

Key Stage: 2

Year: 3

Subject: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Christmas

Time allocation: 1 hour per week

Learning Objectives	Activities and Experiences	Key Questions
To learn about Abraham and Sarah and the birth of Isaac To reflect on the joy of unexpected gifts	Put Abraham and Sarah on the time line (c1800 BC). Tell the story of Abraham and Sarah as old people and God's promise that Abraham will be the father of a nation of people. Discuss how unusual this would be. Tell the story of the birth of Isaac and why his name is important. (Isaac means laughter). Discuss in talking partners how something they have not expected has been enjoyable eg an unexpected treat or visit. Record what their partner has said and feed this back to the group. Discuss how God has a plan which is not always clear at first.	What did God promise Abraham (Genesis 15: 5 and 17: 15 - 17)? Why did he laugh at this promise? Why did Sarah laugh when Isaac was born? What does the name Isaac mean? Have you ever had a pleasant surprise / unexpected present / unexpected visit or holiday / school closed for a day / etc? What was the pleasant surprise for Abraham and Sarah? Can you think of other pleasant surprises in the Bible (eg for Moses, Joseph, Daniel, Mary or Jesus)? When do you think God might provide other pleasant surprises?
To learn about Isaac and what Abraham was prepared to do To reflect on the feelings of Abraham, Isaac and themselves	Discuss whether the children have had to give up something they really did not want to. Freeze-frame in sections the story of Isaac from birth to threat of sacrifice. Discuss feelings at each stage and predict what will happen next. Hot seat Abraham and Isaac. Draw Abraham and Isaac and add thought bubbles for them at the end of the story. Add a thought bubble for God.	How did Abraham and Sarah show they were pleased at Isaac's birth? How would Abraham feel when God asked him to kill Isaac? What would Abraham and Isaac be thinking and feeling as they went to Moriah / built the fire / as Isaac laid down on the wood / as Abraham raised the knife / as God stopped Abraham? Why did God test Abraham? What does God think at the end?
To learn about Jacob and Esau; To reflect on when it is possible or not to forgive	Tell the story of the birth of Jacob and Esau. Add Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob and Esau to the time line. (Jacob is the father of Joseph.) Discuss whether the children have ever had arguments with their brother or sister. Tell the story of Jacob tricking Esau for their father's blessing (Gen 27) and how Esau forgives Jacob when they meet again (Gen 33). Write about a time when they could have or did forgive someone for a wrong done to them.. Discuss the consequences of not forgiving.	How did Jacob trick Esau? How would Jacob feel when he meets Esau again? How does Esau show his friendship? Why does Jacob cry? What does it mean if you forgive someone? How do you know Esau has forgiven Jacob? Have you ever forgiven someone? Has anyone ever forgiven you? Who? When?
To learn the story of Papa Panov; To explore the attributes of "invisible" gifts associated with Christmas	Tell the story of Papa Panov. Discuss how papa Panov has a pleasant surprise. Discuss what Christmas gifts the children are expecting / hoping for and the ones they will give. Discuss how they can give something unexpected and what is the most valuable gift they can give.	Who is Papa Panov expecting? Who does he help? How? Why? Why is he sad near the end of the story? What is the pleasant surprise at the end? What gifts do you expect / hope for? What gifts will you give? How / what can you give something unexpected? What is the most valuable gift you can give?
To think about Christmas gifts; To reflect on the values of different gifts	Use Christmas carols that illustrate the gifts of Christmas (light, joy, love and peace) eg 'Joy to the World' or 'Silent night'. Children discuss and highlight the lines that illustrate these gifts and explain what these words mean in their lives. Alternatively, or in addition, each child makes a Christmas card with envelopes on the front containing the words 'love, joy and peace' to give to somebody. Talk about who you would want to give these gifts to and why and how you could demonstrate the gifts of love, joy or peace.	What words in the carols describe the feelings of Christmas? What do these words mean? How can we see them in our lives? Who would we want to have these feelings at Christmas? (They can choose more than one person) How can we help them happen at Christmas? How can we help them happen all the time?

Concepts Key words	Skills	Attitudes	Resources	Learning outcomes	Levels of achievement	Evaluation
Abraham Sarah Isaac	Interpret Empathise Reflect Evaluate Express	Self-awareness Respect for all	The Beginner's Bible (Gold 'n' Homey Books 0945564317) The Lion Bible for Children (Lion 780745940465)	Record of unexpected treats in their own lives and that of Abraham and Sarah Additions to the timeline	<p>By the end of this unit: most children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> recall aspects of the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Papa Panov (AT1) talk about what and who they value (AT2) <p>many children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> retell stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Papa Panov and suggest meanings for their actions (AT1) ask and respond to questions about people's experiences and feelings and what is right or wrong (AT2) <p>some children will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> begin to identify the impact which faith had on Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Papa Panov (AT1) ask important questions about religion and faith, making links between their own and other people's responses (AT2) 	
Abraham Isaac sacrifice test faith save	Interpret Empathise Reflect Evaluate Express	Open-mindedness Appreciation and wonder	The Lion Bible for Children (Lion 780745940465)	Drawing of Abraham, Isaac and the place of intended sacrifice, with thought bubbles for Abraham, Isaac and God		
Jacob Esau blessing forgive	Interpret Empathise Reflect Evaluate Express		The Beginner's Bible (Gold 'n' Homey Books 0945564317) The Lion Bible for Children (Lion 780745940465)	Writing about a time of forgiveness		
gifts surprise	Interpret Empathise Reflect Evaluate Express		Mig Holder: Papa Panov's Special Day (Lion ISBN 9780745945644)	Ideas of the most valuable gift the children can give		
Christmas carols gifts love joy peace	Interpret Empathise Reflect Evaluate Apply Express		Christmas carols	Christmas card and ideas about how to show love, joy and peace		