Nativity Escape Game
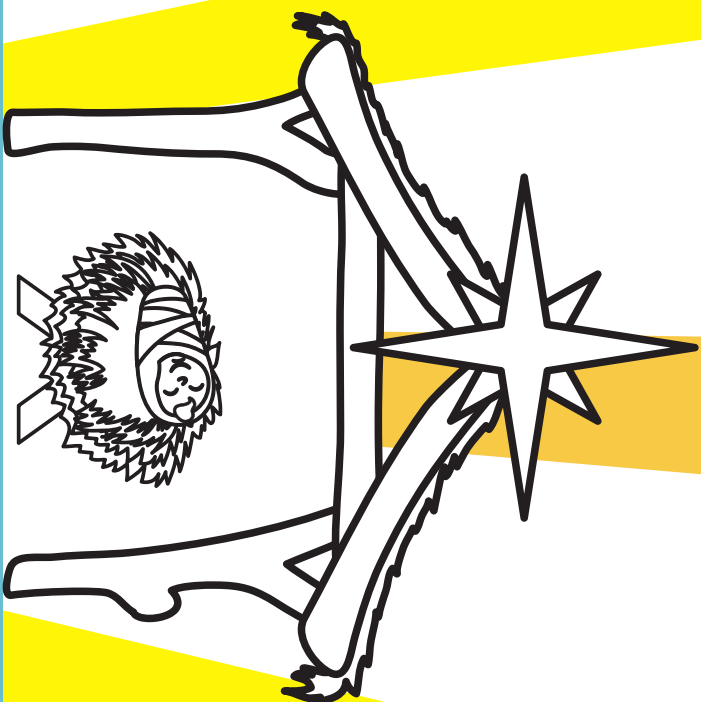
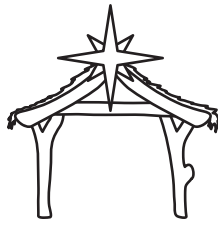## for Kids

NATIVITY ESCAPE GAME

Welcome to the Nativity Escape Game!

This Nativity Escape Game was designed for kids in K – 3rd grade.

Your kids will help the shepherds find baby Jesus using 6 puzzles designed from the Bible in Luke Chapter 2 (NIV). Each puzzle will use scripture or clues from the text to guide your kids to find baby Jesus.

Types of Puzzles

- Secret Decoder
- Word Search
- Maze
- Word Unscramble
- Connect the Dots
- Look and Find

Here are a few tips to help you plan for the game!

The kids will begin by searching for "the town of David" and they will end up searching around your home for the manger which will be hidden under the Christmas tree.

Set up the game close to your Christmas Tree. Our Christmas tree is in the living room, so that 's where we played the game.

Look and Find is the final puzzle (#6). You will need to use your own nativity set or you can cut out the Nativity ornament on the final page to hide on or around the tree.

Puzzle #4 & Puzzle #6 These pages have props at the bottom. Cut along the dotted line. The top part is used for the puzzle.

Prizes! The final puzzle is finding the Nativity/manger under the Christmas tree. You can include a piece of candy, small cookies, or another treat along with the special note. I made Christmas cookie stars and placed those as their prize. The kids ate their cookie with milk while we read Luke Chapter 2.

Setting Up the Game
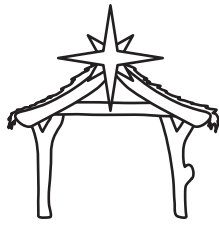
Supplies

- 7 Envelopes
- Scissors
- Pencil/Markers (to complete the puzzles)
- Printed copy of the Nativity Escape Game
- Nativity Set (or printable Nativity ornament)
- Prize (treats, cookies, candy, etc)
- Large Manila Envelope

Game Set Up

1. Choose the room you are going to play in.
2. Print the puzzles.
3. Label envelopes 1 – 6.
4. Label one envelope MISSION.
5. Cut out the Secret Decoder and put together. (This will be used with Puzzle #1.)
6. Cut out the letters for Puzzle #4 and place in the #4 envelope.
7. Cut out the ornament for Puzzle #6.
8. Cut out the special note and tape it to the manger or to the back of the Nativity ornament.
9. Hide the Nativity set under the tree or the Nativity ornament on the tree.
10. Put each puzzle in an envelope and number the puzzles.
11. Glue the cover page (either landscape or portrait image) to the outside of the manila envelope. Put all the puzzle envelopes and tools in the manila envelope. (Do NOT put the MISSION envelope in the manila envelope.)
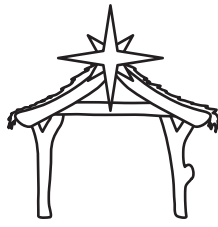
Let's Play!

