

GUIDE FOR HOST OF CHRISTMAS GIFT SEARCH GAME

Clue and Solution Planning Guide

In this game, kids (probably grades 4-12) look for hidden clues on little pieces of paper to guide them on their search for the location of the Christmas gifts. The clues are taken from Christmas carol phrases. For ideas, you may want to work backwards and look for a place you could hide a clue, then think of a phrase from a carol that would be a good clue for finding that place. You could find lyrics of Christmas carols in a hymnal or go on line to www.mikeleal.com/christmas/songs.html. Some examples of clues and solutions are: "He rules the world with truth and grace" – Under a world globe; "The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head" - Under a pillow; or "It came upon a midnight clear" - Under a clock. A longer phrase that includes more possible solutions can make the game more challenging. Try not to choose clues that could lead them to a clue location intended to be found later in the search or to finding the gifts too early. Write the clues on small slips of paper and attach them to this guide so they'll be all ready. Before your celebration you can fold them up and hide them.

PHRASE FROM CAROL:

SOLUTION (WHERE NEXT CLUE IS FOUND):

(1A) _____
(Hand deliver Clue 1A)

(1B) _____

(2A) _____
(Hide Clue 2A at 1B)

(2B) _____

(3A) _____
(Hide Clue 3A at 2B)

(3B) _____

(4A) _____
(Hide Clue 4A at 3B)

(4B) _____

(5A) Leading to gift location

(5B) Where gifts are located

(Hide Clue 5A at 4B)

Instructions to children on search

The wise men followed clues to find Jesus. They probably knew when the Great Ruler of Israel was expected to appear because of *Daniel 9:25. When they saw an amazing star about the time the Great Ruler was expected, they made the long, long journey to the capital of Israel, Jerusalem. In Jerusalem they heard of another clue found in Micah 5:2, that the Great Ruler of Israel was to be born in Bethlehem. The wise men headed for Bethlehem, and the star led them to the little child named Jesus, God's wonderful Gift to the world.

You will be given clues to follow to search for your Christmas gifts. A phrase from a Christmas carol will be your clue to help you find your next clue, until you reach your gifts. You must stay together in a group during your search, just like the wise men did. When one person finds a clue, he or she must tell the others and read the clue out loud. Here is your first clue, to be read out loud. (Hand over the first clue and be sure the holder reads it out loud.)

*For interpretation of Daniel 9:25, see <https://www.studydrive.org/commentaries/acc/daniel-9.html>