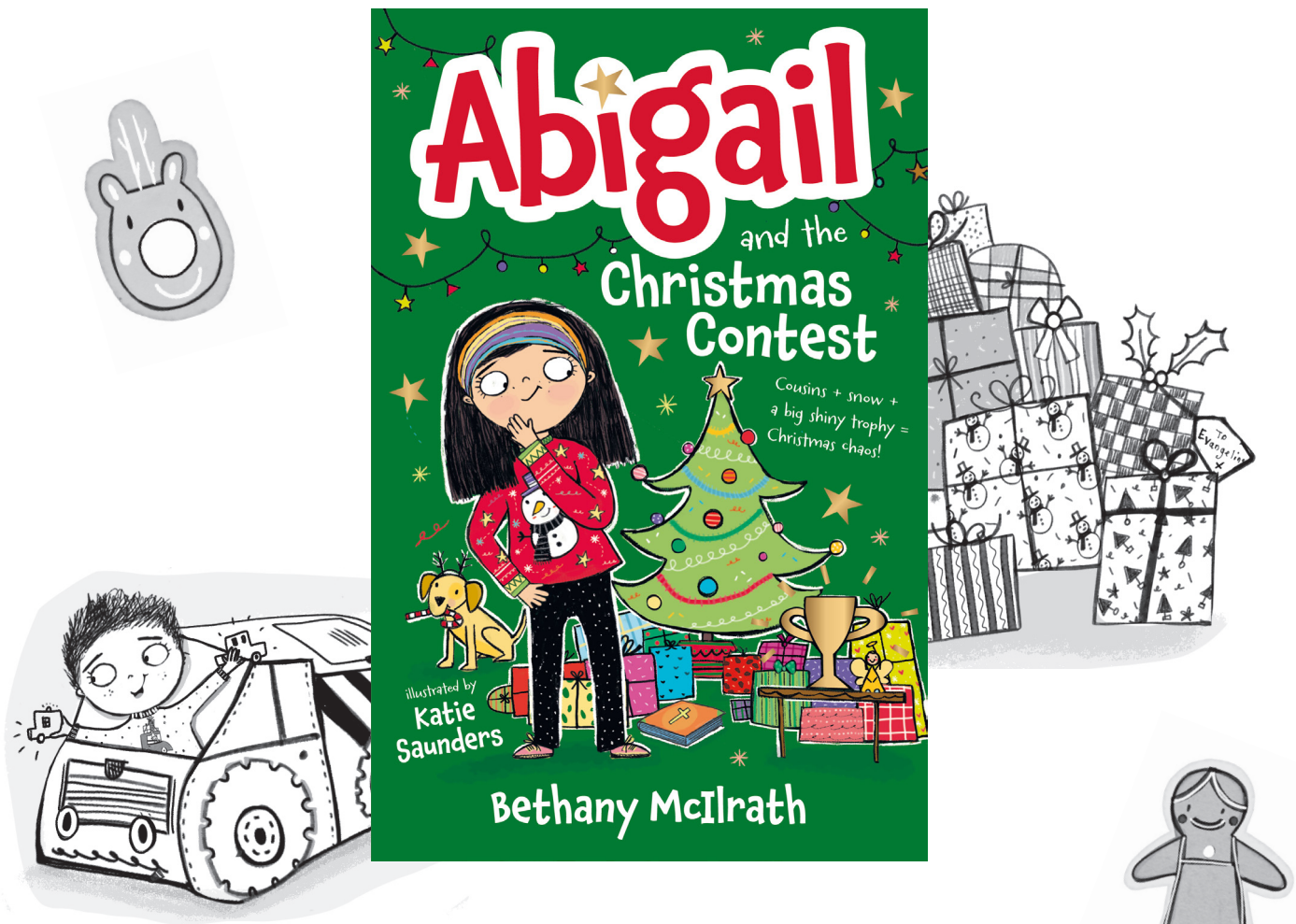




The Christmas Contest Party Pack

In *Abigail and the Christmas Contest*, Abigail plans lots of fun activities to do with her brother and cousin. Bring the story to life with your very own Christmas Contest for family and friends! This party pack includes:

- Creating a Contest Scoreboard
- A Printable Christmas Contest Trophy
- Candy Cane Fishing Game
- Make Your Own Wrapping Paper
- Pin the Sheep in the Nativity
- Snowball Scooping Game
- Christmas Tree Ball Toss



Creating a Contest Scoreboard

If you're going to play a bunch of games and add up points to decide the winner of your contest, you'll need a scoreboard. You can either make one using the directions below, or you can print the one below.