Have the kids sit down in the room and tell them they have been given a Christmas Mission.

Let them open the **Mission Envelope** and read it out loud. (or the adult can read to them)

Give them the manila envelope so they can see all of their **Mission Tools** they will use for the puzzles. This includes the Secret Decoder, Pencil, and Puzzle Envelopes.

Let them open Puzzle #1 and show them how to use the Secret Decoder. (instructions for the Secret Decoder are on that page)

When they answer one puzzle they can move on to the next puzzle.

They will win the game when they find the special note at the nativity (hidden under the tree).

As the kids enjoy their prize, read aloud Luke Chapter 2.

Puzzle Tips

Puzzle #1: Use the Secret Decoder.

Puzzle #2: It will be easier if kids color in the words instead of just circling the words. They are looking for the letters that ARE NOT used to make the phrase at the bottom. The phrase is in order.

Puzzle #3: Find the letters that lead the Shepherds to Bethlehem. You will unscramble these letters in Puzzle #4.

Puzzle #4: You can give kids the first letter of the word (then next letter, etc) if they are struggling to unscramble the letters.

Puzzle #5: Simple connect the dots game. You can give them clues that would help them know it is a manger if they are not familiar with the word.

Puzzle #6: Play hot or cold if they have trouble finding the manger.
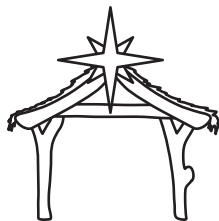
Mission:

An angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds who were out in the fields. The angel shared the good news that Jesus was born!

This is what the angel said...

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people."
Luke 2:10

The shepherds were excited to see baby Jesus, but they need your help.

Solve the puzzles to help the shepherds find Jesus!

Puzzle #1:

The angels told the shepherds where to look for baby Jesus, the Savior.

Decode the message below to find your clue!

__ __ __ __ __   __ __   __ __ __
V5 M26 J15 H12 A10   L20 R25   B5 F19 Z16

__ __ __ __   __ __   __ __ __ __ __   __
D5 N26 J8 K25   E26 C17   X15 Z12 T7 B20 X15   N12

__ __ __ __ __   __ __ __   __ __ __ __
R4 N12 G7 J20 K26 C3   M19 U12 H4   Q13 T16 T16 K25

__ __ __ __   __ __   __ __ __
P13 F26 Q3 L25   S5 F26   A10 F26 T6

Luke 2:11
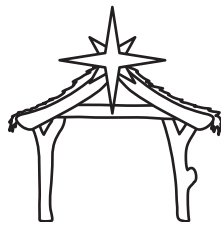
Puzzle #1: Answer Key

The angels told the shepherds where to look for baby Jesus, the Savior.

Decode the message below to find your clue!

Hint: Decode the message using the **Secret Decoder**.
Line up the letter in gray with the number to find the hidden letter.
Ex: S12 = A

t o d a y   i n   t h e
V5 M26 J15 H12 A10   L20 R25   B5 F19 Z16

t o w n   o f   D a v i d   a
D5 N26 J8 K25   E26 C17   X15 Z12 T7 B20 X15   N12

S a v i o r   h a s   b e e n
R4 N12 G7 J20 K26 C3   M19 U12 H4   Q13 T16 T16 K25

b o r n   t o   y o u
P13 F26 Q3 L25   S5 F26   A10 F26 T6

Luke 2:11

Simple Decoder Wheel

This is a simple decoder wheel the kids will use to solve the first puzzle.

Cut each circle/wheel out.

Secret Decoder Wheel:
Make sure to cut the opening on the dotted lines.

