

## SLIDE OVERVIEW – TE TAU ME ONA RITENGA TAPU

### Season or Feast: Christmas

#### Year 6 Lesson 01

Print off this slide overview to supplement your planning.

Refer to Teacher's Notes for background information related to the lesson content and suggested Teaching and Learning Experiences in the Teacher's book or in the Teacher's material under Lesson Notes on the Lesson Home Page.

If worksheets are used in this lesson these can be printed from PDF files that are available on-line in lesson resources.



#### Slide 1 Christmas throughout the world

Use this slide as a focussing strategy to introduce the lesson topic. Read the title together and invite children to share something they know about the celebration of the feast of Christmas throughout the world related to the significance of Christ's birth.

Teacher's Notes



#### Slide 2 Learning Outcomes

Read through the Learning Intentions with the class and identify some ideas/questions that might be explored in the lesson.

Teacher's Notes



#### Slide 3 Sharing how Christmas is celebrated in your family and your culture

Children share a family or cultural custom, ritual or tradition then complete their worksheet and share it with their class.

Adapt Teaching and Learning Experience 2

Teacher's Notes



#### Slide 4 Comparing Christmas celebrations in different cultures

Look closely at the images and describe how each image shows some differences in Christmas celebrations in different cultures, countries and hemispheres. Suggest some other examples.

On the worksheet use the Venn diagram to record in the left space what your family's Christmas celebrations include, on the right record what is included in another culture you are familiar with and in the middle space record what is common to both.

Adapt Teaching and Learning Experience 1

Teacher's Notes



### Slide 5 Christians throughout the world celebrate Christmas with different customs – Mexico Las Posadas

Adapt Teaching and Learning Experience 4

Watch the clip

Feliz Navidad and Las Posadas 2:27 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4zCOn3TaT8>

Las Posadas (Spanish for 'The Inns') is a religious festival celebrated in Mexico between December 16 and 24. Las Posadas commemorates the journey that Joseph and Mary made from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a safe refuge where Mary could give birth to the baby Jesus. When they were unable to find lodging in Bethlehem, Joseph and Mary were forced to seek shelter in a stable, where the Christ child was born.

Las Posadas is celebrated in cities and towns across Mexico. Each evening during the festival, a small child dressed as an angel leads a procession through the streets of the town. The procession is primarily made up of children dressed in silver and gold robes carrying lighted candles and images of Mary and Joseph riding a donkey. Adults, including musicians, follow the procession, which visits selected homes and asks for lodging for Joseph and Mary. Traditionally, the procession is always refused lodging, though the hosts often provide refreshments. At each stop, passages of scripture are read and Christmas carols are sung.

Make up a ritual that the Christian communities could use in Aotearoa New Zealand to celebrate Christmas in a public place. What effect could this have on people who do not know the original Christmas story?

Teacher's Notes



### Slide 6 Christians throughout the world celebrate Christmas with different customs – Ireland Christmas lights in windows

Adapt Teaching and Learning Experience 3

Use the flip book pages to tell the story below.

The customs of placing lighted candles in the windows at Christmas was brought to America by the Irish. The historical background of this custom is interesting. When religion was suppressed through Ireland during the English persecution, the people had no churches. Priests hid in forests and caves and secretly visited the farms and homes to say Mass there during the night. It was the dearest wish of every Irish family that at least once in their lifetimes a priest would arrive at Christmas to celebrate mass on this Holy Night. When Christmas came, they left their doors unlocked and placed burning candles in the windows so that any priest who happened to be in the vicinity could be welcomed and guided to their home through the dark night. Silently he entered through the unlatched door and was received with gratitude into their home that became a church for the night. To justify this practice in the eyes of the English soldiers, the Irish people used to explain: "We burn the candles and keep the doors unlocked, so that Mary and Joseph, looking for a place to stay, will find their way to our home and be welcomed with open doors and open hearts." The English authorities, finding this Irish "superstition" harmless, did not bother to suppress it. The candles in the windows have always remained a cherished practice of the Irish which they took with them as they immigrated to other countries. The candles are now strings of electric lights which remind people that Jesus is the light of hope and peace that is born on Christmas night.

Tell this story to your family on Christmas Day.

Teacher's Notes



### Slide 7 Christians throughout the world celebrate Christmas with different customs – Aotearoa New Zealand Kiwi Christmas Tree

Children share what they know about the New Zealand Christmas tree.

Read the text in each box using the pointer – press red buttons to activate.

Why do you think the Pohutakawa was chosen to be the New Zealand Christmas tree?

Teacher's Notes



**Slide 8 Christmas celebrations may not always reflect the Christian meaning**  
 Read each post it note and answer the question.  
 Name some Christian traditions that are not Christian.  
 Why are these traditions necessary?  
 Sing using the MP3 'All People on the Earth'

Teacher's Notes



**Slide 9 Check Up**  
 This formative assessment strategy will help teachers to identify how well children have achieved the Learning Intentions of the lesson.  
 Teachers can choose how they use the slide in their range of assessment options.  
 A worksheet of this slide is available for children in Years 5-8 to complete.

The last two items are feed forward for the teacher.  
 Recording the children's responses to these items is recommended as it will enable teachers to adjust their learning strategies for future lessons and target the areas that need further attention.

Teacher's Notes



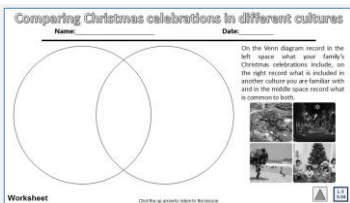
**Slide 10 Time for Reflection**  
 The MP3 is played to help create a reflective atmosphere and bring the children to stillness and silence as the teacher invites them to *recall all the members of your family who have celebrated Christmas over the years and who share traditions that you continue to carry on today. Give thanks to God for them and talk about this tonight with your family.*

Teacher's Notes



**Slide 3 Sharing how Christmas is celebrated in your family and your culture WORKSHEET**  
 This worksheet relates to slide 3

Teacher's Notes



**Slide 4 Comparing Christmas celebrations in different cultures WORKSHEET**  
 This worksheet relates to slide 4

Teacher's Notes

**Check up**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

1) Imagine you are in another country for Christmas and you experience some of the special customs that exist there at Christmas. Write down at least 3 that would be a particular surprise to you and help you understand how people in that country celebrate.

2) Write a comic strip to explain a Christmas tradition from another country or culture. You can use the material on slide 9 as a model to help you understand the meaning of Christmas.

3) Which activity do you think helped you to learn best in this lesson?

4) Which country do you think has the most interesting Christmas traditions and why? Describe at least 3 Christmas celebrations and give examples of each.

5) Question: I would like to ask about the topic of this lesson...

**Worksheet** Check this up activity online to be printable

**Slide 9 Check up WORKSHEET**  
 This worksheet relates to slide 9

Teacher's Notes