

TEACHER
RESOURCE

UNIT 2

From Jacob to the 12 Spies

LEVEL TWO

SON SEEKERS

.COM.AU

AGES 6-7

Jacob wrestles with
the Angel



LET MY
PEOPLE
GO!



Name: _____

Joshua and Caleb

Spying out the land...



Teacher Resource

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Teaching Sonseekers ...

Dear Teacher

Teaching young people about God's Word is a great honour and privilege. We note God chose Abraham, a man of faith because he "would teach his children and his household after him, to know the Way of The Lord" (Gen 18:19)

One who undertakes such a task will understand they have accepted a responsibility to become a witness of God's great love and faithfulness. As an example of Christian faith and integrity they have a wonderful opportunity to share their love for God's Word. The tremendous blessing for those who commit themselves to this task is that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip you to shine as a light to your class.

Recent trends away from Sunday School structures towards child minding activities have, we believe, been unfortunate as they fail to recognise the impact and effect the message of God's love through Christ has on young people.

Children are the Church's future. As such they are precious and well worth any investment in quality resources and dedicated teachers.

The 'Sonseekers' curriculum offers children Sunday School material that gives them a sound background in Biblical events, people and places. Secondly it offers a pastoral approach for the children to know God is able to help them and change their lives.

Structurally, any program will operate effectively if those teaching are faithful, zealous and committed to a team approach that might include:

- regular prayer and discussion in relation to curriculum issues, student needs and upcoming events and presentations;
- organisation and management of resources;
- training and development needs of teaching staff.

Teaching Sunday School is a rich and rewarding task. May God bless and guide you as you serve in this way.

Yours in Christ

The Sonseekers Team

A teacher's guide to using the Sonseekers materials . . .

Timeline

4000BC	Creation Adam and Eve The Fall
2500BC	Noah The Flood Tower of Babel
2000BC	Abraham
1900BC	Isaac
1800BC	Esau and Jacob
1750BC	Joseph
1360BC	Moses
1280BC	Exodus from Egypt and Journeys
	Joshua
1240BC	Entry into and Conquest of Land
1220BC	Judges
1100BC	Gideon
1070BC	Samson
1063BC	Samuel
1020BC	Saul as King
980BC	David as King
940BC	Solomon as King
900BC	Kingdom Divided
839BC	Elijah Emerges; Mt Carmel Jehoshaphat
814BC	Elisha's Ministry
749BC	Jonah
662BC	Hezekiah; Isaiah
576BC	Josiah
540BC	Daniel taken to Babylon
527BC	Exile into Babylon
457BC	Restoration from Babylon
4BC	Birth of Jesus
26AD	Baptism of Jesus Call of Disciples
28AD	Feeding of 5000 Parables
29AD	Miracles; Transfiguration
30AD	Raising of Lazarus Parables Palm Sunday Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection Day of Pentecost Peter's Ministry
33AD	Conversion of Paul
45AD	Paul's Missionary Journeys
60AD	Paul as Prisoner to Rome

What are the Sonseekers materials?

The Sonseekers Sunday School materials are a four year course of 128 Bible lessons. The lessons are written with the twin aims of teaching the students an accurate chronology of Biblical events and also drawing from each lesson pastoral points relevant to the age and stage of each child. They are written at four levels to cover from Prep to 12+ age groups. The 128 lessons are organised into 8 units, each of sixteen lessons. The table below indicates the suitable age group for each level:

Sonseekers Level	Student Age	School Level
Level One	4 - 5	Kindergarten, Prep
Level Two	6 - 7	Lower Primary
Level Three	8 - 10	Middle Primary
Level Four	11 - 12+	Upper Primary

The Sonseekers materials comprise two related elements:

- **Teacher Resource** – including lesson plans & activity masters which can be photocopied;
- **Student Handbooks** – including homework activities;

There is also a Bible timeline showing chronology of major events, with the dates of the current unit's lessons highlighted, included in each Teacher Resource.

What's in my Sonseekers Level Two Teacher Resource?

Each Level Two Teacher Resource contains sixteen lesson plans for the relevant age of your students. Each lesson plan comprises:

- a summary of the Bible passage for the lesson;
- two alternative pastoral messages to be drawn out of each lesson; each pastoral message includes a theme, key thought, aim and a memory verse;
- a suggested teaching approach, which although only a guide, outlines a possible way of putting the lesson together;
- two alternative class activities - the first activity (A) is written in a more practical hands-on style and the second activity (B) is of a written nature.

Note: The photocopy masters for each activity are included with the lessons in the Teacher Resource.

.../cont'd

... teacher's guide ...