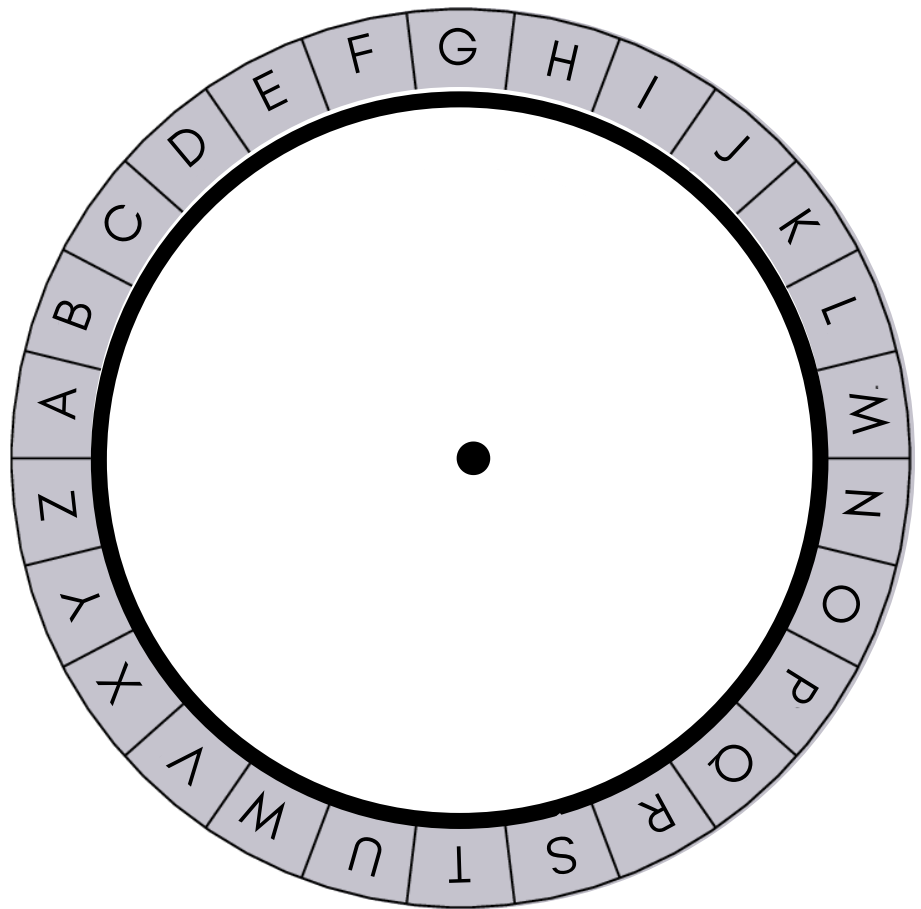Attach the wheels together with a brad in the following order:
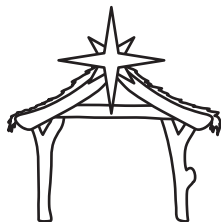Letters Wheel
Letters/Number Wheel
Secret Decoder Wheel

Decode the message by lining up the letter in gray and the number.
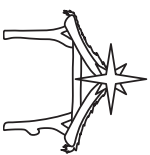Ex: S12 = A
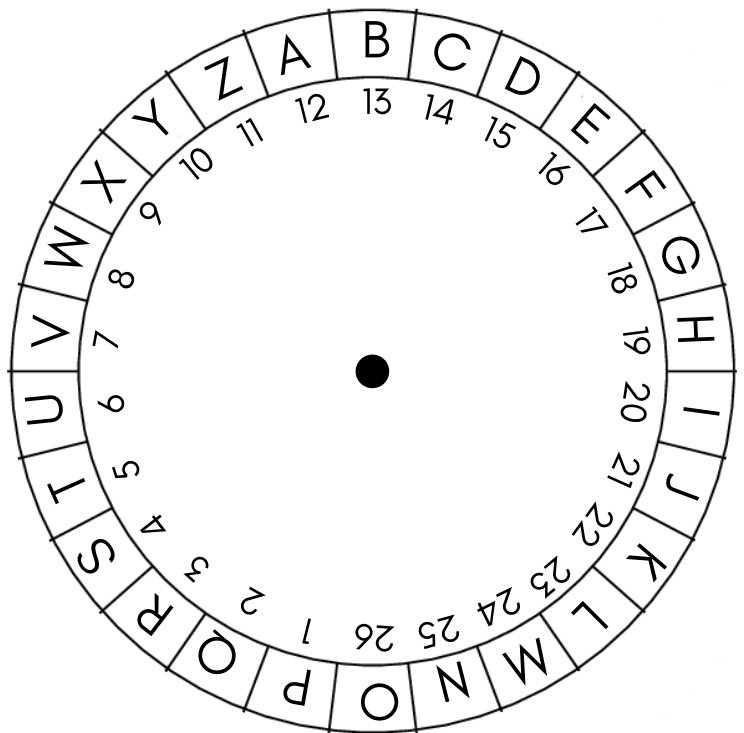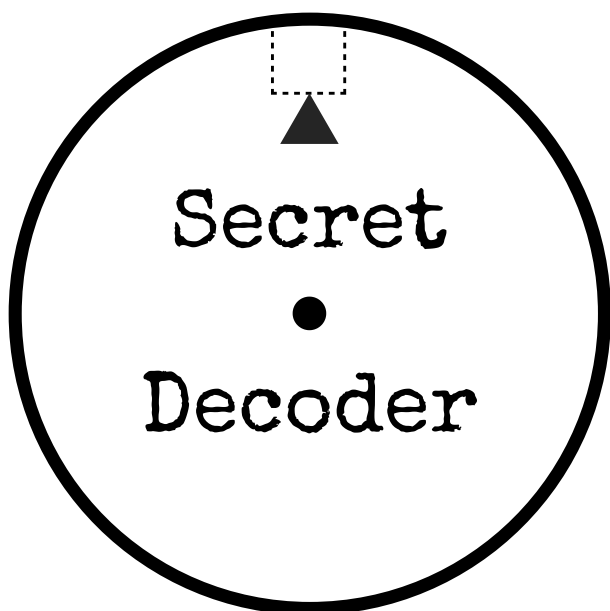
Where is the town of David?

