

Lesson 22 Additional Activity

Materials

Birds Welcome the Baby Jesus

- white paper plate for each child
- stapler
- safety scissors
- newspaper strips for each child
- crayons or markers for each child

Before the Lesson:

- Cut the paper plates in half.
- Cut strips of newspaper to stuff in nests.
- Place all needed supplies on an activity table.



Exploring

Birds Welcome the Baby Jesus

- Gather the children around a table and review the key points found on page 243 of the Catechist/Teacher Guide.
- Ask the children to recall the story of the night Jesus was born in the manger. Share that the dove is one of the most important birds in the Bible. They are harmless, peaceful birds that people in Bible-times often raised as pets.
- Invite the children to make their own dove in a nest. Make a bird in the nest as a model for the children while they watch. Explain each step below as you do it.
 1. Staple a half plate (*representing the dove's nest*) onto a sheet of paper.
 2. Draw or color a bird sitting in the nest.
 3. Draw a tree branch underneath the nest.
 4. Stuff the nest with newspaper strips.
 5. Write your name at the bottom of the paper.
- Distribute the needed supplies and help the children as needed to make their own birds' nests. You might invite volunteers to describe what his or her bird might have seen on the night Jesus was born in the manger.