The Visit of the Wise Men

Matthew 2

Jesus was born on Christmas night.
Angels sang “Gloria”—oh, what a sight!

Pretend to hold book and sing.

Up in the sky, God put a big star
That men from the East saw from afar.

Point to star.

They jumped on their camels and rode away.
Bumpity bump, they rode night and day.

Bounce up and down.

Finally, they stopped in Jerusalem,
Thinking King Herod would surely help them.

Make crown with hands.

But when they asked, “Where’s the new king?”
Herod just frowned, not knowing a thing.

Frown; shrug shoulders.

Then he called for his teachers, who together all said,
“You’ll find Him in Bethlehem; that’s what we’ve read.

Make open book with hands.

Then off rode the Wise Men to Bethlehem town.
They followed God’s star, up hill and down.

Pretend to ride; point to star.

Yes, this star in the heavens showed them the way
To the house where little boy Jesus played.

Form roof with hands.

The Wise Men were happy; they were filled with joy!
They got off their camels and worshiped the Boy.

Fold hands over heart.

Kneeling, they gave Him their gifts, for you see,
Jesus is the Savior God sent for you and me.

Point to others and then self.

Young Jesus

Matthew 2:19–23

Young Jesus grew
in Naz’reth,
Was gentle as a dove.

Squat, then stand up.

He *went to school,
like I do;
He loved as God above.

Hug self; point up.

*Repeat the four-line poem several times. Each time, substitute one of the following phrases and actions for “went to school”:

* clapped His hands
* ate His meals
* scraped His knee
* washed His face
* ran outdoors
* slept all night

DRAMATIC PLAY
Have children take turns to pantomime more actions while the others guess what is being acted out.

CRITICAL THINKING
Ask, What do you think the Wise Men saw as they traveled to Bethlehem?