How do I best use my Teacher Resource?

The art of serving as an effective Sunday School teacher is linked to the degree of diligence in preparing for each lesson. The Sonseekers materials are only designed to assist the teacher in this process. They do not take away from the teacher his or her responsibility to prayerfully consider the needs of the children in the class and to seek God's revelation and wisdom in presenting each Bible lesson. The following suggestions are then made with regard to using this resource.

Prior to the lesson

- ◆ Prayerfully read the Bible passage for the lesson. The reference is provided in the header on the first page of the lesson plan. All Scripture references are taken from the New King James Version (1983 edition).
- ◆ Read through the lesson plan and decide which activities will be most appropriate for the students in your class. Generally, aim for a variety of activities over a unit.
- ◆ Think about how you will combine the various elements of your lesson. Refer to the suggested teaching approach for ideas if necessary. Link the activity to the story so that the significance of the activity is clear to the students.
- ◆ Prepare all activities thoroughly prior to the lesson. Rehearse any planned activity at home to make sure:
 - that you know how to do it yourself;
 - that you have all the relevant materials in the quantities you will need;
 - that you know the length of time that the children will need for the activity.

During the lesson

- ◆ Hear the students' memory verses from the previous lesson. Also check on the completion of the homework activity page.
- ◆ Make sure all students clearly indicate in their Student's Handbook which memory verse they are to learn.
- ◆ Revise the previous lesson before going on to a new story. You may like to use the timeline to help you do this.
- ◆ Encourage students to go over the story themselves during the week and to read ahead for the next lesson.

Publisher's note:

The publisher wishes to acknowledge the use of clip art from Coreldraw, Clickart, Bible View Clip Art by Pastoral Computer Services and Logos Bible Clips.

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Jacob becomes Israel

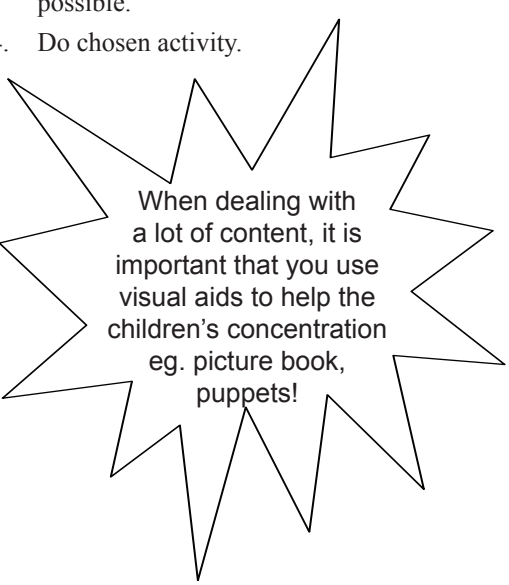
Genesis 32 & 33

Storyline

Jacob was returning to meet Esau. He heard that Esau was coming with 400 soldiers and was afraid. Jacob asked God to protect his family because he thought Esau may attack them. Jacob sent a gift to Esau to show his brother that he was coming in peace. That night Jacob wrestled with a Man (the Angel of the Lord), until morning. He would not let Him go until He blessed him. The Lord changed Jacob's name to Israel, which means 'a prince of God'. When the brothers met, Esau had forgiven Jacob and he welcomed him home.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Review the story of Jacob's life, pointing out what sort of person he was, and what he had become.
2. Tell chosen sections of the story using the help of simple finger puppets to bring the story to 'life'.
3. On a blackboard or large sheet of paper write words and draw pictures comparing Jacob's early character traits with the person God changed him to be. Also discuss his relationship with Esau and how God made their reconciliation possible.
4. Do chosen activity.



When dealing with a lot of content, it is important that you use visual aids to help the children's concentration eg. picture book, puppets!

Theme One

"The Lord can change us"

Jacob had been a liar and a cheat. However, God still loved him, and wanted to bless Jacob so that he would learn to trust God for everything he needed instead of getting what he wanted by cheating. God changed Jacob into an honest and upright man who was then able to love his brother.

Key Thought

God changes us to be who He has intended us to be if we are willing to put ourselves in His hands and allow Him to change us.

Aim

To encourage the children to trust their lives into the Lord's hands so He can change and teach them.

Memory Verse

"I show you a more excellent way." (1 Corinthians 12:31).

Theme Two

"Ask for forgiveness"

It is not good for people to hate one another as Esau and Jacob did. Jacob was afraid of Esau because he had cheated him. Jacob knew that he was responsible for Esau's anger. He went to meet his brother to apologise and make things right. It is important for us to say sorry and ask for forgiveness from others when we hurt them.

