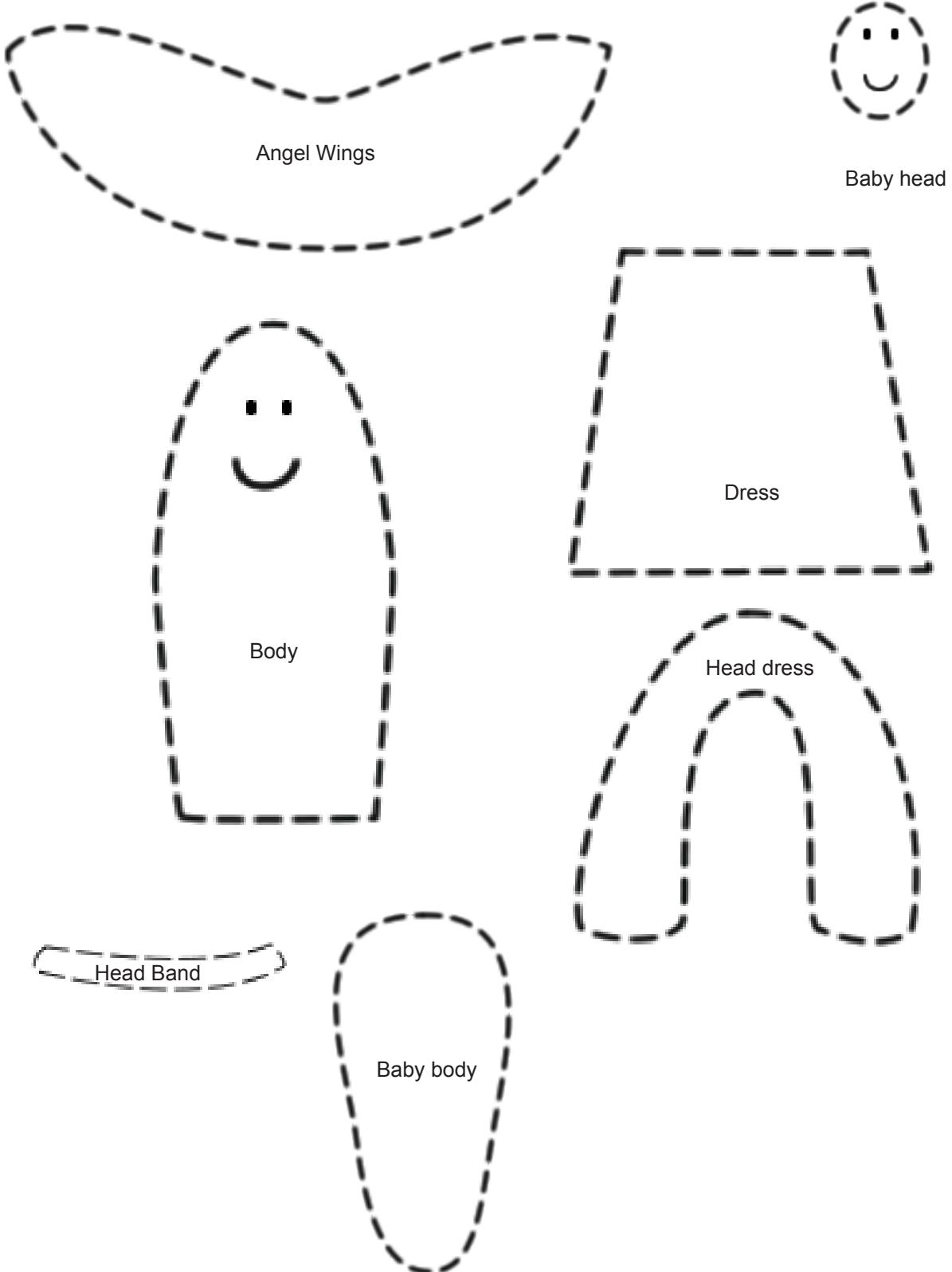
