Once in Royal David's City

🎵 sing along



1 Listen and sing.

VERSE 1

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly **cattle shed**,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

VERSE 2

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His **shelter** was a **stable**,
And His **cradle** was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

2 Look at these words from the song.



cattle shed

The cows are in the cattle shed.



stable

The horses are in the stable.



cradle

The baby sleeps in a cradle.



shelter

We found shelter from the rain.

Once in Royal David's City

✏️ listen and write: easy



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

baby | bed | child | city | Mary | mother | shed

VERSE 1

Once in royal David's _____

Stood a lowly cattle _____,

Where a _____ laid her _____

In a manger for His _____:

_____ was that mother mild,

Jesus Christ her little _____.

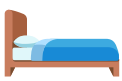
2 Look and write.



She is my _____.



The _____ is small.



It is time for _____.



It is a big _____.

Once in Royal David's City

✏️ listen and write: harder



1 Listen and fill in the song.

VERSE 1

Once in _____ David's city

Stood a _____ cattle shed,

Where a mother _____ her baby

In a _____ for His bed:

Mary was that mother _____,

Jesus Christ her little Child.

VERSE 2

He came down to _____ from _____,

Who is God and Lord of all,

And His _____ was a _____,

And His _____ was a stall;

With the _____, and mean, and lowly,

Lived on earth our _____ holy.

2 The song and today's English. Match.

IN THE SONG

1	Once	☐
2	Stood a lowly cattle shed	☐
3	that mother mild	☐
4	His cradle was a stall	☐
5	Lived on earth	☐

TODAY

A	that gentle mother
B	He lived on earth.
C	His bed was in a stable.
D	There was a small building for cows.
E	a long time ago

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💬 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	📖 Once in royal	Once upon a time, there was a little town.
2	🛠️ a lowly cattle shed	Our tools are in the shed.
3	🛏️ a mother laid her baby	She put the baby in his bed.
4	🐴 His shelter was a stable	The horses are in the stable.
5	🤱 that mother mild	She is a very kind mother.

2 And you? Write two true sentences.

Once upon a time, … . My bed is … .

Once in Royal David's City

📖 the story behind the song



1 Read the story of this song.

Cecil Frances Alexander wrote this hymn and published it in **1848** in a book of hymns for children. **Henry Gauntlett** wrote the music a year later.

Since **1919**, it has opened the famous Christmas Eve service at King's College in Cambridge. One boy sings the first verse alone.

2 Who is in the song? Read and say.

👩	🧔	👶	🏘️
Mary	**Joseph**	**Jesus**	**David's city**
Mary is the mother of Jesus.	Joseph is the husband of Mary.	Jesus is the baby in the manger.	David's city is Bethlehem.

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

🕯️ LUKE 2:4 (KING JAMES VERSION)

"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem"

In simple words: Joseph went from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the city of David.

4 Fill in the sentences.

1 The hymn was written for _____.

2 It opens a service in _____.

3 One _____ sings the first verse alone.

4 Joseph went to _____.