

# THE MIRACLE MAKER

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES FOR THE MIRACLE MAKER (1)

Cinema-going students and their teachers, from year 3 upwards have found The Miracle Maker a stimulating and moving encounter with the Christian story. Now your school has the opportunity to experience the film time and again through the video release.

Teachers can use the ideas and activities that follow as a starting point, tailoring them to the needs of their students. Ideas are grouped into approximate age groups, but this is for guidance only and most can be adapted to suit other Key Stages.

It is important to prepare students before showing the film. They should feel that it is something that they will enjoy, but also be aware that there is a serious side and that it interprets a story that is sacred to nearly two billion people worldwide. As well as being suitable for RE teaching, many of these ideas can be adapted for use in English, the Literacy Hour and Media Studies for Key Stages 2 to 5.

### LIGHTS...CAMERA...

#### Introducing the film

1. Encourage students to think about their own images of Jesus. They might like to look in books, think about films they have seen and use their own imagination. You could make a display and use it for comparison and contrast after the film. (KS 3-4)
2. What do they expect Jesus to be like in this film? Ask them to make or draw their own designs for an "animated Jesus". (KS 2-3)
3. Think of three words or phrases, which describe your view of Jesus as a person. Try this again after seeing the film and compare your ideas. (KS 2)
4. Find out about the world in which Jesus grew up – the politics, the religion and his home area and daily life. (KS 2, 3, 4)
5. What would you like to know about Jesus? Write down three questions and see if you can find answers when you see the film. (KS 2-3)
6. What do you know about the Bible's account of Jesus' life? List any incidents you can remember and any stories Jesus told. Compare your list with others and compile a class list. Check this when you have seen the film to see what you left out, and what the film did not include. (KS 2-3)
7. If you were the screenplay writer, which events from Jesus life would you want to include in a film about Jesus? Why? (KS 3-4)
8. What attracted people to follow Jesus (and still does)? How did (do) they see him as special? (KS 3-4)

