

### **BIG IDEA**

Jesus is God with us.

### **GOD STORY**

Joseph and Jesus (Matthew 1)

### **KEY VERSE**

"I have loved you with a love that lasts forever. I have kept on loving you with a kindness that never fails." (Jeremiah 31:3b, NIRV)

## **1 | Conversation Starter**

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. To lead into today's story, chat about:
  - What's the longest amount of time that you've ever stayed over at a friend's house? What was it like being with that person for so long?
  - If you could have one person with you all the time, who would it be? Why would you choose them?
- b. Introduce the Big Idea: **Jesus is God with us.**

## **2 | Watch**

### **SUPPLIES**

- Media player

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Watch this week's video from the Now Playing Kids playlist on the One Story YouTube channel.

## **3 | Discuss & Pray**

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Review the video teaching together:
  - What stood out to you in today's Life Story?
  - Why was that list of names in the God Story so important? (It tells us that Jesus is part of the special family chosen by God to enact his rescue plan)
  - What was the message that the angel gave to Joseph?
  - What would you think or do if you got a message like that in a dream?
- b. Pray together. Thank God for sending Jesus to be with us!

## 4 | Activity

### SUPPLIES

- Photo of sample craft
- Craft sticks
- Googly eyes
- Cardstock triangles, circles, and squares
- Glue sticks
- Tape
- Colouring supplies
- Hole punch
- Yarn

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Ask: What does the name Emmanuel mean? (God with us)
- Remind the kids that **Jesus is God with us**. God is with us, and he loves us. That's amazing news!
- Show them the photo of the sample craft.
- Give each person two craft sticks, two googly eyes, and one of each of the shapes.
- Set out the other supplies for them to share.
- Guide the kids through the following steps:
  - Glue the craft sticks together.
  - Glue the triangle to the craft sticks.
  - Glue the googly eyes onto the circle.
  - Glue the circle to the triangle.
  - Glue the square behind triangle.
- Encourage the kids to decorate their crafts.
- Punch a hole in each ornament and use yarn to create a loop hanger.
- Ask where they would like to hang it or if they'd like to give it as a gift to tell someone that **Jesus is God with us**.

## 5 | Key Verse

### SUPPLIES

- Key Verse Actions activity page

### TIP

- If anyone in your family knows American Sign Language, invite them to teach some signs to go along with the words.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Lead the kids to say Jeremiah 31:3 and do the following actions to go along with the words:

"I [point to self]  
have loved [cross hands over heart]  
you [point to someone]  
with a love [cross hands over heart]  
that lasts forever. [stretch arms as wide as possible]  
I [point to self]  
have kept on loving [cross hands over heart]  
you [point to someone]  
with a kindness [smile and point to your smile]  
that never [wag finger]  
fails." [thumbs down]  
Jeremiah 31:3 (NIRV) [open hands like book]

- Once everyone is familiar with the words and actions, say the verse while the kids do the actions on their own. Then prompt them to say the words as you do the actions!