

Believing: A Christmas Story

Key Questions:

- Which stories are special? (Believing)
- Which people are special? (Believing)



Key Outcomes:

- Talk about some religious stories using new vocabulary
- Listen attentively and ask questions about the book 'A Christmas Story'.
- Recognise some religious words e.g Christmas, Jesus, church, Bible etc.
- Identify some of their own feelings in the stories they hear.
- Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.
- Hold conversations about what makes their family and friends special to them.
- Identify some of the qualities of a good friend.



Possible experiences linked to outcomes:

- Explore the book 'A Christmas Story', re-telling to others and sharing parts of the story they like.
- Explore stories through role play, freeze-framing, model-making, puppets and shadow puppets, art, dance, singing, and music.
- Have a mini Christmas celebration in class.
- Use matching games to remind children of the main things they heard from A Christmas story and The Best Diwali Ever.
- Visit St Martins Church.
- Look at a range of children's Bibles to see how they are similar/different. Share a Bible story from a suitable children's Bible. Introduce new vocabulary: Bible, Christian, Holy book, scripture.
- Explore some stories from the bible for example, David the Shepherd Boy (1 Samuel 17) , making promises (Matthew 21:28–32); saying 'thank you' (Ten Lepers Luke 17:11–19).
- Discuss the benefits and responsibilities of friendship and the ways that people care for others.
- Tell stories from the Bible about friendship and care for others; Jesus choosing the twelve disciples (his special friends and helpers) (Matthew 4:17–22).

Key Vocabulary

Celebration	A gathering or act to honour a particular day or event.
Christmas	The annual Christian festival celebrating the birth of Jesus.
Jesus	Son of God.
Church	A Christian place of worship.
Bible	The sacred text of Christianity.
Nazareth	A city in Israel, the childhood home of Jesus.
Bethlehem	A town in Israel.
Disciples	A follower of Jesus.

Linked texts: Papa Panov's Special Christmas, The Christmas Eve Tree, Joy to the World: Christmas Around the Globe.