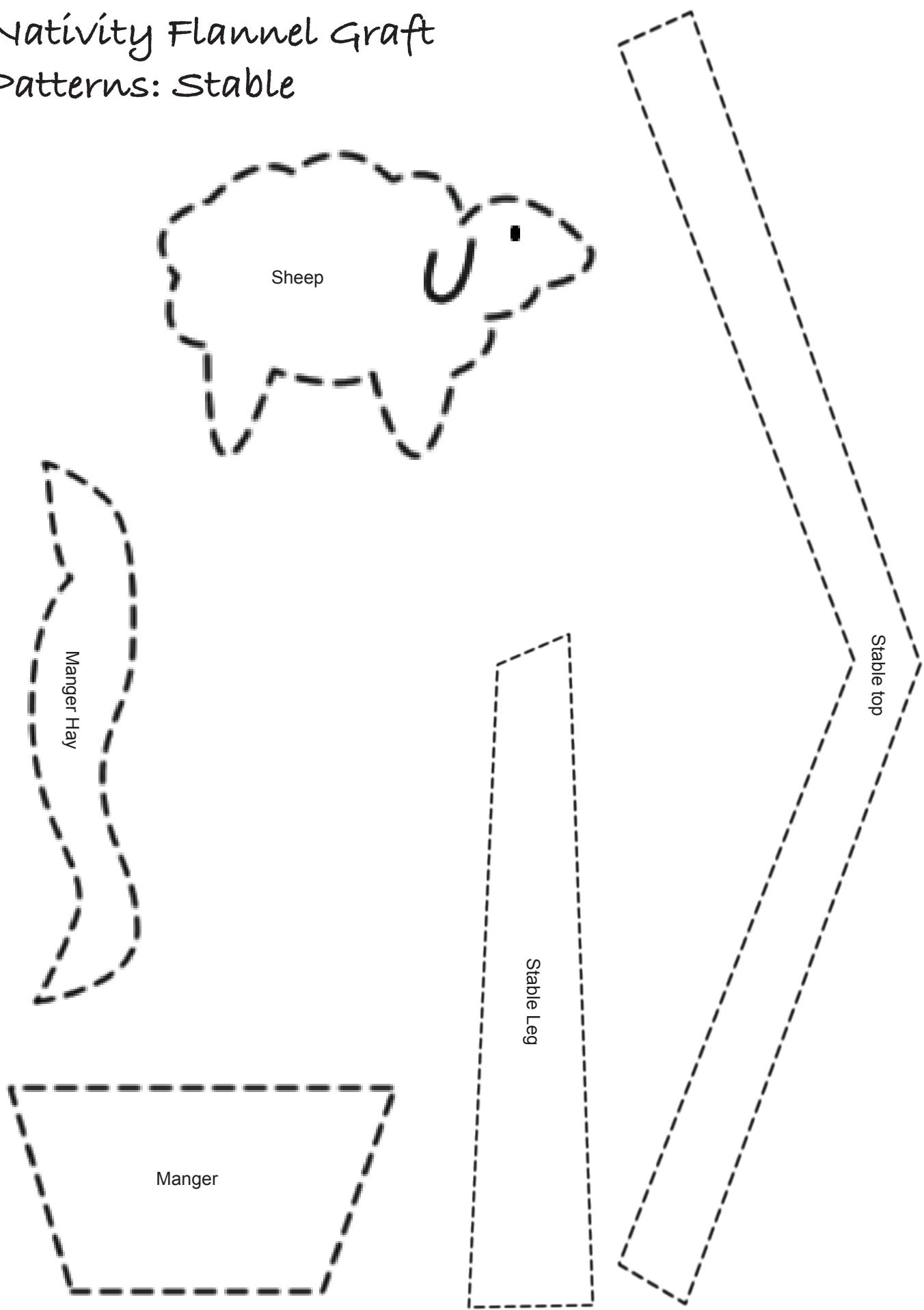


