

A decorative banner with a light brown, textured background, featuring the text "THE LONGEST WAIT" in a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters. The banner is set against a white background with scattered green stars of various sizes. The text is arranged in three lines: "THE" in uppercase, "LONGEST" in a mix of uppercase and lowercase, and "WAIT" in uppercase.

THE
LONGEST
WAIT



TAKING IT FURTHER

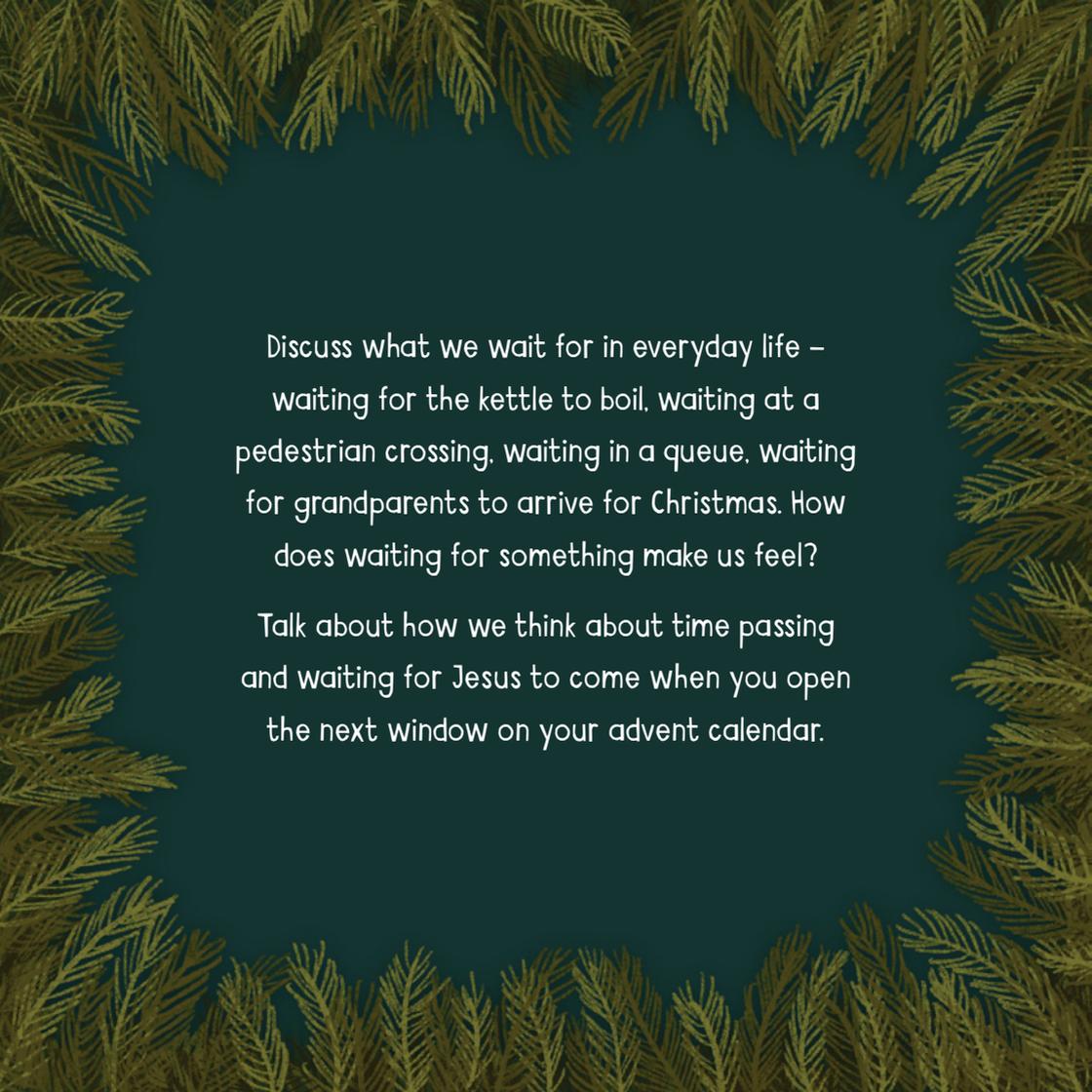
If you'd like to read the stories about Jesus that are mentioned in this poem, then you can look them up in the Bible. You can find Mary and Joseph in Luke 1:26–38. You can read about Anna and Simeon in Luke 2:25–38. Romans 8:19–22 tells you about the whole earth waiting for a better time. You can find the first Christmas day in Luke 2:4–20.



TALKING...

You can discuss the themes raised in the story with your children to reinforce their learning to help them think about the birth of Jesus. Here are some ideas ...

Talk about waiting for them to be born. Tell them how you prepared for their arrival and how you felt. Why not get out their ultrasound pictures and baby book?



Discuss what we wait for in everyday life – waiting for the kettle to boil, waiting at a pedestrian crossing, waiting in a queue, waiting for grandparents to arrive for Christmas. How does waiting for something make us feel?

Talk about how we think about time passing and waiting for Jesus to come when you open the next window on your advent calendar.



PLAYING

If you're feeling creative, why not continue to explore the Christmas story through play. While you play you can remind your child of the characters in the story and how they waited for Jesus to be born.

Play any game with a timer, for example hide and seek or musical statues.

Bake something delicious and wait for it to cook.

Send yourself a Christmas card and wait for it to arrive.