



① You will need:

- Manger full of straw
- Star hanging above Manger
- Manuscript
- Knitting (or a similar pastime)
- Baby Jesus doll

Cast:

- Cow (Willing to listen to others. Often confused. A likable chap)
- Donkey (Grumpy old man/woman, who is stubborn and unwilling to believe)
- Mary
- Joseph
- Sheep (Mindlessly cheerful, talkative youngster. He/she will believe anything)
- Shepherd 1 Shep 2 Shep 3 Shep 4 Shep 5
- Camel (Arrogant, self-important, very clever. He/She thinks they know it all)
- King 1 King 2 King 3
- Angel 1 Angel 2 Angel 3 Angel 4 Angel 5

Staging:

The stage is roughly split in half. The Manger sits in the middle.

Stage right will be for re-creating the scenes.

Stage left is for the stable drama.

When the animals are talking about previous events they stand in the stable. Meanwhile the re-created scenes happen stage right. The animals don't look at these events, and the animal who is narrating continues to mime as he silently continues to tell the story.



The story

Character/Actions	Lines
DONKEY	SCENE
Cow walks on to the stage, chewing the cud, looking around.	
<p>Cow:</p> <p>Cow briefly puts is nose in the hay to settle in to eat.</p>	<p>Mmmm-oo. Hello. Welcome to my stable. It's my little corner of Bethlehem. You've met the Inn Keeper? This is his place. Nice chap with a lovely little inn. Normally it's quiet, but tonight... you can't move for people. It's all because of the sense-us. Funny business. Everyone has to go to their family town and say they're alive. You would have thought that was obvious. Anyway, still quiet in here, thank goodness. Just me and my manger.</p>
<p>Donkey arrives. Donkey is snorting, huffing and puffing.</p>	<p>Ee-or. Ee-or. Pah, call this a stable? After that journey, this is it?</p>



Cow	Hello, I'm Cow. You here for the sense-us?
Donkey	Yes. Non-sense, more like. All that way from Nazareth, with a heavily pregnant woman.
Cow	Ooo! Do you think it's going to be a boy or a girl?
Donkey	I know it's a boy.
Cow	You're pulling my udders! How can you know?
Donkey looks around for anyone listening, then Cow looks around.	Look, Cow I know this sounds stupid. But Mary says it happened like this...
Mary comes on stage right and sits on a chair with knitting (or something) Brief pause then... Angel 1, 2 walks on	
Angel 1	You are very special. The Lord has been kind to you. Don't be afraid.
Angel 2	Mary, listen carefully, you will give birth to a son.
Mary	Hang on. Hang on. I'm not even married. Who's the Father?
Angel 1 Angels and Mary leave	He will be the Son of God.



<p>Cow</p> <p>Donkey Mary and Joseph find themselves chairs to sit down.</p> <p>Donkey</p> <p>Cow</p> <p>Donkey</p>	<p>Cor. There's a thing!</p> <p>Yeah, I know. I know. It's ridiculous</p> <p>Here they are. That's Mary. They're going to have to stay here.</p> <p>She can't stay here, where will the baby be born?</p> <p>I don't care about them, where will I sleep? Anyway, there's no room at the inn for them. So we're all stuck in here... together.</p>
<p>SHEEP</p>	<p>SCENE 2</p>
<p>Sheep runs on grinning, and excitedly look around. He heads to Donkey and Cow. He always talks quickly. During this conversation Mary gives birth quietly in the background!</p>	
<p>Donkey</p> <p>Sheep</p> <p>Cow</p> <p>Sheep [interrupting]</p>	<p>Oh no. Not more.</p> <p>Baa. Baa. Hello. I'm Sheep. Who are you?</p> <p>I'm Cow and this is...</p> <p>You won't believe what's just happened to us. Have you got a minute? Have you heard? Can I explain? Well, all the shepherds were sitting by, keeping watch over us, when suddenly...</p>



Shepherds walk on stage right during the previous speech and stand just right of centre, facing the right.
Angels enter stage right and stand at the edge of the stage.

Angel 3

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

Angel 4

Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Angel 5

This will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

Angels leave stage.
Shepherds huddle to discuss. While Sheep talks, they walk slowly in a small circle (pretending to walk a long distance) and then arrive at the manger.



Sheep	And then, there was more. This army of angels pitches up and gives it their all. There they were, bright as a red hot fire, thousands of them, singing like their lives depended on it. Starts shouting, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests" Returns to normal volume Amazing!
Shepherd 1	This must be Him. A baby lying in a manger.
Shepherd 2	It's just as the angels said it would be.
Shepherd 5	So it is true, this is our Saviour. Our rescuer.
Shepherd 3	The angels said that it was good news for all people.
Shepherd 5	When we leave, we should tell everyone!
Shepherd 4	And let's remember to thank God. He's done all this.
Mary	I guess he really is the Son of God. There's a lot here to think about.
Joseph	I was told by an angel in a dream to call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. So his name will be Jesus.
Shepherd 5	Time we went. We've got a lot of thanking to do.
Shepherd 3	...And telling! Everyone is going to be completely amazed by this. Let's leave.
Sheep	What? Leave? Are they mad? This is the event of year... of the century... of the... of the ever.
Cow	The event of the ever, in my stable? Are you sure you've got the right place?
Donkey	You certainly haven't got the right people. I wouldn't want the future of the human race to rest with Mary and Joseph. No, thank you very much.



Sheep	Didn't you hear? A baby... wrapped in cloths... lying in a manger... good news for all people.
Cow	It does seem to make sense.
Donkey	Oh boy!
CAMEL	SCENE 3
Enter Camel, looking superior and unimpressed with the stable Camel	Hello? I'm looking for some sort of King character. Would you be so good as to show me to him?
Donkey	Oh, that's all we need. What are you?
Camel	What am I? You mean, "Who am I?" I am Camel.
Sheep	Never met one like you. What noise do you make? I go, "Baa". It's brilliant.
Camel	I don't make any noises. I speak. And if I might add, I speak perfectly.
Cow	Right-Oh. Well Mr Camel, er, Sir, I'm not sure you're in the right place. This is a stable, and ...er... um... I don't think we have royalty here. We've got an inn keeper. He's a bit like a small, local, sort of a King....
Donkey	I think you've got the wrong place. If you just head out, you'll find in the town square, an information desk, just on the left and if you...



King 1, 2 and 3 enter and speak loudly	
King 1	Where is the one born King of the Jews?
King 2	We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.
King 3	We have come with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
Sheep	Ace! This is brilliant
Cow	Crumbs. It's all kicking off.
Donkey	Oh, P-lease. This is nonsense. There's been some sort of mistake. There is no King here. There is a baby, but I think he'd prefer a rattle to gold.
Camel	If I might just explain. I have three points to make, all beginning with an "S":
pulls out a manuscript	Firstly, Scripture says that the King will be born in Bethlehem. This is Bethlehem.
pointing up All animals look up at star	Secondly, the Star- we have followed a star that led us to this exact place.
	Thirdly, Surely I am never wrong.
Sheep	The Baby's a King!
Donkey	The Baby's a King?
Cow	Does "surely" begin with an "S"?
CONCLUSION	SCENE 4



Cow	It all fits together. We'd be fools to argue.
Donkey	Mary and Joseph really have been chosen to raise the son of God, as their own child. God has been kind to them.
Sheep	The shepherds were told that this Baby is the Christ; the promised one sent by God to rescue. That is good news of great joy for all the people.
Camel	The Wise men have found the King who will reign forever. God brought them to Him.
Cow	So this Jesus, has been born to save his people from their sins.
Sheep	Brilliant!