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Graphic Designer

Some people love to do something creative and others battle to cope with that. For this reason we have tried to keep this Christmas display as simple as possible and we encourage all librarians and staff to try their hand at it.

The most important element is a lamp that needs to shine behind the figures. Hopefully all of you will find a desk lamp or one which can swivel to enable you to direct the light where you need it.

Items you will need

- ★ Transparent papers, for example, tissue paper, cellophane paper, which is completely transparent but tracing paper can be placed behind it to make it opaque and the colours are lovely. We have used handmade papers with texture which are transparent enough for the light to filter through.
- ★ A sharp NT cutter and cutting board (thick cardboard can also be used for cutting on).
- ★ An A3 size sheet of cardboard which is strong but fairly easy to cut. We used one side of a large cardboard box - freely available from any supermarket.
- ★ Green branches from any tree with deep green leaves. We used branches begged from a neighbour's yellow wood tree.
- ★ A large sheet of dark midnight blue paper for the sky. We have used a slightly crumpled tissue paper to create a more three-dimensional look.
- ★ Corrugated cardboard shaped into two curves to represent the mountain backdrop. (See photograph on facing page.)
- ★ Silver paper, tin foil or chocolate papers for the stars in the sky.
We have supplied templates of lettering, figures and stars, which can be enlarged to A3 size on a photocopier.

Putting it all together

Once enlarged, cut out the centres in all the sections of the mother and child. You now have a template which you can trace onto thick cardboard - if the cardboard is too thin it will collapse. Please note the area between the double lines will be the cardboard and the papers will be pasted into the different gaps. (See photograph.)

When the figures have been carefully cut out, use this cutout as a template to trace the shapes lightly in pencil onto your various choices of transparent paper. However, make sure you cut an overlap of 3 or 4 mm to allow them to be glued with glue-stick to the back

O Holy night... a Nativity scene

of the cardboard cutout. Handle this with great care as the cardboard bends easily and is fragile.

The lettering looks dramatic in white on the dark blue sky. Enlarge our template to your choice of size and cut out with a cutting knife. Placing the lettering in a curved shape allows it to flow into the display. To

achieve this, make sure all your letters are placed in the circular position and then stick them down with small bits of Prestik on the back which allows adjusting if necessary.

Star templates can be enlarged and cut out. Glue them to the wrong side of the shiny papers and cut again along the lines. These can be randomly scattered in the sky and attached with small bits of Prestik.

Finally, the leaves must be placed in water, if possible, as they need to last for a while. We used glass jars which should be disguised as best as possible.

Select a few interesting small rocks and some straw or wood shavings to scatter in the foreground.

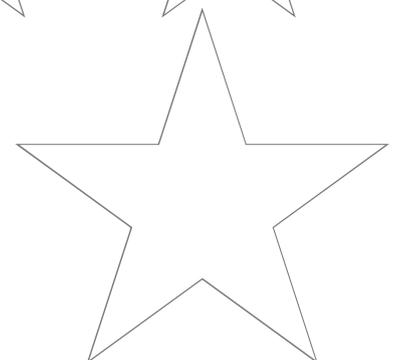
Hopefully you will all meet the challenge offered in this display. Please feel free to contact us for any queries or advice needed.

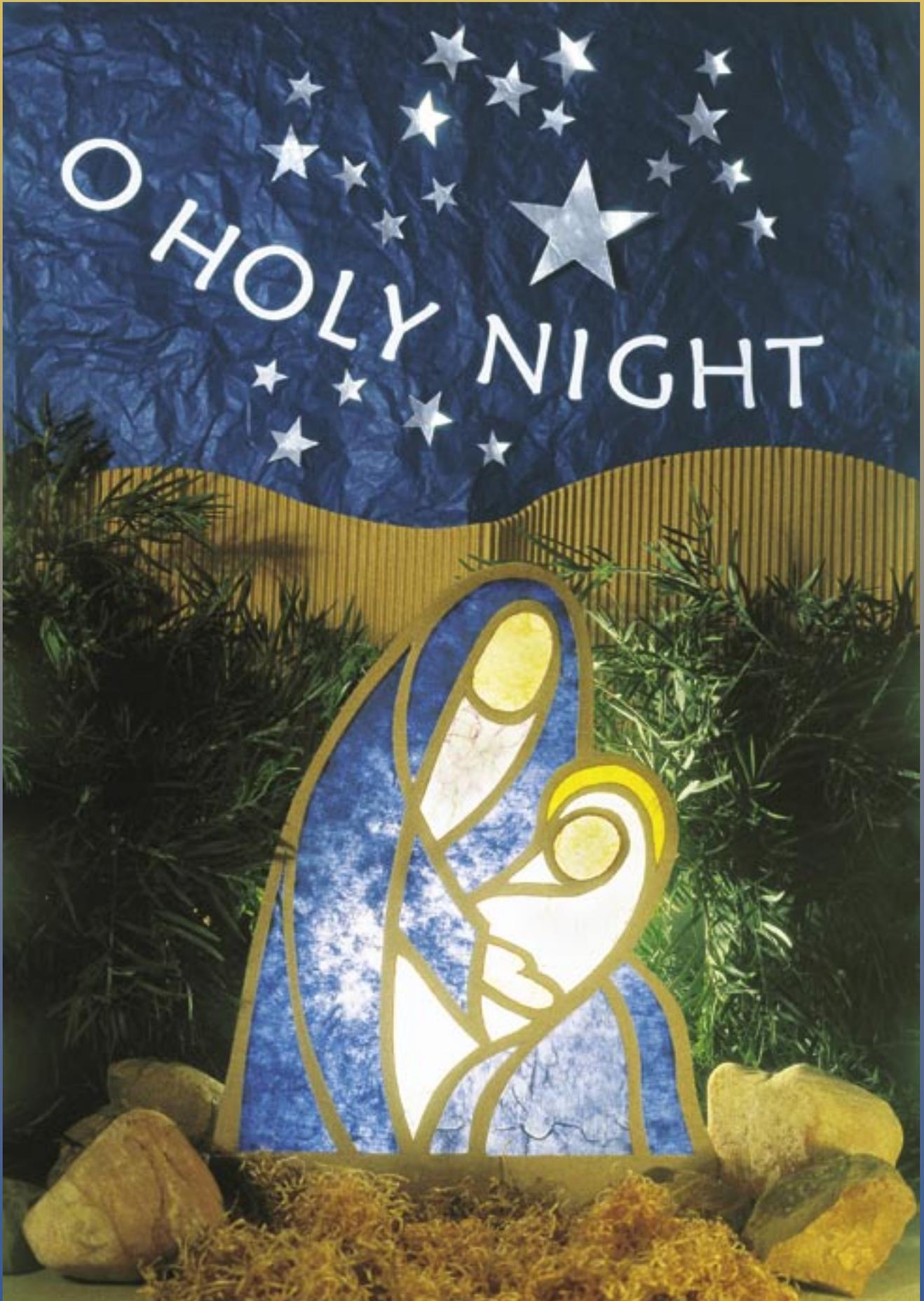
May the spirit of Christmas be alive and visible in your libraries this year.



Templates to be enlarged on photocopier

Please see large template of mother and child on page 29





Template for display article
on page 42

