

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:18-21.

Mary, Joseph
& Jesus

in a hexa-tetraflexagon

Story

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

The Christmas Story in a hexa-tetraflexagon

Print 100% scale on A4 (not "borderless" unless your printer is less stupid than mine), on the two sides separately (use "single-sided" not duplex) with a long-side flip. The large boxes on the two sides need to end up almost perfectly aligned.

A 5 mm margin has been allowed on the ends, and 3.5 mm on the sides.

After printing, fold the length and width exactly into quarters (giving 16 sections). Make the folds as precisely as possible! Crease each fold in both directions (forward and back).

Assuming that the folds line up with the centre rectangle, cut out the rectangle. Cut just outside the fold lines. This is easiest done by folding the page in half and making the two half cuts in from the crease, then folding in half the other way to make the last two cuts.

www.hometutoring.co.nz/maths/hexa-tetraflexagon.php

The
Christmas

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

shepherds & wise men

Luke 2:8-16.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2.

His only begotten Son
the world

be born to us,
given to us;
government
His shoulders;

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Luke 1:1-7.

For God so loved
that He gave

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Matthew 1:24.

Construction instructions:

Hold so that the top left panel starts with "After Jesus was born in Bethlehem..."

Fold the left edge strip in (forwards) so that "Story" is visible on the left. Fold the top edge strip down so that "The Christmas Story" is now at the top left. Now fold the right edge strip in so "shepherds & wise men" is at the top right.

Finish by folding the bottom edge strip up. This is a little tricky because the right half needs to go in front but the left half needs to go behind. A little twisting is involved. The fold at the bottom of the "Story" panel ends up a mountain fold, while the fold in the middle of the panel starting "But after..." is a valley fold. Don't be too afraid of the rest of it opening out a little while you're doing this.

The front panel ends up stepped, like a corrugated cardboard box that has been closed by having each flap put under the next flap over. In this case the steps go downward anti-clockwise.

Flexing instructions:

Start flexing by pushing the two sides together backward (folding vertically down the middle) then open the flexagon up at the front. For the next flex, fold the top and bottom together away from you (with a horizontal fold across the middle) and again open at the front. Continue in the same way.

The front panel can be flexed vertically and horizontally to access two different story lines.

If the front panels look like they are in the wrong order either you're looking at the back or it has been folded incorrectly. If the flexagon doesn't want to stay together it has likely been folded wrong.

believes in Him
but have eternal life.

John 3:16.

Isaiah 9:6.

Prince of Peace,
Mighty God,
will be called

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

And His name
Wonderful Counselor,
Eternal Father,

that whoever
shall not
persuade

... the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:9-11.