



Guide The Way

A Nativity for 7-11 Year Olds

CHARACTER LIST

BETHLEHEM STAR
LITTLE STAR
ANGEL GABRIEL
MARY
JOSEPH
SHOOTING STARS 10
HEROD
SHEPHERDS x4
WISEMEN x3
CAMELS – CAMEL DANCE
NAZARENES
ROMAN COMMANDER
ROMAN SOLDIER 1
ROMAN SOLDIER 2
ROMAN SOLDIER 3
INNKEEPERS x5
SHEEP x4
COURTIERS x4

SCENES

SCENE 1 Cloud base

SCENE 2 An important message

SCENE 3 A decree is issued

SCENE 4 It's busy in Bethlehem

SCENE 5 Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem

SCENE 6 The Angel Gabriel appears before the Shepherds

SCENE 7 The Wise Men follow the Bethlehem Star

SCENE 8 Herod meets the Wise Men

SCENE 9 The Shepherds arrival

SCENE 10 The Visitors

PROPS

Virtual reality glasses (Something home-made would be fine)

Sunglasses for the Shooting Stars

3 clipboards for the Wise Men

Large scroll for Herod

(Optional) Simple signs for each location can be created, including the private sign for Herod's palace.

8 camels on wooden broom handles

Baby doll, blanket, cradle

Gold, frankincense and myrrh

Fake beard (for the Wiseman)

Torches for the stars.

Clipboards.

Boxes/crates for the Nazarenes to sit on.

Costumes

Little Star whole-body star outfit.

Star T-Shirts – for all of the stars with Jeans and trainers.

Camels – masks and brown clothing.

Traditional clothing for the ensemble.

SONG LIST

Shooting Stars		CD Track 1
Leaving Home		CD Track 2
Guide The Way		CD Track 3
Knock, Knock		CD Track 4
Camel Fury		CD Track 5
Losing Sheep		CD Track 6
H.E.R.O.D		CD Track 7
The Journey's Over		CD Track 8
Shooting Stars	(Backing Track)	CD Track 9
Leaving Home	(Backing Track)	CD Track 10
Guide The Way	(Backing Track)	CD Track 11
Knock, Knock	(Backing Track)	CD Track 12
Camel Fury.	(Backing Track)	CD Track 13
Lost Sheep.	(Backing Track)	CD Track 14
H,E,R,O,D	(Backing Track)	CD Track 15
The Journey's Over	(Backing Track)	CD Track 16
SFX 1	Magic Whoosh	CD Track 17
SFX 2	Shooting Stars	CD Track 18
SFX 3	Angel Gabriel SFX	CD Track 19
SFX 4	Angel Gabriel SFX Short	CD Track 20
SFX 5	Wise Men	CD Track 21
SFX 6	Guide The Way Transition	CD Track 22

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Robert Reich-Storer graduated from Birmingham University with a Degree in Drama and Theatre Arts. He is now a composer owner of Rhythmstix, who provide e-learning resources and original music for schools, and a specialist teacher. As the Head of Music and Drama at an independent school in Essex he teaches children from 2 1/2 – 16, he is always around music and loves composing for schools. This is his first nativity.

Robert lives in Chelmsford Essex with his wife, 2 children and his cat - Gershwin.

Web Copy

GUIDE THE WAY

Bethlehem Star and Little Star could have a separate area to perform from to differentiate the space and to avoid scene changes.

GUIDE THE WAY

CD TRACK 11

SCENE 1

CLOUD BASE ABOVE BETHLEHEM

Bethlehem Star and Little Star are centre stage. The Shooting Stars have a torch. The stage is lit only by the light from the torches.

SFX - MAGIC WHOOSH

CD TRACK 17

ALL SHOOTING STARS

Look up and you can be assured, that although we may be hiding behind a sea of clouds, we're always shining. We've been here since Earth began and we'll be lighting up the sky long after it has gone.
(They light their torches)

We keep sailors safe from rocky shores by shining brightly when night falls. We mark the passing of the months and illuminate the galaxy. So, as you leave here tonight, look up. *(Point torches up)*

SFX - MAGIC WHOOSH

CD TRACK 17

BETHLEHEM STAR

This is where it all started.

LITTLE STAR

(Inquisitively) What's that?

BETHLEHEM STAR

(Nostalgically) When I had to shine my brightest on that special day.

LITTLE STAR

(Excitedly) How did you do it? Can you show me how to shine brighter?

BETHLEHEM STAR

(To the audience) I don't know – it just kind of happened.

LITTLE STAR

What happened? Tell me more!

Shooting Stars Enter

SFX - SHOOTING STARS

CD TRACK 18

LITTLE STAR Can't you leave us alone? We were just getting to the good bit!

SHOOTING STAR 1 We already know everything...

All SHOOTING STARS "Baby Star" (mocking him – said in unison).

SHOOTING STAR 1 (Proudly). If you really want to know what happened, you can use our Magic Star Dust and The Glasses of Enlightenment to travel back in time.

The box of magic dust is passed down the line. A Shooting Star passes the glasses to Little Star. The Shooting Stars sprinkle stardust across the front of the stage.

SFX - MAGIC WHOOSH **CD TRACK 17**

SHOOTING STAR 2 *(Hands Little Star the glasses)* Look through The Glasses of Enlightenment and you will see what we saw.

