"CHRISTMAS" Store Window Play/Musical

Adapted from "A Christmas Window" at http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/dovecot/Pages/ChristmasIdeas.htm)

ENTRANCE: Carolers approach stage with "Carol of the Bells" playing and take their place stage right. SET: Main - "CHRISTMAS" Store Window Scene. Two children walk along and stop at the store window, reading the word "Christmas."







SET: Stage right - Christmas Carolers, Bible Story Narrator

SET: Baptismal - Manger Scene (possibly hidden behind curtains until optional "What Child Is This?")

(Child 1) Ahh...Christmas, what a great time of year! I just love everything about Christmas. It means so much to me. What does Christmas mean to you?

(Child 2) Well, the *C* stands for *cookies*, and *cocoa* that's hot.

And the *H* stands for *holly* - right now, we see that a lot. *R* stands for *Rudolph* who has a red nose,
and pulls Santa's sleigh, wherever he goes.

(Child 1 and 2 remove the letters to reveal secular Christmas traditions.)

All children sing "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer"

(Child 1) Hmmm... the *I* could stand for... *icicle* lights.

Each year we drive 'round, looking at lights.

And *S* stands for *stocking*. Boy, I hope mine's packed tight!

(Child 2) Let's see, T... T stands for Tree. I just love decorating the Christmas Tree!

All children sing "O, Christmas Tree"

(Child 1) The *M* stands for *malls*, where we do all of our shopping. *A* stands for the *advertisements*, so we can go store-hopping.

(Child 2) Yeah - Look at these catalogs - this one's from Bass Pro.

And the S, well it stands for Santa - He's the star of the show!

All Children sing "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"

SET: Child 1 and 2 just stand looking at the Christmas Window with looks of disappointment, wondering if that's all there is to Christmas. Another child, who has been listening to the conversation, approaches the scene.

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(Child 3) What are you doing?

(Child 1) We were just talking about what Christmas means to us. But, is this all it really means? I mean, why do we do all of this?

(Child 3) Well, those things are all great, but there's something you've missed.

The true Christmas story goes something like this:

C is for Census, which was ordered by Rome.

It caused all the people to travel back home.

<u>Bible Reading of Luke 2:1,3.</u> And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

(Child 3) This *H* stands for *hard* journey, a 90-mile hike, through mountains and hills - all without a bike.

A couple named Mary and Joseph traveled this road, to a place called Bethlehem, there the story unfolds.

(Child 3 removes the secular pictures to reveal Christian/Biblical truths.)

All Children sing "O little town of Bethlehem"

(Child 3) R and I stand for room at the inn - for there were no rooms left in town.

So as the couple prepared for a baby, they took shelter in a stable they'd found.

<u>Bible Reading of Luke 2:4-7.</u> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

All Children sing "Away in a Manger"

(Child 3) The S stands for Shepherds, who were the first to receive a message of great joy in which to believe.

<u>Bible Reading of Luke 2: 8-14.</u> And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

All children sing "The First Noel"

(Child 3) T stands for Treasures, and M stands for Magi, who were wise men.

They brought gifts from afar and came to worship him.

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<u>Bible Reading of Matthew 2: 1,2,9-11.</u> Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. ...and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

All Children sing "We Three Kings"

(Child 3) The A stands for Angels, the messengers of joy, who told of the birth of this precious baby boy.

(All children sing "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

(Child 3) The last letter remains, to teach us the meaning.

Of all this gift-giving and beautiful singing

That S stands for Savior - the Lord Jesus Christ,

who brought salvation to all, paying such a great price.

<u>Bible Reading of Isaiah 9:6:</u> For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Optional: As scene shifts to manger scene, flute (or other instrument) plays "What Child Is This?"

All children sing, "O Holy Night" (Approaching manger scene. With music.)