

EPIPHANY 2017

# YOU AND ME AND EPIPHANY

FOLLOWING THE TRACES OF THE FESTIVAL  
OF EPIPHANY  
FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL





**YOU + ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD** is an educational programme for children for Children's Service and primary school. Children get to know one another worldwide. They meet at eye level in an ecumenical context. And they are open for what they share and where they differ.

**YOU + ME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD** is a programme of Evangelical Mission in Solidarity, a network of churches and mission societies in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

[www.ems-friends.org](http://www.ems-friends.org)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL

- . clothesline or cord, pegs
- . pens
- . photocopies of drawing outline »gift« for each child
- . download and print out the four pictures for the clothesline

**Idea:** Pictures can also be laid on the floor or hung on a wall

**ALL MASTER COPIES ARE TO BE FOUND AT [WWW.EMS-FRIENDS.ORG](http://WWW.EMS-FRIENDS.ORG)**

## STORY TO READ ALOUD

*The children sit in a circle. Someone reads out the story and hangs the four pictures on the clothesline one after the other:*

Welcome to the first Sunday School session in the New Year! You have probably celebrated Christmas with your family and enjoyed the days at home. Now a new year lies before us. And today is already a quite special day in this New Year. We are celebrating a festival. Do you know what it is called?

*Time for the children to reply.*

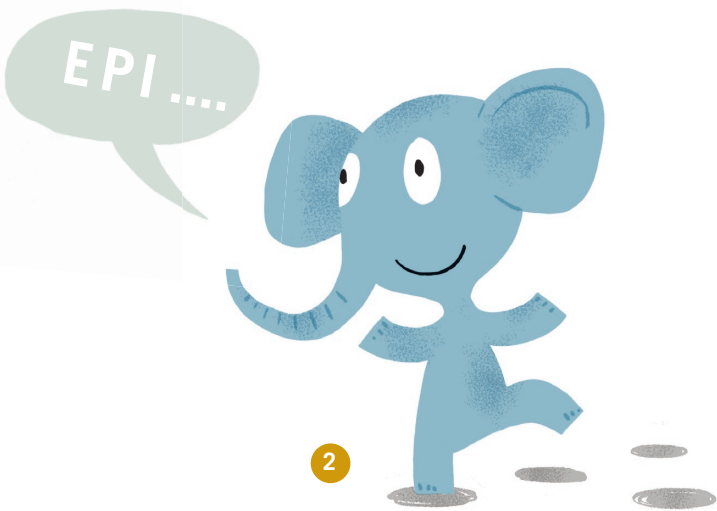
Today I would like to tell you a story about Emso, the elephant, and Pipit, the little bird. The two of them are curious and they wanted to find out what we are celebrating today. Emso and Pipit are really good buddies. They spend a lot of time together and they like travelling to meet children in different countries. Now too, at Christmas, they have been travelling and – just imagine – some children have told them that they celebrate the birth of Jesus in January. Pipit could not believe that. You celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas, don't you? Pipit wanted to get to the bottom of this. So she looked through books, talked to different people and searched the internet.

*Hang up first picture.*



And indeed: on 6 January we celebrate Epiphany! With excitement, she told the elephant Emso this news. Emso could not even pronounce the word Epiphany. He kept saying: »Epi... Epi... Epi... what?« Let us all say Epiphany out loud.

*All children say »Epiphany«.  
Hang up the second picture.*



And what are we celebrating now? Pipit has discovered that it has something to do with the Wise Men from the East, who visit the new-born Jesus. The Wise Men were really star experts from another country.

*Hang up third picture.*



They observe stars very exactly and are struck by a big bright star. They thought, a king has been born and set out on their journey with costly gifts like gold, frankincense and myrrh. It became a long, laborious journey through many countries. The joy was great when they found the baby Jesus. And Jesus got presents from all over the world.

*Hang up the fourth picture.*



And they were not the only one who rejoiced at Jesus' birth: We too rejoice today. Many people from all over the world are together celebrating that Jesus has appeared.

### **YOUR PRESENT**

#### **DRAWING OUTLINE:**

What would you bring Jesus?  
Draw it into the gift!

*Distribute drawing outlines (see next page).*



#### **What is more:**

**At Epiphany we do not just celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men from the East, but also the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan and the first miracle of Jesus at the wedding at Cana, when he turned water into wine. So we are celebrating three great events on this day.«**

## SONG

Joy to the world

## PRAYER

Dear God,  
Thank you for sending your son Jesus Christ  
to our earth.  
Thank you for letting him be born as a  
little baby – like us.  
Thank you for letting us meet him today,  
like the many people did back then,  
after his birth.  
Thank you for loving all people on earth,  
just as we are.  
Thank you for letting us come to you,  
just as we are.  
Amen.

*Idea and text: Anna Kallenberger and Annette Schumm  
Illustration: Gert Albrecht*

## CONTACT

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