O Little Town of Bethlehem

🎵 sing along



1 **Listen and sing.**

VERSE 1

O little town of Bethlehem,
How **still** we see *thee* lie!
Above *thy* deep and **dreamless** sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in *thy* dark streets *shineth*
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in *thee* tonight.

VERSE 2

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.

VERSE 3

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous **gift** is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessing of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where **meek** souls will receive Him, **still**
The dear Christ enters in.

2 **Look at these words from the song.**

🤫
still
The town is still at night.

💤
dreamless
I had a dreamless sleep.

🎁
gift
It is a wonderful gift.

🙇
meek
A meek person is quiet and kind.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

✏️ listen and write: easy

1 Listen and fill in the song. Use the words in the box.

Bethlehem | hopes | light | little | sleep | stars | streets | tonight

VERSE 1

O _____ town of _____,

How still we see *thee* lie!

Above *thy* deep and dreamless _____

The silent _____ go by;

Yet in *thy* dark _____ *shineth*

The everlasting _____;

The _____ and fears of all the years

Are met in *thee* _____.

2 Look and write.



It is a _____ town.



I can see the _____.



The baby can _____.



We are here _____.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

✏️ listen and write: harder

1 Listen and fill in the song.

VERSE 1

O little town of Bethlehem,

How _____ we see *thee* lie!

Above *thy* deep and _____ sleep

The _____ stars go by;

Yet in *thy* dark _____ *shineth*

The _____ Light;

The hopes and _____ of all the years

Are _____ in *thee* tonight.

VERSE 2

For Christ is _____ of Mary,

And gathered all above,

While _____ sleep, the _____ keep

Their watch of _____ love.

O _____ stars, together

Proclaim the _____ birth!

And _____ sing to God the King,

And _____ to men on earth.

2 The song and today's English. Match.

IN THE SONG

1	How still we see thee lie	☐
2	shineth	☐
3	While mortals sleep	☐
4	Are met in thee	☐
5	Proclaim the holy birth	☐

TODAY

A	while people are sleeping
B	They come together in you.
C	Tell everyone about the birth.
D	You are so quiet.
E	It shines.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

💬 from the song to real life

1 Read. Cover one side and say the other.

✋ COVER AND REMEMBER

IN THE SONG		YOU CAN SAY TODAY
1	 How still	The whole town is still at night.
2	 dreamless sleep	I had a sleepless night.
3	 The hopes and fears	What are your hopes for next year?
4	 The wondrous gift	That was such a wonderful gift.
5	 No ear may hear	I can't hear you. Say it again, please.

2 And you? Write two true sentences.

At night my town is … . My hope for next year is … .

O Little Town of Bethlehem

📖 the story behind the song

1 Read the story of this song.

Phillips Brooks, an American pastor, visited Bethlehem in **1865**. Three years later he wrote these words for the children in his Sunday school in Philadelphia.

His organist, **Lewis Redner**, wrote the music. In Britain, people often sing it to a different tune, **Forest Green**.

2 Who is in the song? Read and say.



Mary

Mary is the mother of Jesus.



Jesus

Jesus is the baby in the manger.



the angels

The angels bring good news.



the little town

Bethlehem is a little town.

3 From the Bible. Read, then read the simple version.

🕯️ MATTHEW 2:6 (KING JAMES VERSION)

"And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda"

In simple words: Bethlehem is small, but it is very important.

4 Fill in the sentences.

1 Phillips Brooks visited _____.

2 He wrote it for _____.

3 Lewis Redner wrote the _____.

4 Bethlehem is small, but _____.