

Hikers - December

Theme Points



Theme: Happy Birthday Jesus!

Central Question: What is Christmas about?

We live by the Bible...

What is the Bible?

What does it tell us?

What does it teach us?

We learn...

It's God's book!

Who God is!

How to live!

Theme Points...

Luke 1:26-33, 2:1-20 & Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-12
The Birth of Jesus

Jesus was born as a baby.

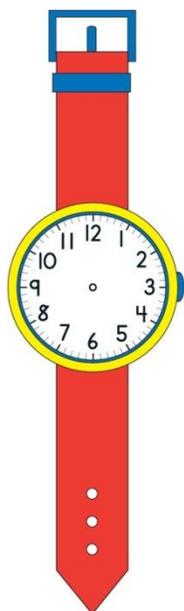
I celebrate Jesus!

Memory Verse: Luke 2:11 The Savior has been born.

Key Point: The Bible tells us that Christmas is Jesus' birthday. Other parts of Christmas, such as presents, Christmas trees and Santa Claus are fun, but only Jesus is in the Bible. Jesus is the reason that we have Christmas.

For Teachers: *Immanuel* means "God With Us." At Christmas we love to use bright paper and glittery bows to wrap boxes. Gift boxes contain an object to be given as a present but boxes used as decorations are usually empty. That's how we are without the Savior, empty inside, spiritually dead. We need the Savior, "God With Us", to fill us up and give us life. (Inspired by: <http://tonyevans.org/immanuel-god-with-us/>)

Class Schedule – to be done each week



Free Play (9:50-10:45AM)

Worship – 1-2 song videos

Snack – Children can have two small helpings of goldfish (use the snack scoop) and water.

Lesson – Teach the lesson while the children are eating snack. They are already sitting and ready to listen! See the weekly sheets attached for each lesson.

Transition Activity/Game - Use the Trail Guide to play *Angel Bean Bag Toss*. Lay the angel cards on the floor. Ask the child what color card they will toss the bean bag on. Turn over the card indicated by the child (even if the bean bag didn't land on it). Have all the children do the action written on the card.

Hiker Challenge – Give each child a heart cupcake holder and a couple of birthday candles. Use the play dough to make cupcakes for Jesus' birthday.

December - Hikers Week 1 Lesson

Bible Time

Mighty Mouse



Teacher: Look who's here. It's Mighty Mouse!

Mighty Mouse: I'm mighty because I know the Bible. (Mighty Mouse gives each child a high five.)

Mighty Mouse: What is the Bible?

What does it tell us?

What does it teach us?

Kids Respond: It's God's book!

Who God is!

How to live!

Mighty Mouse: Let's say the memory verse together. (Have the children take turns shining the flashlight on the memory verse. Say the verse and encourage the children to say it with you.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.* Let's listen while your teacher reads from the Bible.

(Teacher reads the Bible story.)

Mighty Mouse:

- Show children the gift box. Ask what they think is in it. Shake it and have the children listen. Open the box. Jesus is in the box! Jesus is the best gift!
- Everyone has a birthday. Even Jesus has a birthday. Jesus' birthday is Christmas. Let's sing Jesus "Happy Birthday".
- There's a letter in our Trail Log from a friend. Let's read it.

Trail Log Entry (Show the children the picture and read the entry from the Trail Log book.)



Dear Trail Log,

Hi! My name is Ava. Yesterday was my birthday. I wore a crown and had a birthday cake. My friends played "Pin The Tail On The Donkey" with me. After my party I got to have a special birthday supper with Grandma and Grandpa at their cabin. Grandma told me that it is special for me to have my birthday in December because Jesus has His birthday in December. She said Christmas is all about Jesus. I thought Christmas was about Santa Claus. What does the Bible say? Is Christmas about Jesus or about Santa Claus?

Your Friend. Ava

Mighty Mouse: Ava wants to know if Christmas is about Santa Claus or about Jesus. Wave your hand if the Bible tells us about Jesus. Santa Claus is fun but the Bible does not tell us about Santa Claus. The Bible tells us about Jesus. Christmas is about Jesus. (Shine the flashlight on the memory verse.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.*

Mighty Mouse: Great job, kids! That will really help Ava. I need to go home now.

Teacher: Bye Mighty Mouse.

December – Hikers Week 2 Lesson

Bible Time

Mighty Mouse



Teacher: Look who's here. It's Mighty Mouse!

Mighty Mouse: I'm mighty because I know the Bible. (Mighty Mouse gives each child a high five.)

Mighty Mouse: What is the Bible?

What does it tell us?

What does it teach us?

Kids Respond: It's God's book!

Who God is!

How to live!

Mighty Mouse: Let's say the memory verse together. (Have the children take turns shining the flashlight on the memory verse. Say the verse and encourage the children to say it with you.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.* Let's listen while your teacher reads from the Bible.

(Teacher reads the Bible story.)

Mighty Mouse:

- Show children the gift box. Ask what they think is in it. Shake it and have the children listen. Open the box. Jesus is in the box! Jesus is the best gift!
- Everyone has a birthday. Even Jesus has a birthday. Jesus' birthday is Christmas. Let's sing Jesus "Happy Birthday".
- There's a letter in our Trail Log from a friend. Let's read it.

