

A Book of Mormon Christmas

Christmas Lesson

Objectives:

 Talk about the prophecies of Jesus Christ's birth. Emphasize that The Book of Mormon testifies of Jesus Christ.

Reverence Time

Song: Away in a Manger, Children's Songbook page 42 https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/away-in-a-manger

Scripture: Alma 11:40

"And he shall come into the world to redeem his people; and he shall take upon him the transgressions of those who believe on his name; and these are they that shall have eternal life, and salvation cometh to none else."

Video: Watch this week's clip from the Living Scriptures Streaming Library. Find the clip at https://www.livingscriptures.com/fhe-lesson-christmas

Reinforces Principles of:

- Prophecy
- Divinity of Jesus Christ

Lesson Time

Lesson Summary:

The Book of Mormon testifies of Jesus Christ. It provides another witness of His life, divinity, and mission. All Book of Mormon prophets, including Nephi, the brother of Jared, Samuel, Alma, Mormon, and many others shared their testimony of Jesus Christ, whether they lived before His time on earth or after.

At Christmastime, we place special focus on the prophesies and the event of the birth of Jesus Christ. Prophecies of the Savior's birth and life can be found in the following passages from the Book of Mormon: 1 Nephi 11:13-23; Mosiah 3:5-10; Helaman 14:1-13; 3 Nephi 1:4-22. Most importantly, these passages testify of the mission of Jesus Christ to redeem those who will believe on His name and repent of their sins. This message of hope, peace, and joy is what the gospel of Jesus Christ is about, and why Christmas is celebrated throughout the world.

As we finish our study of the Book of Mormon this year, contemplate how your faith in Jesus Christ has been strengthened and how you can share your testimony and joy with others.

Quote: *"It's beautiful to think about Nephi learning about the meaning of the tree by seeing the Christ child in His mortal mother's arms. Nephi knew that the birth of the Savior was one of the greatest evidences of God's love for the rest of His children." Christopher B. Garner*

Questions: Who were some of the prophets who testified of Jesus Christ before His birth?

What have you learned about the Savior while studying The Book of Mormon this year?

How does learning about the Savior affect your life?

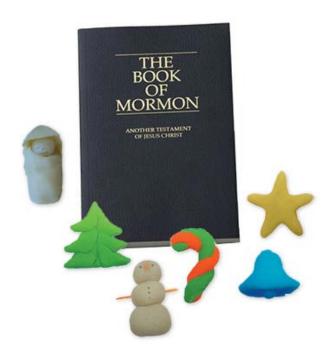
How can we help others learn about Jesus Christ?

How can we focus more on Jesus Christ at Christmastime?

Activity Time

Description:	Prayerfully choose someone who you can share the gift of Joy (the Gospel/Book of Mormon) with. Write your family's testimony inside the front cover or in a card. Share your gift, a gingerbread nativity, and some marzipan treats (see treat recipe) with the family or person you've chosen.
What you need:	Soft cover Book of Mormon (\$3.10 @ lds distribution centers or order online @ www.lds.catalog.com, a simple card (optional), and marzipan treats (recipe and instructions included with this lesson.)

- Activity: 1. Prayerfully choose someone who will enjoy your gift.
 - 2. Write your family's testimony inside the front cover or inside a card and sign.
 - 3. Prayerfully think of the best way to present this gift of joy (build a snow angel, invite them to a family home evening with your family, bring treats to their door, etc.)
 - 4. Share The Book of Mormon, a gingerbread nativity, and marzipan Christmas treats with the person or family you've chosen.



Treat Time

Prep Time:	45 minutes
Cook Time:	15 minutes
Cool Time:	30 minutes
Makes:	2 Stables/Mangers and 18 shapes

Ingredients: <u>Gingerbread</u>

1/2 c. packed brown sugar1/4 c. shortening3/4 c. molasses1/3 c. cold water3 1/2 c. flour

1 tsp. baking soda 1 tsp. ground ginger 1/2 tsp. salt 1/2 tsp. ground allspice



<u>Marzipan</u>

2 c. powdered sugar
2 c. blanched almonds
1 egg white (may substitute 1 3/4 tsp. egg white powder and 2 Tbls. water)
1 tsp. almond extract
1/4 tsp. lemon juice
(Or purchase a 10 oz. can prepared Almond Paste)

Instructions: Gingerbread: Print and cut out the stable/manger pattern included with this lesson. Grease a 9 inch square pan, and a jelly roll pan. Cream brown sugar, shortening and molasses. Stir in cold water. Stir in remaining ingredients. Evenly press or roll 1/4 of the dough into square pan and the rest into the jelly roll pan. Bake for 15 minutes at 350° F. (Make icing and marzipan while gingerbread bakes.) Immediately turn gingerbread out of pan onto a clean surface. While still warm, cut out (using the pattern pieces) with a sharp knife or a pizza cutter (Square pan: stable floors and mangers. Jelly roll pan: all other pieces). Cool completely, approximately 30 minutes or make the day before. Assemble during treat time.

Marzipan: Grind almonds in blender or food processor until fine. Add the remaining ingredients and mix to make a stiff paste. Knead until smooth and pliable.

Treat Time: Assemble stables and mangers and create marzipan baby Jesus' and Christmas shapes.

Stable and manger: Assemble by applying icing (1 c. powdered sugar, 2 1/2 Tbs. shortening, 1 Tbls. light corn syrup and 2 tsps. milk) to edges of pieces and press together. Frost the top of the roof and floor. Apply hay to roof and floor and fill manger (1/2 cup shredded coconut + 5 drops yellow food coloring mixed together in a plastic sandwich bag). If desired, run a bead of icing along all edges to finish off. Place manger in stable.

Baby Jesus: Mold out of marzipan. Blanket is made by rolling marzipan into a very thin square and then wrap around baby. Place baby in manger.

Christmas Shapes: Divide remaining marzipan into fourths. Mix a few drops of food coloring into each portion. Let children mold into edible Christmas shapes. (Snowman arms are made out of a pretzel.)

Note: The Gingerbread stable can be eaten right away or made as a special holiday decoration (it will get hard and inedible as it stands out for display). This recipe makes 2 stables so you can share with another family. If you choose to display your nativity, there are plenty of leftover pieces to frost and munch on while they are fresh, along with the yummy marzipan Christmas shapes!