Circle the words listed below. Unscramble the
letters you don't use to find the next clue!

```
J  S  N  O  W  F  L  A  K  E
O  C  A  N  D  Y  C  A  N  E
Y  L  G  B  E  L  L  S  O  J
T  I  T  R  E  E  L  O  V  E
M  G  O  B  S  H  O  P  E  S
A  H  G  I  F  T  S  E  T  U
N  T  N  O  E  L  A  H  L  S
G  S  M  E  R  R  Y  R  E  H
E  C  H  R  I  S  T  M  A  S
R  R  E  J  O  I  C  E  E  M
```

HOPE	GIFTS	LOVE	CANDYCANE
MERRY	REJOICE	TREE	CHRISTMAS
NOEL	MANGER	BELLS	JOY
STAR	JESUS	LIGHTS	SNOWFLAKE

__ __   __ __   __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

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J	S	N	O	W	F	L	A	K	E
O	C	A	N	D	Y	C	A	N	E
Y	L	**G**	B	E	L	L	S	**O**	J
T	I	T	R	E	E	L	O	V	E
M	G	**O**	**B**	S	H	O	P	E	S
A	H	G	I	F	T	S	**E**	**T**	U
N	T	N	O	E	L	A	**H**	**L**	S
G	S	M	E	R	R	Y	R	**E**	**H**
E	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S
R	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	**E**	**M**

HOPE   GIFTS   LOVE   CANDYCANE

MERRY   REJOICE   TREE   CHRISTMAS

NOEL   MANGER   BELLS   JOY

STAR   JESUS   LIGHTS   SNOWFLAKE

_ _   _ _   _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Puzzle #3:

Help the shepherds find their way to Bethlehem.
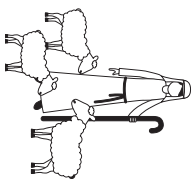
Along the way you will pick up letters for your next clue to find baby Jesus!
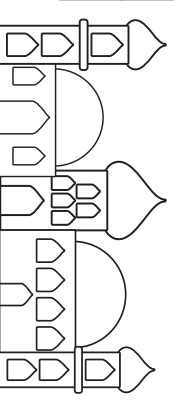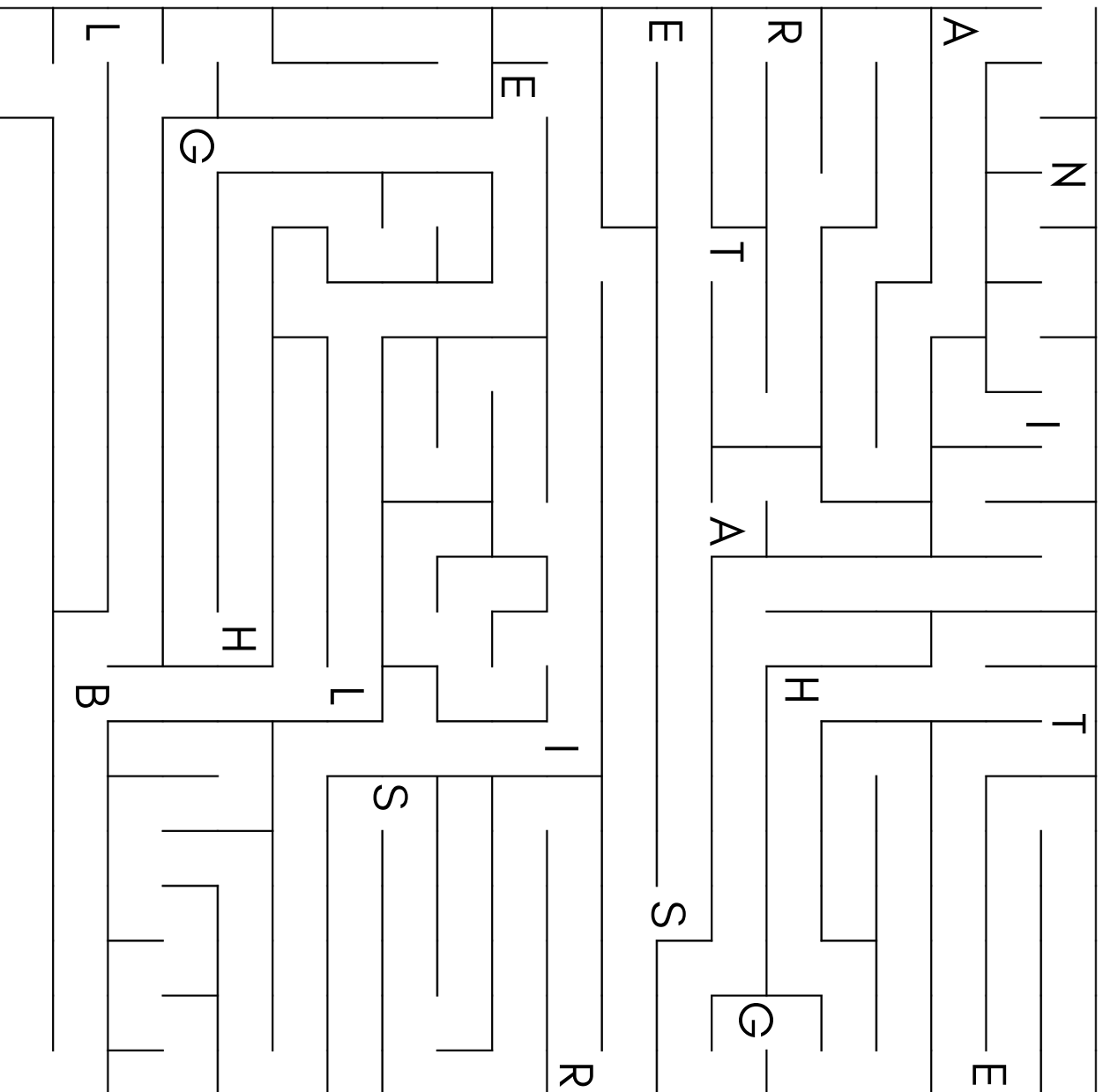