To make your board:

1. Grab a posterboard, chalkboard, piece of paper, or something else to write on.
2. Divide up your board or paper into columns. This means a bunch of vertical strips side-by-side. You need one strip for every person who is part of your contest, plus an extra one.
3. Add a horizontal line that goes all the way across your poster from left to right, near the top. Now you've made a row! A row is a bunch of boxes going side-to-side, like this:

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4. Leave the first box blank, then write the names of the people playing in each box, like this:

	Abigail	Henry	Evangeline
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5. Now it's time to add more rows. You need one row for every game you want to include in your contest, plus an extra one at the bottom. It should look like this:

	Abigail	Henry	Evangeline

6. Now it's time to add more rows. You need one row for every game you want to include in your contest, plus an extra one at the bottom. It should look like this:

	Abigail	Henry	Evangeline
Candy Cane Fishing			
Wrapping Paper Challenge			
Gingerbread Hunt			
Total Score			

7. When you play your games, put the points under the person's name, in the row for that game. Here's an example:

	Abigail	Henry	Evangeline
Candy Cane Fishing	2	1	2

8. Now it's time to add more rows. You need one row for every game you want to include in your contest, plus an extra one at the bottom. It should look like this:

	Abigail	Henry	Evangeline
Candy Cane Fishing	2	1	2
Wrapping Paper Challenge	1	1	1
Gingerbread Hunt	3	1	2
Total Score	6	3	5

The Coolest Christmas Cousin Contest Ever!



Wellers

Candy Cane fishing

Wrapping Paper Challenge

Gingerbread Hunt

pin the Sheep in the Nativity

Red Cup Mittens face

Christmas Tree Ball Toss

Totals

and the winner is:







Candy Cane Fishing Game

Try the candy cane fishing game that Abigail, Evangeline, and Henry played. Don't worry if your candy cane "fishing pole" breaks like Abigail's did—just start over with a new one!

1. Fill a bucket or bowl with candy canes.
2. Pick one person to set a timer for 2 minutes.
3. Choose another person to go fishing first.
4. Give that person a candy cane.
This is their fishing pole!
5. That person should gently bite down on the straight end of the candy cane and put their hands behind their back.
6. When the person using the timer says "go" and starts the timer, the candy cane fisher tries to use their "fishing pole" to pick candy canes up out of the bucket or bowl and drop them on the floor or table.
7. Once the timer goes off, the fisher gets to eat the candy cane they used as their fishing pole.
8. Count up how many candy canes they fished. That's the number of points they get!
9. Now, swap who uses the timer and who goes fishing. Repeat steps 4 through 8 until everyone has had a turn to be the fisher.
10. Whoever has the most points wins!

What You'll Need:

- A bucket or bowl
- A bunch of candy canes
- A timer





Make Your Own Wrapping Paper

Pretty wrapping paper can be part of what makes a present special. Make your own custom wrapping paper for the presents you're giving to the people you love this Christmas!

