

A Little Story About Something Big ***Primary School Assembly***



A primary school assembly designed to work alongside the **SGM Lifeworlds** resource *A Little Story About Something Big*.

Explain to the children that you're going to tell them *A Little Story About Something Big*, but you're going to need their help.

Using the text of *A Little Story About Something Big* to tell the Christmas story, encourage the children to do a different action for each heading: you can teach and practise these with them before you start.

For example:

Surprise!

[Children jump, gasp, act surprised]

Call off the wedding!

[Children chant like protesters: 'Call off the wedding! Call off the wedding!']

Everybody go home

[Children tap on the floor with their hands, so they make a sound like a big crowd of people moving]

No room

[Children shout 'no room', cross arms, shake heads, pretend to be turning someone away from their house]

Good news

[Children cheer]

Let's go

[Children run on the spot]

Christmas presents

[Children mime giving each other Christmas presents]

These actions can also be incorporated throughout the telling of the story, so that the children do them more than once e.g. act 'Surprise' when the angel appears to Mary, chant 'call off the wedding' where the story says 'Joseph decided to call off the wedding quietly', etc. You may even like to add in a few additional actions of your own.

When they've learnt all of these actions, explain that there's one more thing they need to remember. Whenever you say 'this is a little story ...' they need to shout as loud as they can ' ... about something big!'

Link each section of the story with the words: 'But that's not the end. This is a little story ... about something big.'

Finish by reading the final page of *A Little Story About Something Big*, and explaining to the children that the baby in the manger grew up to do all sorts of exciting things. Encourage them to find out a bit more about him this Christmas.

Pray if appropriate, and finish with a Christmas song the children are familiar with.

At the end of the assembly, give out copies of the booklet for the children to take home and read again for themselves.

