

THE MULTILINGUAL NATIVITY SAMPLE SCRIPT

Narrator: Hello everybody and welcome to our Multilingual Nativity!

Narrator: During our performance you will hear five different languages.

Narrator: English

Narrator: Français

Narrator: Deutsch

Narrator: Español

Narrator: (Unspoken, uses BSL)

(During this introduction the children hold up flags of each nation and the finishing with a picture showing the letters BSL)

Narrator: Before we start telling our story I think we ought to sing a song and warm everybody up.

Narrator: This song is called 'Bienvenido, Bienvenu, Willkommen, Welcome!'

Narrator: Listen and watch carefully as we will be singing in English, French, Spanish, German, and British Sign Language *(everyone signs the letters BSL)*

SONG 1 'Bienvenido, Bienvenu, Willkommen, Welcome!'

Narrator: Is it too early for a bit of audience participation?

Narrator: Of course not. It's never too early for that!

Narrator: I think we should see how well everyone can say welcome in four languages other than English.

Narrator: Ok then, lovely people in the audience. Are you all ready? Repeat after us:

(If the audience are not responsive enough you could do a bit of panto here with lines like 'I can't hear you' etc...)

All the cast say: **Bienvenido** *(audience copies)*

All the cast say: **Bienvenu** *(audience copies)*

All the cast say: **Willkommen** *(audience copies)*

All the cast sign: **BSL** *(audience copies)*

Narrator: Well done everyone. Give yourselves a pat on the back. Now it is time for us to start our story.

Narrator: A long time ago, a young woman named Mary lived in a village called Nazareth.

Narrator: Mary was betrothed to a man called Joseph.

Narrator: Both Mary and Joseph worked for long hours each day and their lives were very ordinary.

Narrator: But one day this ordinary way of life was suddenly changed.

Narrator: Mary was minding her own business when suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared.

Narrator: The Angel was called Gabriel. Gabriel had an amazing message to give to Mary.

Narrator: Gabriel proclaimed: "You are favoured by the Lord! The Lord is with you."

Narrator: Mary was scared. Why had the Angel Gabriel come to speak to her?

Narrator: Gabriel said "Do not be afraid, Mary. You have found favour with God.

Narrator: You will give birth to a son, and name him Jesus. He will be called the Son of the Highest."

Narrator: Mary understood the message from the Angel Gabriel and said "I am the Lord's servant. Let everything you've said happen to me."

Narrator: Our next song will be sung in Spanish.

Narrator: The words of the song talk about very excited fish in a river.

Narrator: They are excited because they know Jesus is going to be born.

SONG 2 Los peces en el río

Narrator: Mary was now pregnant and expecting the baby Jesus.

Narrator: The baby grew and grew until Mary was almost ready to give birth.

Narrator: It was then announced by the emperor Augustus that there was going to be a census, and Joseph was required to go back to his ancestral home.

Narrator: For Joseph and Mary this meant that had to travel from Nazareth all the way to Bethlehem.

Narrator: Do you know how far that journey is?

Narrator: I've no idea. Please tell us.

Narrator: It's about 90 miles. Can you imagine having to travel that far when you are almost ready to give birth?

Narrator: That's a very long way to walk. Poor Mary and Joseph.

Narrator: Mary and Joseph eventually arrived in Bethlehem. The town was very busy and crowded with many people.

Narrator: They wandered around the town looking for a place to stay.

Narrator: Mary and Joseph knocked on the doors of everywhere that could possibly have given them a room.

Narrator: Sadly, there was no room anywhere.

Narrator: Eventually they came to the last possible place that might have somewhere for them to stay.

Narrator: An innkeeper answered the door and told them that he had no rooms but did have a stable where his animals lived. Mary and Joseph could stay in there if they wanted.

Narrator: Mary and Joseph thanked the Innkeeper for his kindness and settled down in the stable with the animals to keep them company.

Narrator: Later that night Mary gave birth to a baby boy and named him Jesus.

Narrator: We all know the next song 'Silent Night.' But did you know it is in fact a German carol?

Narrator: The words were written by a priest called Joseph Mohr.

Narrator: And the music was composed by a choir master called Franz Gruber.

Narrator: Silent Night was first performed in a town called Salzburg on Christmas Eve in the year 1818.

SONG 3 Stille Nacht