

themselves at the harbour, where a large ship was anchored. The man hurried up the gangplank and yelled "Cast off!" before raising it. Jack, Lisa, Sam, and Roscoe jumped into the water, since it was the only other way to get to the ship. They swam silently through the calm water until they caught up with the ship. Jack grabbed a rope, which was hanging off the ship, and climbed up. The others followed, carefully maneuvering Roscoe up. They stood on the deck, dripping and shivering. How on earth had they got into this mess?

If you would like to add to this magazine, ask Sophia.  
or

# GROW

KID'S CHRISTIAN MAGAZINE

Free Edition

THANKFULNESS  
ACTIVITIES

CHARACTER  
CHALLENGE:  
Thankfulness



SERIAL  
STORY:  
The Poacher  
Mystery

CHRISTMAS  
CRAFTS



# SERIAL STORY

Excerpt from "The Poacher Mystery" by Sophia Coleman

It all began one night as Sam, Jack, and Lisa were walking home from bible study with Sam's pet Border Collie, Roscoe, at his heels. It was a beautiful night, so Sam decided to take a detour through a part of town they had never seen before. The four came to a tiny shop with tiger skins, turtle shells, and a shawl made with wool from Tibetan antelope!

"Excuse me, sir, but how did you get all these animal products?" Lisa asked the owner, who was just closing up shop.

"Bred 'em meself," replied the shopkeeper shortly, giving all of them a strange glare.

Suddenly another man slipped out of a side door and ran off. Roscoe chased after him, barking madly. Jack and Lisa, on a sudden impulse, raced after the man too. Sam puffed after them, shouting around the corner and found

for them to come back. They dashed 7

How many words can you make out of the letters in:

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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## Word Search

Star Stable Wise men  
Baby Shepherd Inn

S H E P H E R D W I  
T M J N E M F S I W  
A X H O P S P H S Y  
B N O B B R A T S N B  
L N I K T A D K O A  
E I N A B N R U N B

## Color by Number

A = yellow

B = tan/peach

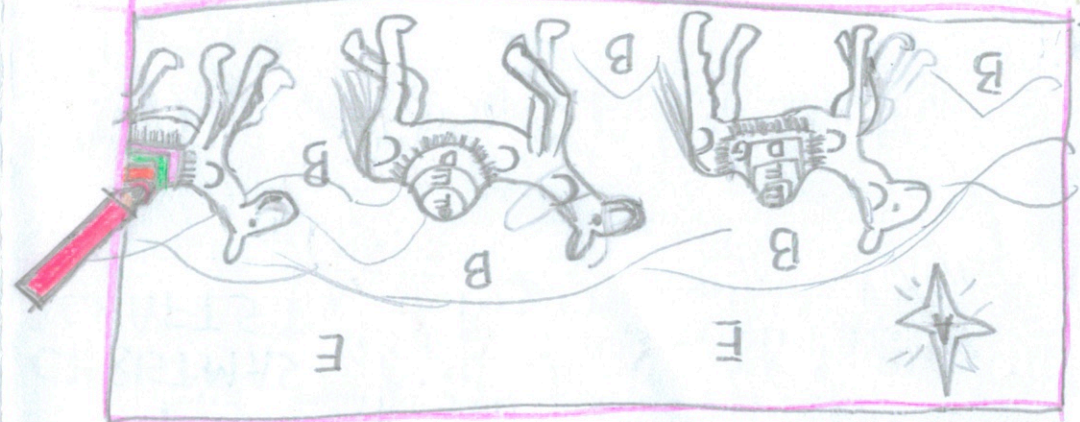
C = light brown

D = pink

E = blue

F = orange

G = red





### Paper Chains

1. Cut several pieces of different colors of paper into strips
2. Staple the ends of a strip of colored paper together.
3. Thread another different colored strip through the first link and staple its ends together.
4. Continue with all the strips until you've made a long chain. You can decorate awnings, windows, Christmas trees, and other things with it.




### Fold-out gift tags

1. Trace the ~~the~~ template below and trace around it on a piece of colored card.
2. Cut out the tag and decorate the flaps.
3. Write a message on the middle of the top of the tag.
4. Glue the bag of the tag to the present, leaving the flaps free.



5. Fold the flaps over the message. Now, you're done!

### Mini lantern decorations

1. Fold a piece of colored paper in half, long sides together. Then fold it in half, twice more, this time short sides together.
2. Unfold the paper, then cut along the folds to make 8 rectangles. Cut a thin strip off the long side of each one.
3. Fold a rectangle in half, long sides together. With the paper still folded, cut a triangle off each end → 
4. With the fold at the bottom, make lots of diagonal cuts, almost to the top edge of the paper.
5. Unfold the paper, then glue the ends together to make a lantern.
6. Fold one of the paper strips in half. Glue each end inside the lantern to make a handle. Make more lanterns in the same way.



Cont. on page 6



# CHARACTER CHALLENGE

## THANKFULNESS

Before, during, and after Christmas, it's easy to be discontented and selfish, but we should be contented and thankful for what we have.

Look up Psalm 37:16

"Better is the \_\_\_\_\_ that the righteous has than the abundance of many \_\_\_\_\_"

Look up Psalm 100:4

"Enter his gates with \_\_\_\_\_ and his courts with \_\_\_\_\_ Give thanks to him; \_\_\_\_\_ his name!"

Look up Psalm 107:9

"For he \_\_\_\_\_ the longing souls, and the hungry soul he fills with many \_\_\_\_\_ things"

Look up Proverbs 15:15

What do the cheerful have?

A

Look up Proverbs 4:11  
Blank on next page

Look up Philippians 4:11  
What has Paul learned?

To be \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ situation

Look up 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Give thanks in \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances; for that's the will of \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus for \_\_\_\_\_"

(Verses are in the ESV)

## THANKFULNESS ACTIVITIES:

Pick some of these activities and do them!

1. Say "thank you" every time someone does some thing for you

2. Make a list of things God has done for you and keep adding to it!

3. Ask your parents how they learned to be content and what advice they have for you concerning contentment

4. Write thank you letters to parents, grandparents, teachers ect.

5. Make a list of all the things you appreciate about someone. Find ways to express your thankfulness to them.