

The Nativity

Pre/Post Visit Activity Suggestions

See a sample of ideas below that will help children to build a knowledge of some of the characters in the story before they arrive and so enhance their visit to 'The Nativity'.

At Wintershall, the audience are very much part of the production and follow the action around the grounds as if they were part of the actual crowd watching the drama unfold. Children (and adults) might like to come to the production in costume to add to this feeling of involvement!

Getting started – Some children might know this story well, having been involved in Nativity plays since their Reception year. Others will not be so familiar. Brainstorm with your group. Who are you expecting to see in this play and what might they be like?

Role play

Circle Game –Using the named characters above, In turn around the circle, each person introduces themselves “hello, I’m the innkeeper and I’m very busy, who are you?” To the person on their right. They reply to the group, “hello, I’m a shepherd and I live in the hills. This is the innkeeper and she is very busy. Who are you?”. This is carried on around the circle, getting progressively harder as each person has to remember those before! The idea is that the small group help each other and everyone learns the key characters.

Literacy

Interviews – Write an imaginary interview with a character. You could even record these as a news item or ‘chat show’.

Newspaper article – Headlines are particularly good. What is the news at the time? Older children could write in the style of a type of paper or from the viewpoint of a group e.g. The Daily Pharisee’ or anti Roman tabloid ‘The Zealot’.

Art

Art time – Use some of the classic images from the Nativity story. I wonder who the people are in the pictures? What are they wearing, how are they positioned, what is the focus of the picture?

Images and additional resources are accessible via the Wintershall Website.