

ABSOLUTELY ADVENT!

For Primary Grades

GETTING READY
FOR CHRISTMAS
2017 ★



Absolutely Advent!

Getting Ready for Christmas 2017

Jean Larkin

Welcome to Absolutely Advent!

In just four weeks, something **BIG** is going to happen. Advent is the time to get ready to celebrate that big event. As you complete each day's activity, **draw a ★ on the calendar on page 30**. When the page is full, the big event will be here!

Each week, follow the story of Levi the Lamb and his shepherd, Ira. They are on a journey, and you can come along.

Levi and the Very First Advent

—Part 1—

*Levi was a lively lamb,
who liked to run and play.
Hide-and-seek was lots of fun
he'd play that game all day.*

*His shepherd's name was Ira.
He was a faithful Jew,
awaiting the Messiah,
the Savior, good and true.*

*While you walk your Advent path,
let Levi be your guide.
He'll tell you of the FIRST Advent
and walk right by your side.*



The Jews waited thousands of years for the Messiah (the Savior) to come. Do you know who that Messiah was?

Write the name here. _____

During Advent, we wait to celebrate the coming of the Messiah. How long do we wait? Check one.

☐ 4 hours

☐ 4 days

☐ 4 weeks

☐ 4 years



First Sunday of Advent

December 3


Today's Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples, "Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come" (13:33).

Why was Jesus warning his disciples to be awake and ready? Well, Jesus doesn't come to us just on the day of his birth. In fact, he is always with us. So we must always be ready for him.

Think about what you would do to get yourself ready for a visit from Jesus. Would you decorate? Would you wear special clothes or serve special treats?

Write what you would talk about with Jesus when he visits you.



During *Advent*, the Church uses a special color—violet, or purple. It means something BIG is about to happen. On the third Sunday of Advent, the special color will be rose, or pink. Rose is a joyful color and shows that the big event is very close. That is why an Advent wreath has three purple candles and one pink candle.

Decorate this border in purple and pink. Why do you think there are stars in the border?



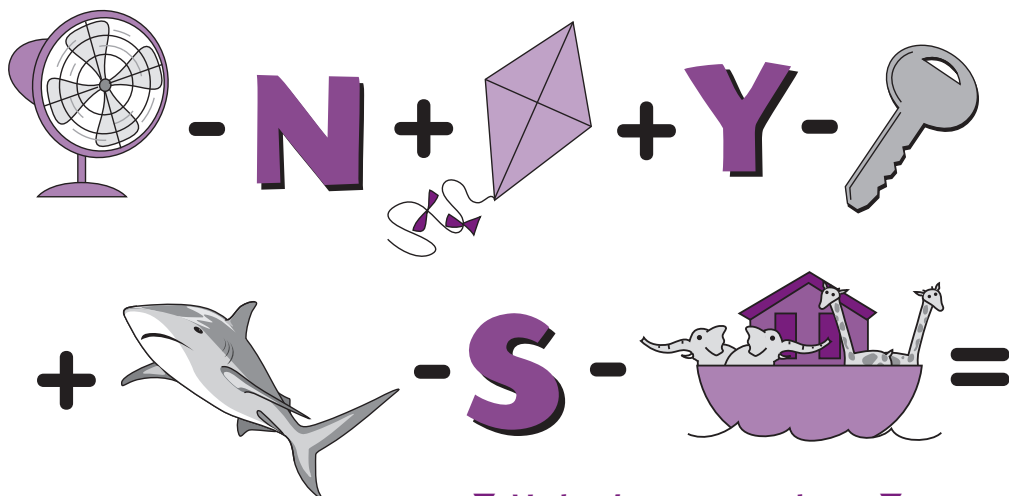
First Monday of Advent

December 4

Today's Gospel: Matthew 8:5-11

The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed" (8:8).

Jesus was very pleased with the man, a soldier. He had come to ask Jesus to help his sick servant. **Solve** this rebus and you will see what Jesus saw in him that he had not yet seen anywhere else in the land.



▼ Work out your answer here. ▼

▼ Write your answer here. ▼

Levi says...



Read the words of the centurion again. Are they familiar? You use almost those exact words right before you receive Holy Communion at Mass.