Little Star try's the VR glasses on.

SHOOTING STAR 3 You're about to meet Mary and Joseph. We'll leave you to it.

Shooting Stars Exit

SFX - SHOOTING STARS **CD TRACK 18**

SCENE 2
AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

SFX - ANGEL GABRIEL **CD TRACK 19**

Angel Gabriel walks on stage. Joseph stands up, shocked.

ANGEL GABRIEL Don't be afraid, Joseph please sit down.

JOSEPH Wow, she floated Mary, did you see that?

ANGEL GABRIEL I have some fantastic news to share with you Mary. You're going to have a baby. He will be called Jesus... and he is the Son of God.

MARY (Looking at Joseph, shocked) That isn't possible!

ANGEL GABRIEL Don't worry, it will all make sense soon – peace be with you Mary and Joseph. I hope your journey over the hills of Galilee isn't too hard!

MARY I'm not going anywhere! I'm very happy here in Nazareth and I've got Bake Off on iPlayer to watch tonight.

Angel Gabriel leaves the stage.

SFX - ANGEL GABRIEL SHORT

CD TRACK 20

SCENE 2

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

SFX - MAGIC WHOOSH

CD TRACK 17

Shooting Stars enter. Mary and Joseph freeze on stage.

LITTLE STAR

(Looking in amazement at Bethlehem Star) Did you just tell Mary she's going to give birth to the Son of God? Are you sure these glasses aren't a trick? (Takes glasses off, examines them and starts cleaning them.)

SHOOTING STAR 4

(Reassuringly) They're the real deal Little Star. Trust us, we know we know what's going on...

Mary and Joseph leave the stage and the Shooting Stars move into their positions. The Shooting Stars look towards the back of the stage whilst they put their sunglasses on. As the music starts, they turn around and face the audience and stand in in "cool" poses in preparation for their song.

SHOOTING STARS

CD TRACK 1

The Shooting Stars leave the stage. Little Star and Bethlehem Star are left on their own.

BETHLEHEM STAR

(Proudly) I know it seems unbelievable but it did happen. I guided everyone safely to Bethlehem.

LITTLE STAR

What's so special about Bethlehem?

BETHLEHEM STAR

It wasn't easy finding somewhere for Mary to give birth. Caesar had decided to hold a census, there was chaos everywhere – particularly in Jerusalem. Everyone had to go back to the town they were born so that they could be counted. Let's fast forward a bit. *(Bethlehem Star presses a button on the VR glasses.)*

All

Fast forward.

Bethlehem Star and Little Star leave the stage

SFX - MAGIC WHOOSH

CD TRACK 17

SHOOTING STARS

Children stand in pairs back-to-back looking cool.

Verse 1

We like to dash around
Finding all the news
We know what's going on
We're the brightest stars around

Suggested Actions

*Right arm from left to right.
Open newspaper.
Finger to temple.
Hands up, stretch round in a circle. Shimmer fingers.*

Chorus

Shine down to the ground
We shine all **around**
Shine to the left then to the right.
Shining all around. X2

*Crouch Down.
Jump up – hands up as previous when standing.
Step to the left and then to the right.
Hands up, stretch down in a circle. Shimmer fingers.*

Verse 2

If your lost and scared.
We will show you the way.
We will shine our light for you.
We're the brightest stars around

*Right hand left to right in an arch.
Arms in parallel point high to low.
Hands up, stretch round in a circle. Shimmer fingers.*

Children stand back-to-back again looking cool.

Chorus

Verse 3

We'll look through time and space.
To help you find the truth.
There's no problem we can't fix.
We're the brightest stars around

*Point out to audience.
Looking cool - cross arms.
Hands up, stretch round in a circle. Shimmer fingers*

Children stand back-to-back again - looking cool.

Chorus

LEAVING HOME

Soldiers

They're leaving home.
Caesar made them.
They packed up quickly,
He wants all the people to be counted.

Point back
Arms folded
Walk on the spot
Count fingers

Men

All this fuss over nothing.
Who does he think he is?
We've left our **wives** and **family**.

Arms folded
Hands to the side
Left hand and right hand out

Wives

It's not ne- ce- sary
There'll be mil-es away.
We need to be a family

Right arm left to right
Hands clasped together

Innkeepers

At last some business.
We'd need the money.
We can bring up prices.
Exploit the situation.

Rub fingers together
Mime giving cash
Hands held, arms rising up together
Rub hands together

Joseph

Why shou-ld we leave now?
Don't they understand.
She shouldn't be walking.

Point finger down

Mary

Just what can I do?
I need to take care.
Of our special child.

Point in
Hands clasped together
Mime holding a baby

Soldiers

They're leaving home.
Caesar made them.
They packed up quickly.
He wants all the people to be counted.

GUIDE THE WAY

See score for this song.

ALL (Part 1)

Guide the way
Lead me safely
Take me there
To where he lies.
Like the Prophet told us

Instrumental (Part 2)

Have some faith
Let us guide you
Have some faith
Keep us near

All (Part 3)

Are you ready for this trip?
Have they packed enough provisions?
Do they know what's in store?

ALL (Part 1)

Guide the way
Lead me safely
Take me there
To where he lies.
Like the Prophet told us