t have a cot to put baby Jesus in so she laid him in the **animal’s food bowl**! In a manger.

Jesus was a special baby – he was **God’s baby** – and God wanted everyone to know that Jesus had been born.

Most of the people in ~~Bethlehem~~ BLACKPOOL were **asleep** *– can you make a snoring sound?*

But there were some **shepherds** in the fields, looking after their sheep *– what noise does a sheep make?*

God sent some angels to **~~sing~~** SHOUT to the shepherds and tell them all about baby Jesus.

The shepherds were so excited that they **~~ran~~** FLEW to the barn to see Jesus.



God sent some angels and a star to tell people about Jesus’ birth

God also put a giant **~~star~~** AEROPLANE in the sky like a big birthday candle for baby Jesus.

Some **clever men** (MAGI / WISE MEN) were looking at the sky and they saw the special star.

They **followed** the star all the way to baby Jesus.

When they saw him, they **bowed down** to tell Jesus that they thought he was special *– can the children bow?*

The traditional nativity story is getting **squeezed out** of Christmas, because the shops can make a lot more money off the back of Santa. But real nativity story is just as magical and it’s part of our heritage. Children love the story, and I hope this simple version helps you to share the nativity story with your little one.



