

## Advent - A long journey

Have you ever been on a really long journey? Maybe on holiday or to visit your family in another part of the country?

How did you travel? In a car or on a train or in a plane even?

What is the best and worst thing about going on a long journey?

### Watch together

In today's story Mary and Joseph had to go on a long journey, here is Margaret to tell you what happened: <https://youtu.be/35rPyhrxv24>

You can read this story in the Bible in Luke 2 verses 1-7.

I wonder what surprised you most about this story?

Mary and Joseph didn't have a car! They had to walk or maybe ride a donkey for this long journey. Can you imagine what that would have been like?

When Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem, it was very, very busy and there was nowhere for them to stay. Can you remember where Jesus was born? And where he went to sleep? Is that where you would expect God's son to be sleeping?

### Pray together

I wonder if you think that Mary and Joseph might have wanted to give up and not do what God was asking them to do, it must have been a difficult journey and then there was nowhere to stay. Did they give up? They may have wondered what was happening but they trusted God and did as he asked.

Sometimes we might find things difficult on our journey with God, remembering to pray and read God's word, to be kind to other people and to share what we have, but we can trust God and ask him to help us each day as we follow him.

Draw round your foot on a piece of paper and write your name in the outline. You might like to write or draw a prayer on the foot asking God to help you as you follow him or maybe just hold your drawing and pray together:

*Father God, thank you that Jesus came at Christmas as a tiny baby.*

*Thank you that Mary and Joseph did as you asked and trusted you.*

*Please help us to trust you too and help us to do as you ask us, as we follow you each day. Amen*



**Play** pin (blu-tac) the tail on the donkey

Draw a large picture of a donkey on a piece of paper but don't give the donkey a tail! Make a tail for each person playing; you could cut them out of paper or card or plait some wool. Find a blindfold and some Blutak. Take it in turns to be blindfolded, turn around three times and then try to stick the tail on the donkey! See who can get the tail the closest to where it should be.

**Make** a nativity scene

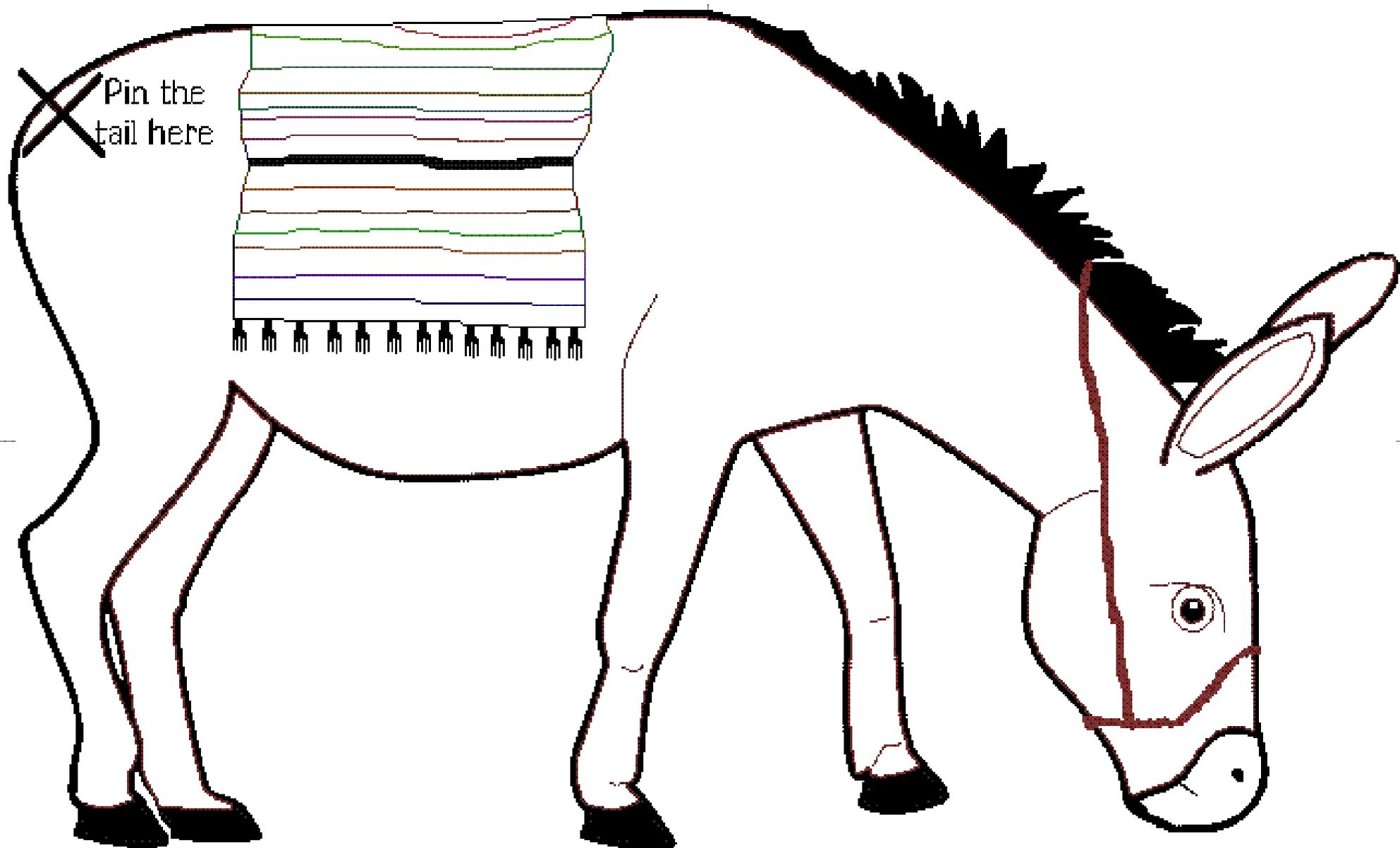
You might like to start making a nativity scene. This week make Mary and Joseph, and maybe an angel and an innkeeper. And then add other characters over the next few weeks. Maybe use cardboard tubes or cut out figures from card, use your imagination and what you have to hand!

There are some lovely ideas and instructions on this blog:

<http://littleworldsbigadventures.com/christmas-craft-diy-recycled-nativity-scene/>







Pin the  
tail here