

## **SYNOPSIS**

Narration 1: Welcome to our Nativity for Little Ones.

### **Song 1: Giddy up, little donkey**

Mary, Joseph and the donkey travel to Bethlehem.

Narration 2: Two innkeepers tell Mary and Joseph to “go away”, when they knock at their door. The third tells them they can rest in his stable.

### **Song 2: Warm and dry and cosy**

Jesus is born in the stable, a big star shines brightly and the animals watch over him.

**Incidental music: Star dance** (music for dance or movement)

Narration 3: An angel wakes sleeping shepherds in the hills to tell them about baby Jesus.

### **Song 3: Jumping for joy!**

The shepherds jump for joy, dance and play instruments on their way to the stable.

Narration 4: Three wise men see the bright star shining in the sky.

### **Song 4: Three wise men**

The three wise men travel to Bethlehem with gifts for baby Jesus.

Narration 5: The three wise men leave their gifts for baby Jesus.

Narration 6: Angels arrive at the stable to dance and sing for baby Jesus.

**Incidental music: Angel dance** (music for dance or movement)

Narration 7: Thank you for coming and thank you to the cast.

### **Song 5: My angels**

The finale song.

Narration 8: An invitation for the audience to sing along.

### **Song 6: Away in a manger** (optional bonus track)

A song for performers and audience to sing together.

**Song 1:**           **We're off to Bethlehem,  
We're off to Bethlehem,  
Now, giddy up, little donkey,  
Just get us there tonight.  
Ee-aw! Ee-aw!  
Just get us there tonight.**

**We've a long, long way to go,  
We've a long, long way to go,  
Now, giddy up, little donkey,  
Just get us there tonight.  
Ee-aw! Ee-aw!  
Just get us there tonight.**

**Mary's having a baby,  
Mary's having a baby,  
Now, giddy up, little donkey,  
Just get us there tonight.  
Ee-aw! Ee-aw!  
Just get us there tonight.**

*Donkey stretches, yawns and lies down, pretending to sleep.*

**Donkey's feeling tired...  
Very, very tired...**

**Mary & Joseph:** *(They give donkey a shake and say loudly together...)*  
**Giddy up, donkey!** *(Donkey gets up and they make their way to the inn door.)*

*(all, sung)* **...Now, giddy up, little donkey,  
Just get us there tonight.  
Ee-aw! Ee-aw!  
Just get us there tonight.**

*Mary, Joseph and donkey finish the song at the inn door.*

**Narration 2:**       **When they got to Bethlehem**  
**They had no place to stay,**  
**They knocked upon a door...**  
*(Joseph knocks, knocking sound effect)*  
**And were told to “Go away!”**

**Innkeeper 1:**       *(opens door, says loudly)* **“Go away!”** *(closes door)*

**Narration 2:**       **They knocked upon another door...**  
*(continued)*       *(Joseph knocks, knocking sound effect)*  
**They’d still no place to stay,**  
**But the innkeeper, s/he told them**  
**Very rudely, “Go away!”**

**Innkeeper 2:**       *(opens door, says loudly)* **“Go away!”** *(closes door)*

**Narration 2:**       **They knocked upon a third door,**  
*(continued)*       **And a kind soul came to say**  
**“There’s a stable round the back...**

**Innkeeper 3:**       *(opens door, points, says loudly)* **“Round the back!”**  
*(closes door)*

**Which is warm and full of hay...”**

*During introduction and first verse of Song 2, Mary, Joseph and donkey move to the manger area. Mary and Joseph sit and pretend to tend to the baby in the manger. The donkey sits in his/her home base seat behind them, alongside any other animals.*

**Song 2:**            **Jesus was born in a stable,  
Warm and dry and cosy,  
Jesus was born in a stable,  
Ssh... (all put fingers to lips) Sleep, little baby, sleep.**

*Mary and Joseph pick up the baby doll and cuddle him in turn.  
Everyone else pretends to rock a baby in their arms.*

**Mary gives him a cuddle,  
Warm and dry and cosy,  
Mary gives him a cuddle,  
Ssh... (all put fingers to lips) Sleep, little baby, sleep.**

*The cow and donkey and other stable animals seated behind the manger, stand and hug each other. (Everyone else might hug each other too!) Animals stand until the end of the song.*

**Cow and donkey watch him,  
Warm and dry and cosy,  
Cow and donkey watch him,  
Ssh... (all put fingers to lips) Sleep, little baby, sleep.**

*Everyone 'twinkles' their fingers in the air. Bright Star walks (or twirls or dances) to the manger and stands between the cow and donkey behind the manger, joining the nativity tableau scene.*

**Star, you light the stable,  
Warm and dry and cosy,  
Star, you light the stable,  
Ssh... (all put fingers to lips) Sleep, little baby, sleep.**

*Animals return to their 'home base' seats behind the manger.*

## **Incidental dance/movement music: Star dance**

*Bright Star and the other stars perform a star dance. Include lots of twirling and twinkling! At end of the dance, the stars return to their home bases, except Bright Star who sits behind Mary and Joseph amongst the animals, joining the nativity tableau scene.*

*Towards the end of the star dance music, the shepherds move to centre stage and lay down on the floor.*

**Narration 3:**        **Shepherds dreamt upon a hill,  
They slept with eyes shut tight... (optional snoring)  
An angel came to see them,  
(Special Angel walks towards them)  
And gave them quite a fright.**

*(narrator, loudly)* **“Wake up, you lazy shepherds!...**

**Leading Angel:** *(loudly)* **“Wake up!”**

*The shepherds slowly uncurl, yawning and stretching.*

**Narration 3:**        **...Please stop all that yawning!  
(continued)        Jump up, you lazy shepherds!...**

**Leading Angel:** *(loudly)* **“Jump up!”**

*The shepherds jump to their feet.*

**Narration 3:**        **...It’s a very special morning!”  
(continued)**