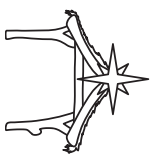
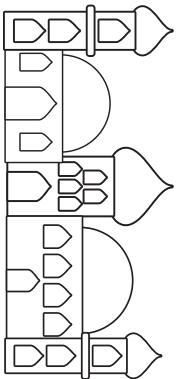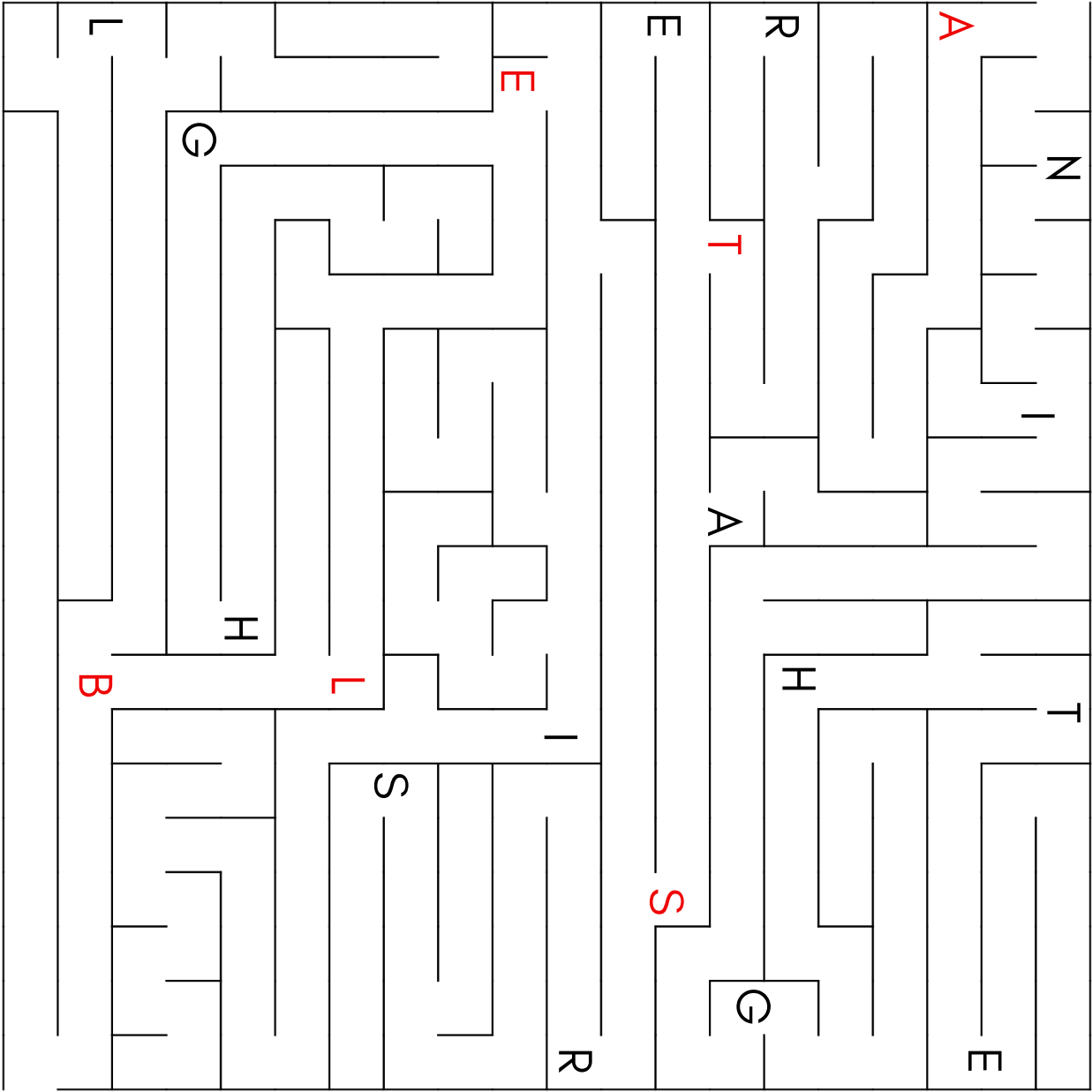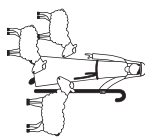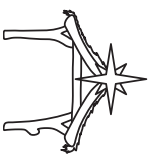Help the shepherds find their way to Bethlehem.