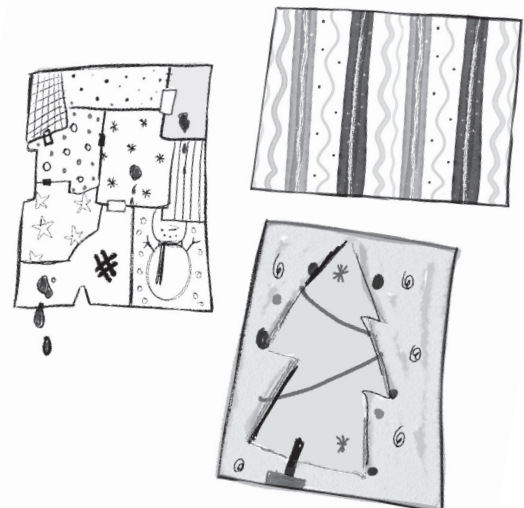
How to Make Your Wrapping Paper:

1. If you don't have a big sheet of flexible paper, start by taping regular sheets of paper together along the edges so that you have created one giant sheet of paper.
2. Spread your big sheet of paper out on a table or the floor.
3. Dream up your design. Will it have stripes? Polka dots? Lots of little Christmas trees? Will you use just a couple of colors, or loads of them? If you're making the wrapping paper for one particular person, what kind of design do you think they would like best?
4. Use your decorative items to draw or stick on to your giant sheet of paper. Here's a hint: your paper WILL get wrapped around a present, so not of all it will be seen at one time. Making your design the size of your hand and then repeating it over and over will look the most like regular wrapping paper.
5. Once you're all done, give your work some time to dry.
6. Wrap away! Have fun giving your specially wrapping present away!

What You'll Need:

- One big sheet of flexible paper, like parchment, butcher, or craft paper. Or lots of regular paper you'll tape together.
- Tape or glue.

- Things to decorate your wrapping paper with, (old cut-up magazines, colorful construction paper, stickers, markers, colored pencils, or crayons, glitter)





Christmas Tree Ball Toss

Play the final game of Abigail's Christmas contest! You will throw toy balls through the holes in your own cardboard Christmas tree. The balls will land in a basket behind the tree. The player with the most balls in their basket wins!

How to Play:

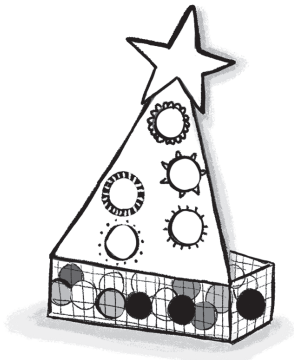
1. Set up your tree! Each player gets their own cardboard Christmas tree. Stand it up and tape or lean it against the box or basket behind it so it won't fall over.
2. Give each player an equal number of toy balls—or just put a pile of balls in the middle for everyone to grab from.
3. Stand a few feet away from your tree. When someone says “Go!”, everyone starts tossing their balls, one at a time, trying to get them through the holes in their tree and into their basket.
4. When all of the balls are gone, count up how many are in each person's basket or box. The player with the most balls in their basket is the winner!

Extra Fun Ideas:

- Make each hole a different size to make some harder than others.
- Decorate your cardboard tree with stickers or markers before you play!
- Play music and do a silly dance every time someone scores!

What You'll Need:

- 1 cardboard Christmas tree with 3 holes cut out per player. (It's extra fun if each player makes their own tree before playing this game!)
- 1 basket (or box) per player (to catch the balls behind the tree)
- Small toy balls (like ping pong balls, soft foam balls, or jingle balls)
- Tape (or something else to connect the trees to their baskets or boxes so that they stand up straight)
- A big open space for throwing the balls through each tree's holes





How to Make a Few Favorites Lists

Making lists of your favorite things can be a lot of fun, and it's also a really good way to remember that God gives you wonderful gifts and takes great care of you.

Here are a few ideas of the types of "favorites" lists you might make:

- Favorite animals
- Favorite memories with family (or friends)
- Favorite Bible verses
- Favorite Christmas traditions
- Favorite games (or books, or songs)
- Favorite things about your church (or school, or neighborhood)



Here are a few ideas of the types of "favorites" lists you might make:

- Picking your top 10 or so favorites
- Ranking your favorites in order
- Seeing how many you can think of
- Keeping a list that you add to over time

To make your list:

1. Pick a place to write down your list of favorites, like a chalkboard or a piece of paper.
2. Put the title at the top, writing your name and then the type of favorites list it will be.
3. Write down "#1," then your first favorite.
4. Keep writing down numbers and more favorites!
5. Thank God for giving you so much joy and so much to be grateful for!