Key Thought

God forgives everyone who comes to Him and asks for forgiveness. He expects us to ask for forgiveness when we wrong others. He also expects us to forgive those who wrong us

Aim

To encourage the children to ask for forgiveness when they sin so that they can know the security and joy that comes with knowing they have been forgiven.

Memory Verse

"And forgive us our sins." (Luke 11:4).

Activity A - Rivers

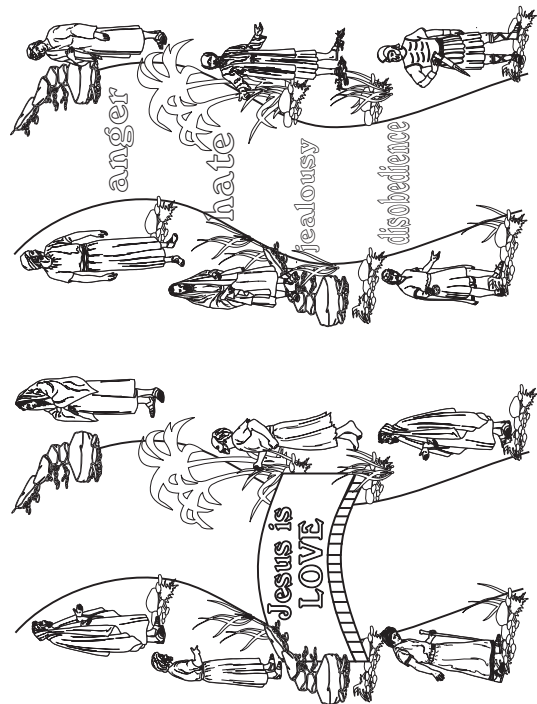
Materials

- 1 of each 2 Activity Sheets per child.
- Scissors.
- Glue.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

Steps

- The children cut out the rivers with the words on them.
- They then place these rivers over the top of the rivers on the other sheet, with the people on it.
- Glue them in place.
- Colour the picture.

Note: The thought with children is that as we know Jesus and His love, only then can our attitudes (eg. anger, hate, jealousy) be changed and we can show love.

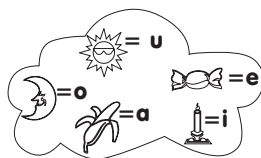


Activity B - Find the Missing Words

This is J a c o b.

He was a l i a r and a c h e a t.

G o d still loved him.



These children are Christians, but they have all made mistakes and have done wrong.



Does God still love them? yes yes/no
Have you ever done something wrong? _____ yes/no

If you are sorry and tell Jesus, He will
f o r g i v e y o u and h e l p y o u.