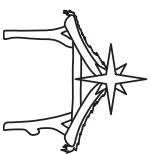Along the way you will pick up letters for your next clue to find baby Jesus!
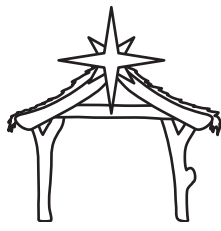
The shepherds have made it to Bethlehem, but there was no room at the inn.

Where could baby Jesus be?

Unscramble the letters to find the place to look for baby Jesus.

L	S	E	T	A	B

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

OriginalMom

The shepherds have made it to Bethlehem, but there was no room at the inn.

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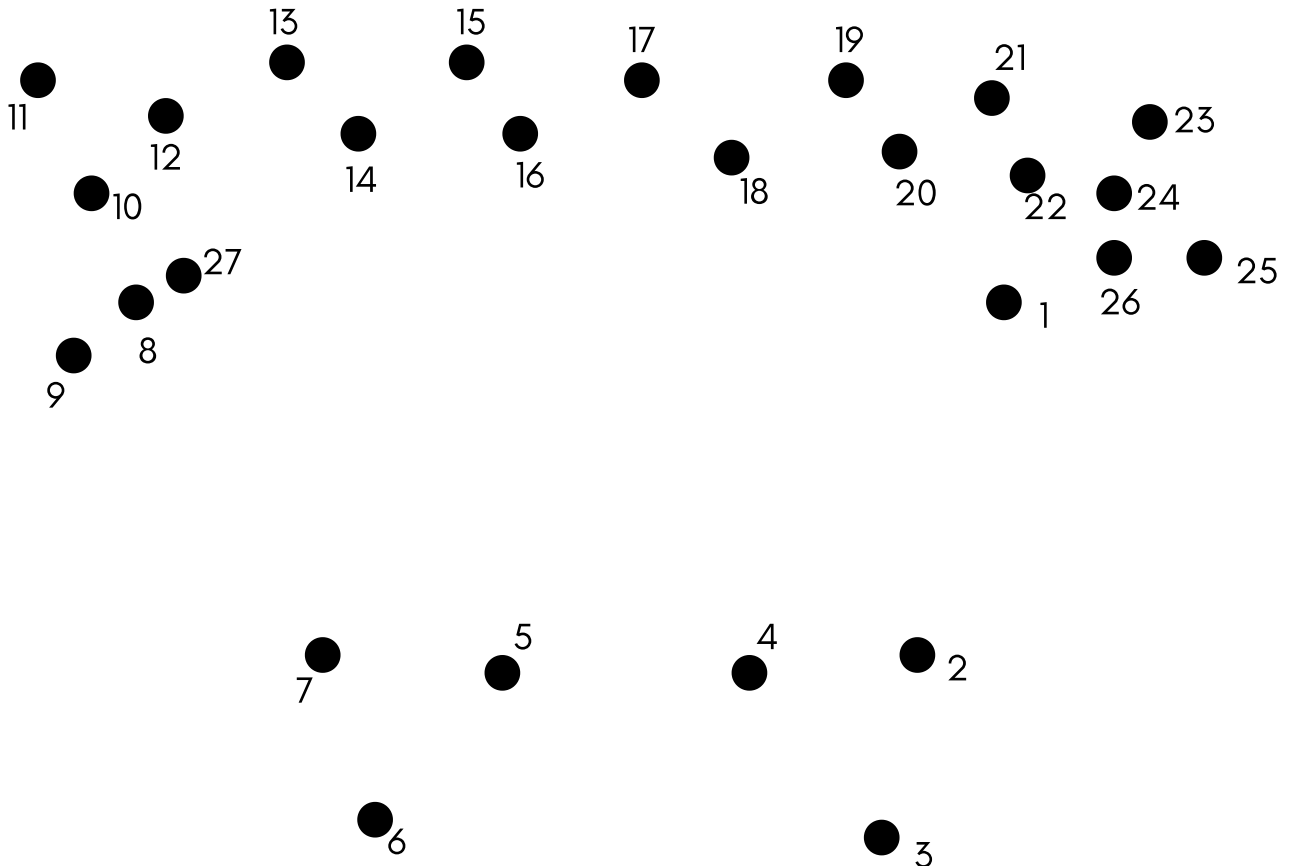
S T A B L E

LSETAB

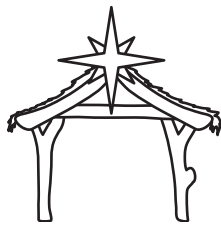The stable is where the animals stay.
Baby Jesus is sleeping on the hay.

Connect the dots to find the missing word!

