

A

THE YEAR IN OUR CHURCH Advent

We Light Candles on an Advent Wreath

Activity: The child “lights” candles on an Advent wreath in preparation for Advent.

Concept

During Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birth by lighting candles on an Advent wreath.

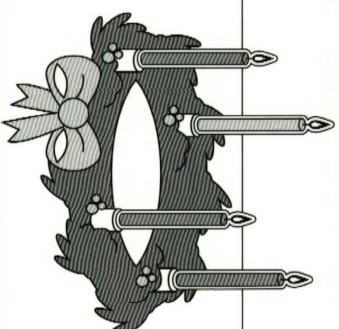
What You Need

- ▶ candles, including one battery-operated flameless candle
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ red, yellow, silver, or gold glitter

At Home

Invite the parents to refer to this wreath during Advent, comparing it to an actual Advent wreath that they light as a family.

Example



Lesson Steps

1

Opening Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: **Dear God, during the season of Advent, we get ready for the birth of baby Jesus. Help us prepare for Jesus’ birth. Help us be patient. Help us show love to others. Help others know that Jesus is the Light of the World.** Pray the Sign of the Cross.

2

Begin with Life Experience

Allow the child to look at and touch a variety of unlit candles and observe a “lit” flameless candle. Invite the child to tell you in words, through signing, or drawing what candles are used for. (to bring light) Say: **Jesus is the light of the world. We light candles on an Advent wreath to remind us to prepare for Jesus’ birth.**

3

Connect

Say: **During Advent, we light candles on an Advent wreath.** Help the child color the wreath and the candles shown on the photocopy of Side B. Color three candles purple and one candle pink. Help the child cut out each candle and glue it to the Advent wreath. Say: **During Advent, we light each candle on the wreath.** Point to a purple candle and say: **First, we light one purple candle.** Place a drop of glue on the candle’s flame and help the child sprinkle glitter onto the glue. Then repeat this process, adding the “flame” to each candle. If time and availability of resources allow, consider making a wreath with fresh greens and flameless candles.

4

Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: **Dear God, thank you for the wonderful season of Advent. We prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth as we light each candle on the Advent wreath.** Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

