

THE SALVATION ARMY'S

# KIDS connect

THE first  
CHRISTMAS



[salvos.org.au/Christmas](http://salvos.org.au/Christmas)

Plus ...

- MAKE YOUR OWN  
SALT DOUGH DECORATIONS
- PUZZLES AND ACTIVITIES

# THE first CHRISTMAS



Look out for the activities and puzzles within the story!

The story of the first Christmas is about the gift that God gave us.

1 God sent an angel down from heaven to tell a young woman, named Mary, that she would have a baby. But this was no ordinary baby. Mary would give birth to God's son – a gift for the world.

Spot 10 differences!



2 Then the angel appeared to a man named Joseph in a dream. The angel told him to marry Mary and call their son Jesus.



3 When it was time for Mary to have her baby, Mary and Joseph made the long trip to the town of Bethlehem.



4 When Mary and Joseph arrived there was no place for them to stay, except in a barn filled with farm animals.

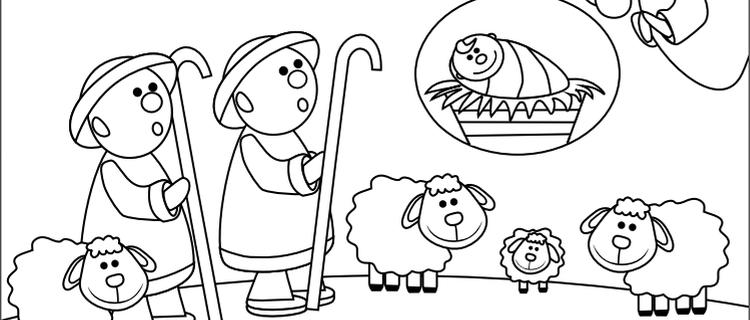
Count the sheep!



5 There Mary had her baby. Mary wrapped Jesus in a cloth and laid him in a manger.



6 Meanwhile, the angel appeared to some shepherds nearby and told them about God's gift – a special child who would save the world.



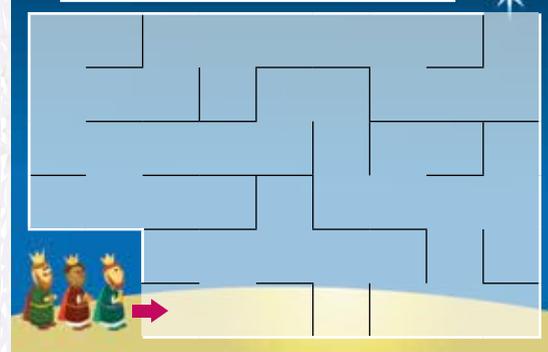
Colour the picture!

7 Eager to meet their Saviour, the shepherds hurried off to Bethlehem.



8 Some wise men also heard about Jesus. They followed a large star in the sky and brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Help the wise men get to the star!



9 Everyone who visited Jesus was so happy when they saw God's Christmas gift – a Saviour named Jesus. And that's the story of the first Christmas.



Answers: There are 13 sheep in picture no. 4

# salt dough DECORATIONS



Salt dough is easy to make and really fun to use! Why not try making your own Christmas decorations this year?

*Make sure you have adult supervision.*

## You will need:

2 cups plain flour  
1 cup table salt  
1 cup water  
String or ribbon  
Straw or skewer

## Optional:

*Cookie cutters, food colouring, paint, glitter.*

## What to do:

1. Turn your oven to 100°C. Add flour, salt and water into a bowl and mix until combined.
2. Sprinkle a little extra flour onto a board and knead the dough until smooth.
3. Roll a small amount into a ball and then use your hand to flatten it into a circle.
4. Use a straw or skewer to poke a hole at the top of your shape.
5. Place shapes on a tray lined with baking paper and bake for 2-3 hours until dry.
6. Leave your decorations to cool and then they're ready to decorate. Tie some string through the hole and hang on your tree!

**Do not eat. They are decorations only.**

We added food colouring to this one



Glitter sticks to the paint!



## Other ideas to try with salt dough:

- Use cookie cutters to make fun Christmas shapes at step 3.
- Add food colouring into the dough at step 1.
- Make sculptures or jewellery as gifts for your family and friends.