The angel said...
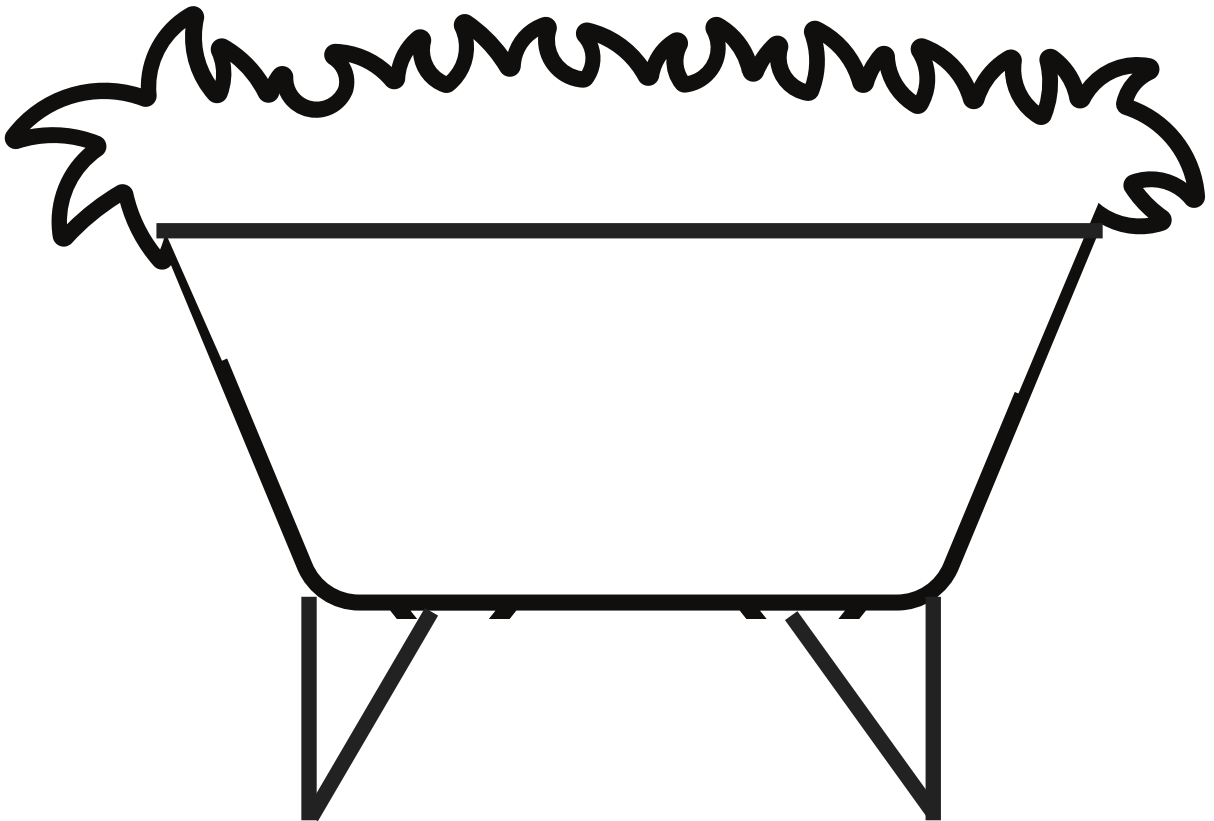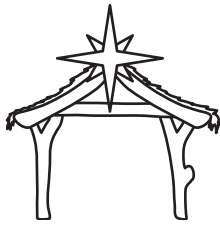You will find a baby wrapped in cloths
lying in a _ _ _ _ _ _.

13
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2

6
3

The stable is where the animals stay.
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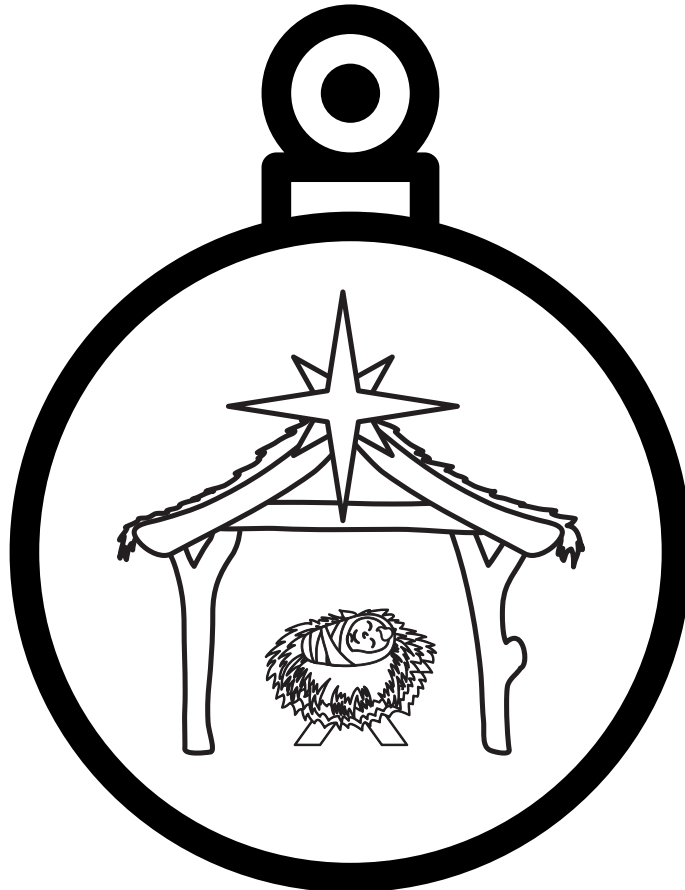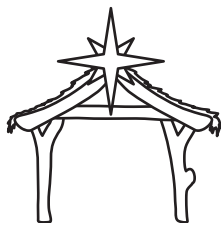You will find a baby wrapped in cloths
lying in a _ _ _ _ _ _.

The shepherds are so close!

One final clue:

Look and see,
you'll find the manger under your tree!

Special Note

You helped the shepherds find baby Jesus!!

The angel praised God and said...
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on
whom his favor rests."

The Shepherds were so excited when
they found Jesus! They went and told
everyone what the angel had shared.