



# Why is Christmas celebrated by Christians?



**RE Skills to develop**  
I can talk about a practice from a religion.  
I can retell a religious story using prompts and know that it is from a sacred text and is special to some people.  
I can talk about my own experiences and can link these to the communities to which I belong.

**Our Enquiry Steps:**  
What is meant by the idea of something 'precious'?  
What happened before and after the birth of Jesus?  
What was special about the gifts that were given to Jesus?  
Which parts of the Christmas story are still good news for Christians today  
Why do Christians believe that Jesus was a gift from God?  
Can you discuss how the school nativity is different or similar to your understanding of the Christmas story?



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Nativity	A picture, carving, or model representing Jesus Christ's birth.
Gold	Gold is a precious metal and as such was a very valuable commodity.
Frankincense	Frankincense is a white resin or gum Frankincense was often used in worship, in the burning of incense, by the priests.
Myrrh	Myrrh is a spice which was commonly used in ancient times. It is made from sweet smelling sap which is obtained from several species of tree. The trees are found in parts of Africa and the Middle East, including Yemen and Ethiopia.
Angel	Angels are powerful, smart spirits that obey God's commands and praise him with singing. They sometimes appear to humans in human form

**Our End Points:**  
**Emerging:** I can name the figures in the nativity and knows this is an important story for Christians. I can retell the Christmas story, sequencing events and explain what it means for Christians today.  
**Expected:** I can tell you why Christmas celebrated by Christians? Can explain the relevance of the gifts from the Shepherds and the Magi and recognise good news for Christians.  
**Exceeding:** I can talk about why Christians view Jesus as a gift and how he was to bring peace on earth.