Trail Log Entry (Show the children the picture and read the entry from the Trail Log book.)



Dear Trail Log,

Hi! My name is Trevor. Today my Dad and I went hiking on the trail. We were looking for the perfect Christmas tree to bring home. We found a good one. This year Dad even let me use the saw to cut down the tree. I had to be very careful with it. Every year we put a star on top of our Christmas tree. Dad said that we put the star on top to remind us that the Wisemen followed the star to find Jesus. I thought the star was to show Santa Claus where we live. Dad said that I should look in my Bible to find out what the Bible says about the star. I don't have my Bible out here on the trail with me. Can you look in your Bible and tell me what it says about the star?

Bye for now, Trevor

Mighty Mouse: Trevor wants to know if the star was for Santa Claus or Jesus. Wave your hand if the Bible tells us the star is for Jesus. Santa Claus is fun but the Bible does not tell us about Santa Claus. The Bible tells us about Jesus. Christmas is about Jesus. (Shine the flashlight on the memory verse.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.*

Mighty Mouse: Great job, kids! That will really help Trevor. I need to go home now.

Kids: Bye Mighty Mouse!

December – Hikers Week 3 Lesson

Bible Time

Mighty Mouse



Teacher: Look who's here. It's Mighty Mouse!

Mighty Mouse: I'm mighty because I know the Bible. (Mighty Mouse gives each child a high five.)

Mighty Mouse: What is the Bible?

What does it tell us?

What does it teach us?

Kids Respond: It's God's book!

Who God is!

How to live!

Mighty Mouse: Let's say the memory verse together. (Have the children take turns shining the flashlight on the memory verse. Say the verse and encourage the children to say it with you.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.* Let's listen while your teacher reads from the Bible.

(Teacher reads the Bible story.)

Mighty Mouse:

- Show children the gift box. Ask what they think is in it. Shake it and have the children listen. Open the box. Jesus is in the box! Jesus is the best gift!
- Everyone has a birthday. Even Jesus has a birthday. Jesus' birthday is Christmas. Let's sing Jesus "Happy Birthday".
- There's a letter in our Trail Log from a friend. Let's read it.

Trail Log Entry (Show the children the picture and read the entry from the Trail Log book.)



Dear Trail Log,

I am Allison. My family came out to the campground to play in the snow. There's a great hill for sledding and we can go ice skating on the pond. One of my favorite things to do is make snow angels. I told my friend Amber that they were the angels who told the shepherds about baby Jesus. That's why we have Christmas. Amber said that Christmas is about Santa Claus. I tried to explain that the Bible tells us about the first Christmas but Amber didn't understand. Will you help me? What should I tell Amber about Christmas?

See you later. Allison

Mighty Mouse: Allison wants to help her friend understand that Christmas is about Jesus. Wave your hand if the Bible tells us the about Jesus. Santa Claus is fun but the Bible does not tell us about Santa Claus. The Bible tells us about Jesus. Christmas is about Jesus. (Shine the flashlight on the memory verse.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.*

Mighty Mouse: Great job, kids! That will really help Allison. I need to go home now.

Kids: Bye Mighty Mouse!

December – Hikers Week 4 Lesson

Bible Time

Mighty Mouse



Teacher: Look who's here. It's Mighty Mouse!

Mighty Mouse: I'm mighty because I know the Bible. (Mighty Mouse gives each child a high five.)

Mighty Mouse: What is the Bible?

What does it tell us?

What does it teach us?

Kids Respond: It's God's book!

Who God is!

How to live!

Mighty Mouse: Let's say the memory verse together. (Have the children take turns shining the flashlight on the memory verse. Say the verse and encourage the children to say it with you.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.* Let's listen while your teacher reads from the Bible.

(Teacher reads the Bible story.)

Mighty Mouse:

- Show children the gift box. Ask what they think is in it. Shake it and have the children listen. Open the box. Jesus is in the box! Jesus is the best gift!
- Everyone has a birthday. Even Jesus has a birthday. Jesus' birthday is Christmas. Let's sing Jesus "Happy Birthday".
- There's a letter in our Trail Log from a friend. Let's read it.

Trail Log Entry (Show the children the picture and read the entry from the Trail Log book.)



Dear Trail Log,

Our names are Sarah and Mason. We went sledding today on the hill down by the pond. We got to use our new Christmas sleds! It was lots of fun until Sarah said that Christmas was about Jesus and I said that Christmas is about Santa Claus. We got in a big argument. I think that Santa Claus is in the Bible but Sarah said he's not. Only Jesus is in the Bible. We don't have a Bible here to read. Can you look in your Bible and tell us if Christmas is about Jesus or Santa Claus?

So long, Sarah and Mason

Mighty Mouse: Sarah and Mason want to know who is in the Bible. Wave your hand if the Bible tells us about Jesus. Santa Claus is fun but the Bible does not tell us about Santa Claus. The Bible tells us about Jesus. Christmas is about Jesus. (Shine the flashlight on the memory verse.) Luke 2:11 *The Savior has been born.*

Mighty Mouse: Great job, kids! That will really help Trevor. I need to go home now.

Kids: Bye Mighty Mouse!