Nativity Flannel Graft Patterns



Nativity Flannel Graft

Patterns: Stable



The Nativity Story:

A priest named Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth, were from the family of Aaron they did the good things God told them to do, but they could not have any children and they were now very old. One day when Zechariah was serving at the temple of God, he was picked to go inside the holy of holies and serve God. While he was inside, the angle Gabrial came to tell him that he was going to have a son. Zechariah was very afraid, Luke 1:13-15 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah. Your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will have a child. It will be a boy, and you must name him John. 14 He will be a joy and delight to you. His birth will make many people very glad. 15 He will be important in the Lord’s eyes.”

Instead of thinking of how powerful God is, he thought of how old he was. He doubted God’s message and the angle made him unable to speak until he announced his baby boy’s name: “John.”

That same angle came to Mary when Elizabeth was six months pregnant. He told Mary that she was going to have a baby even though she had never been with a man. Mary was confused. Luke 1:35-38 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come to you. The power of the Most High God will cover you. So the holy one that is born will be called the Son of God. 36 Your relative Elizabeth is old. And even she is going to have a child. People thought she could not have children. But she has been pregnant for six months now. 37 Nothing is impossible with God.” 38 “I serve the Lord,” Mary answered. “May it happen to me just as you said it would.” Then the angel left her.

Mary had promised to marry a man name Joseph. When Mary had a baby in her tummy without him, he was sad. He didn’t believe that God put the baby inside Mary. He decided to not marry Mary. Matthew 1:20-23 But as Joseph was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. The angel said, “Joseph, son of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary home as your wife. The baby inside her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That is because he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All of this took place to bring about what the Lord had said would happen. He had said through the prophet, 23 “The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel.”—(Isaiah 7:14) The name Immanuel means “God with us.” So Joseph woke up and got married to Mary.

While baby Jesus was still in Mary’s tummy, Caesar Augustus made a law that everyone had to go to their family’s town to put their name on a list. Joseph was from King David’s family so he and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem to have their names recorded.

Baby Jesus was getting bigger in Mary’s tummy and it was hard to travel all that way on a donkey, because they didn’t have cars or minivans back then. The donkey was very bumpy and hard, but they made it the whole way to Bethlahem before Baby Jesus was ready to come out. Mary’s tummy started to tighten and get ready to push baby Jesus out. Joseph had to find a place to lay down fast. He looked everywhere but the town was so full of people there were no rooms left. Fi

nally an inn keeper let them use his stable. A stable is like a barn. And baby Jesus, the King of the World, was born in a barn. The stable was filled with straw and animals which may have made it a little stinky. But baby Jesus was warm and safe, wrapped in strips of cloth and snuggled in a manger. (A manger is where the farmer puts the animal's food, but Mary and Joseph used it as a baby crib.)

Luke 2:8-14 8 There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were looking after their sheep. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy. It is for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. 12 Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said, 14 "May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!" The shepherds ran to Bethlehem to find the baby king-Jesus. They found him just as the angles said and they told their story to everyone they saw.

After Jesus was born, there was a big star in the sky and the Wise Men from the East rode on their camels following the star to come see the King of the Jews, baby Jesus. When they got to Jerusalem they asked King Herod (Matthew 2:2) ... "Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews? When we were in the east, we saw his star. Now we have come to worship him." King Herod was very mad, he didn't want anyone else but him to be king of the Jews. He asked his priests where the Bible says the king was to be born. Matthew 2:4-12 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied. "This is what the prophet has written. He said, 6 "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not the least important among the towns of Judah. A ruler will come out of you. He will be the shepherd of my people Israel.' " —(Micah 5:2) 7 Then Herod called for the Wise Men secretly. He found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem. He said, "Go! Make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, bring me a report. Then I can go and worship him too." 9 After the Wise Men had listened to the king, they went on their way. The star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. 11 The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, incense and myrrh. 12 But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road.

13 When the Wise Men had left, Joseph had a dream. In the dream an angel of the Lord appeared to him. "Get up!" the angel said. "Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you to come back. Herod is going to search for the child. He wants to kill him." Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus left for Egypt that very night.