Want to make a game out of your favorites list?

Ask at least two other people to make their own favorite list and then give each person a point for every favorite they wrote down that you also wrote down. Whoever has the most points (and most favorites in common with you) wins.



Pin the Sheep in the Nativity

Have you ever played “Pin the Tail on the Donkey”? This game is almost exactly the same, except you’re trying to place a sheep next to the shepherds who came to visit Jesus when he was born!

How to Play:

1. If you are drawing your game, start by drawing a big picture of the nativity. You’ll want to include:
 - A barn or stable
 - An animal feeding trough with baby Jesus in it
 - Mary
 - Joseph
 - Some other animals in the barn
 - A shepherd or two
 - A couple of sheep by the shepherds

What You’ll Need:

- A sheet of paper to draw a picture of the nativity on (or a printed picture of the nativity)
- Paper and pens to draw sheep
- Scissors
- Tape
- Something to use as a blindfold

2. Draw some sheep on a different piece of paper. Draw as many sheep as the number of people who will play your game. Cut each sheep out.
3. Hang your nativity drawing or printed nativity picture on a wall.
4. Wrap a piece of tape around your finger with the sticky side out to make a ring. Slide the tape ring off your finger and stick it onto the back of a sheep cutout.
5. Pick one person to be “it.”
6. Put the blindfold over their eyes and hand them the sheep with the sticky tape on the back.
7. Spin the “it” person around three times.
8. Whoever is it should try to find the picture on the wall and stick the sheep as close to the shepherds as they can (without peeking!).
9. Repeat steps 4-8 until everyone has had a turn to try sticking their sheep close to the shepherds.
10. Whoever’s sheep is closest to the shepherd wins!





Snowball Scooping Game

Use cup-covered hands to scoop the most cotton balls into your bowl—just like Abigail, Evangeline, and Henry did in their game! The one with the most cotton balls in their bowl wins!

How to Play:

1. Get ready! Place the cotton balls in the middle of the table or play area. Put each player's bowl a short distance away from them.
2. Suit up! Put one red plastic cup on each hand upside down, so the open part is over your hand like a mitten. No fingers allowed—keep your hands inside the cups!
3. Start scooping! Once the timer starts, everyone must try to scoop up cotton balls using only their cup hands and carry them to their bowl. You cannot use your arms or body to help—just your cup hands.
4. Once the time's up, each player counts how many cotton balls they got in their bowl. The player with the most cotton balls wins!

What You'll Need:

- 2 red plastic cups per player
- A big pile of white cotton balls
- 1 small bowl per player
- A timer or stopwatch set for 2 minutes
- A large, clean playing area (like a table or floor)

Tips for More Fun:

- Play in teams and race relay-style!
- Add silly music to make it extra funny.
- Try it blindfolded (with a buddy to guide you)!





Put On Your Own Christmas Play

Ready to act out the true story of Christmas, like Abigail, Evangeline, and Henry did?

Get ready first:

Read Luke 2:1-20 from the Bible together and talk through the following questions.

- Where in your space will you pretend the inn is, and the fields, and the stable?
- What props will you need? Maybe something to be a manger, or stuffed animals to be the shepherds' sheep?
- Do you want to create costumes?
- Will you just act it out for fun yourselves, or invite an audience to watch you? (Parents and grandparents often love to be the audience!)

What You'll Need:

- A Bible
- 5 or more people for your play:
- A narrator (the person who reads the story), Joseph, Mary, Shepherd(s), Angel(s)
- A doll to be baby Jesus

Put on your play:

- Actors should stand in their places—for example, the shepherds stand in the place you've picked for the fields.
- The narrator should read Luke 2:1-20 slowly and clearly, pausing between sentences to let the actors act it out.
- Actors, act it out!
- When you finish your play, sing a Christmas carol or simply pray. Thank Jesus that this story is true—he really did come to save us!

