

Half Term February 2021: The Parable of the Lost Sheep

Story

Jesus often told parables - stories with a meaning - and one of these was The Parable of the Lost Sheep. You can read the story in the Bible in Luke 15: 3-7 or in a children's Bible.

You can also read the story 'The Lost Sheep' by Nick Butterworth & Mick Inkpen in the book 'Stories Jesus Told'. This version is also on YouTube. <https://youtu.be/Xz1oZRugh1E>

After the story you can talk about how the shepherd showed that he cared for his sheep and about what the story means. Ask the children who the shepherd is supposed to be in the story. Say that we are like sheep and sometimes wander away from God. Say that makes God very sad but he never gives up on us. He keeps searching for us and calling to us. Say that God loves us very much and sent Jesus his son, the Good Shepherd, to save those who are lost.

Or there's an animated version of the children's story "Guess how much I love you?"

<https://youtu.be/LPLwMxogYDU>

Songs

Here's a song about sheep - 'Life's a Treat' by Sean the Sheep: <https://youtu.be/GTXW3cIHQOw>

Here is a great song about Jesus being the good shepherd: The Baa Baa Song. <https://youtu.be/PGPOX3vQtU8>

If you feel that you need some *active* singing, then here is a song that we sing quite a bit when we are doing Holiday Club: Doug Horley Big and Wonderful - <https://youtu.be/gwXf7ZOHK8Q>

Activities

Make a sheep - here are some examples. If you haven't got googly eyes just draw or make some.

There are different ways to do this - choose which one you like best:

1. Make a model using half a kitchen roll tube

- Fold each black pipe cleaner in half and twist it together
- Fix them along the length of the tube using Sellotape
- Cover the tube with glue (a glue stick will do)
- Stick bits of cotton wool all over the tube
- Adjust the pipe cleaner legs so that the sheep will stand up
- Cut out a head and ears from black card
- Stick on the googly eyes and glue to one end of the tube
- Cut out a little tail and stick that at the back



2. Make a picture

- Make a picture by drawing a cloud shape onto white paper or card and cutting it out
- Stick it onto some coloured card and stick cotton wool onto it if you want to
- Cut out a head, legs and tail from the black card and stick onto the body
- Don't forget to add googly eyes



3. Paper plate craft

- Use a paper plate and cover the centre with cotton wool
- Cut out a head and ears from black card, attach eyes and fix to the plate
- Cut out legs and attach those to the front



4. Edible craft 1

- Mix icing sugar and water to a thick paste
- Spread it over a biscuit or cupcake
- Blob tiny dots of icing on a giant chocolate button
- Add tiny bits of chocolate or raisin in the centre to make the eyes (or use an icing pen)
- Cut a chocolate button in half to make ear shapes
- Stick these on using icing as a glue
- Cover the remaining area in mini marshmallows or cereal



5. Edible craft 2

- Cover a biscuit or rice cake in sliced banana to make the sheep's woolly coat
- Make the sheep's head and ears using cut up pieces of grape or other fruit that you like
- Then eat it!



6. Wordsearches

Attached there are two word-searches - a standard one and a *mega* one for those who like the extra challenge!

7. Colouring Sheet

If you Google The Parable of the Lost Sheep or The Good Shepherd colouring sheet there are plenty of colouring sheets available that you can print off

8. Maze

- Maze - help the shepherd find his sheep -see the attached sheet

9. Make some heart shaped biscuits (or circle ones as a base for the edible sheep)

You will need:

- 60g sugar
- 120g soft butter or spread
- 180g plain flour (plus extra for dusting)

(It's easy to make more or less as long as you have one part sugar, 2 parts butter and 3 parts flour.)

1. Preheat the oven to 160C / 140C fan/ Gas 3.
2. Line a baking sheet with baking paper or grease it well.
3. Put all your ingredients into a bowl, then rub them together with your fingers and gently squeeze into a ball of dough.
4. Dust the work surface and rolling pin with flour and then gently roll the dough to about 5mm thick. (Add extra sprinkles of flour if it gets too sticky.)
5. Cut out heart shapes using a cutter, or a card template, then put them on the baking sheet.
6. Bake for around 20 minutes, or until pale golden brown.
7. Take the biscuits out of the oven and leave them on the tray to cool and firm up for 5 minutes, before transferring them to a wire rack.
8. Decorate however you like with icing, sprinkles and sweets.