

# Catch the Sheep

## Materials

- White and black balloons
- One large box or a circle of chairs for each team for the sheep pens
- Timer

## Instructions

*Inflate balloons and spread them around one end of the room. Divide students into teams and have them line up across from the balloons on the opposite end of the room. Set a box or make a circle of chairs near each team's starting position. Explain that the students will pretend to be shepherds trying to catch their sheep (balloons) and put them into the sheep pen (box or a circle of chairs). Assign balloon/sheep colors to each team (black or white). Then explain one of the options below to play.*

*Relay option: When you say go, the first students at the front of each line will run to the balloons, grab as many of their color as they can carry and run back to put them into their team's sheep pen then get back in line. Continue until each student has had a turn then count how many balloons each team has in their sheep pen to determine a winner.*

*Non-relay option: Spread the balloons out on the floor. When you set the timer (3–5 minutes) and say go, have all the students pick up balloons at the same time and run them to their team's sheep pen until time is up. Count how many balloons each team has in their sheep pen to determine a winner.*

## Suggested Discussion

- ? What do shepherds do? *Allow discussion.*

Shepherds take care of sheep. It can be a really dirty, stinky job to care for sheep. It might even be pretty boring to watch over of them every day and night. But not on the night Jesus was born!

- ? What happened that night? Who appeared to the shepherds? *Angels.*

Right! The shepherds were out in the fields near Bethlehem when the angels appeared to them that night.

- ? What was the message the angel gave the shepherds? *The Savior was born. He would be wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. He was in Bethlehem.*

The shepherds were so excited. They raced to Bethlehem where they found baby Jesus lying in a manger—just like the angel had said! They were so joyful, they went out and told other people the great news.