Materials

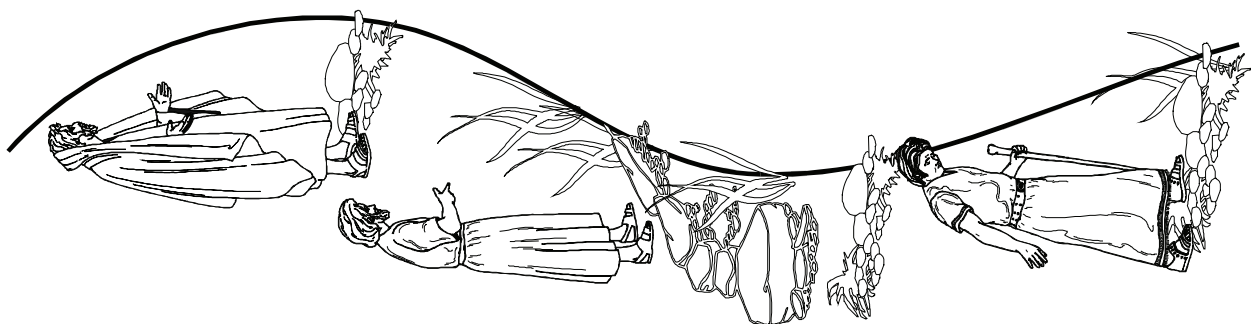
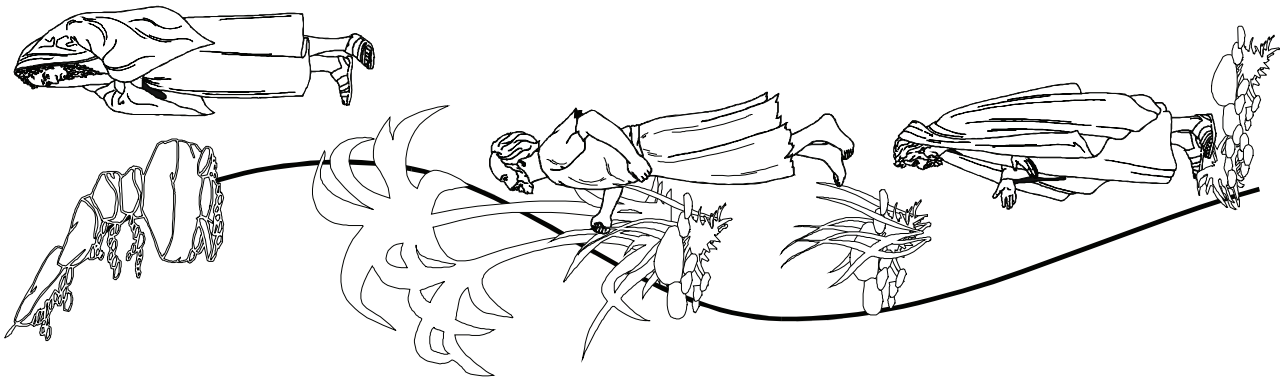
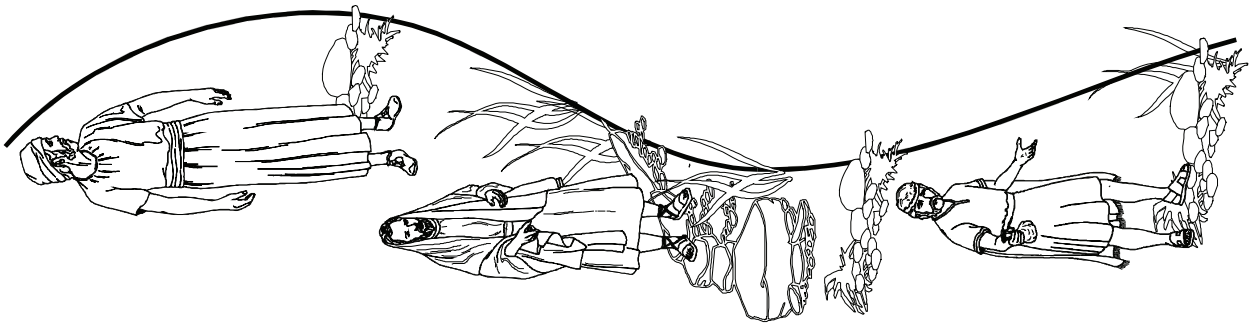
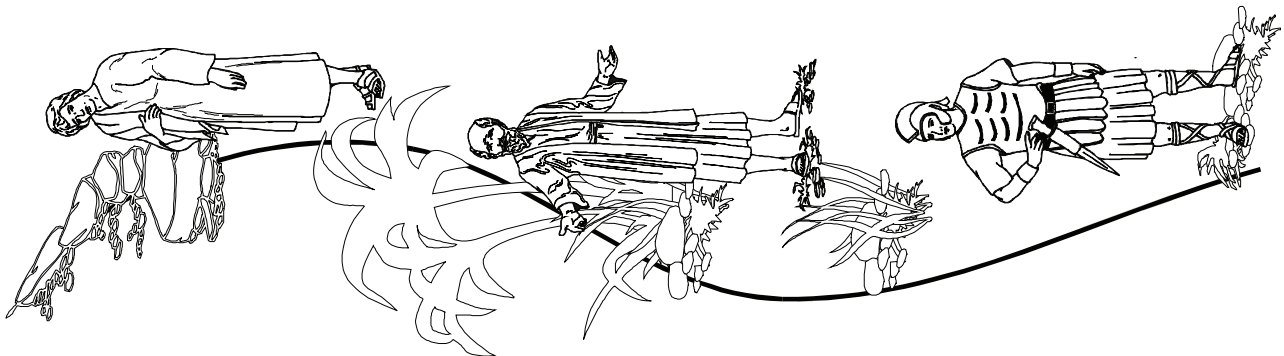
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/pens.
- Writing pencils.

Steps

- Have the missing words written on a blackboard or large sheet of paper in a random order.
- Explain that the children have to fill in the spaces with the missing letters.
- Read the whole words in the first line and discuss possible answers with the children.
- The children find the correct answer on the blackboard and write the missing letters onto the answer sheet.
- Continue in this way until the first section is completed.
- Discuss the second section, drawing the children's attention to the different ways we can fall into sin and need to ask for forgiveness.
- Complete the questions as above.
- Colour the drawings.
- On the back of the sheet the children can draw a picture of Esau and Jacob if time permits.

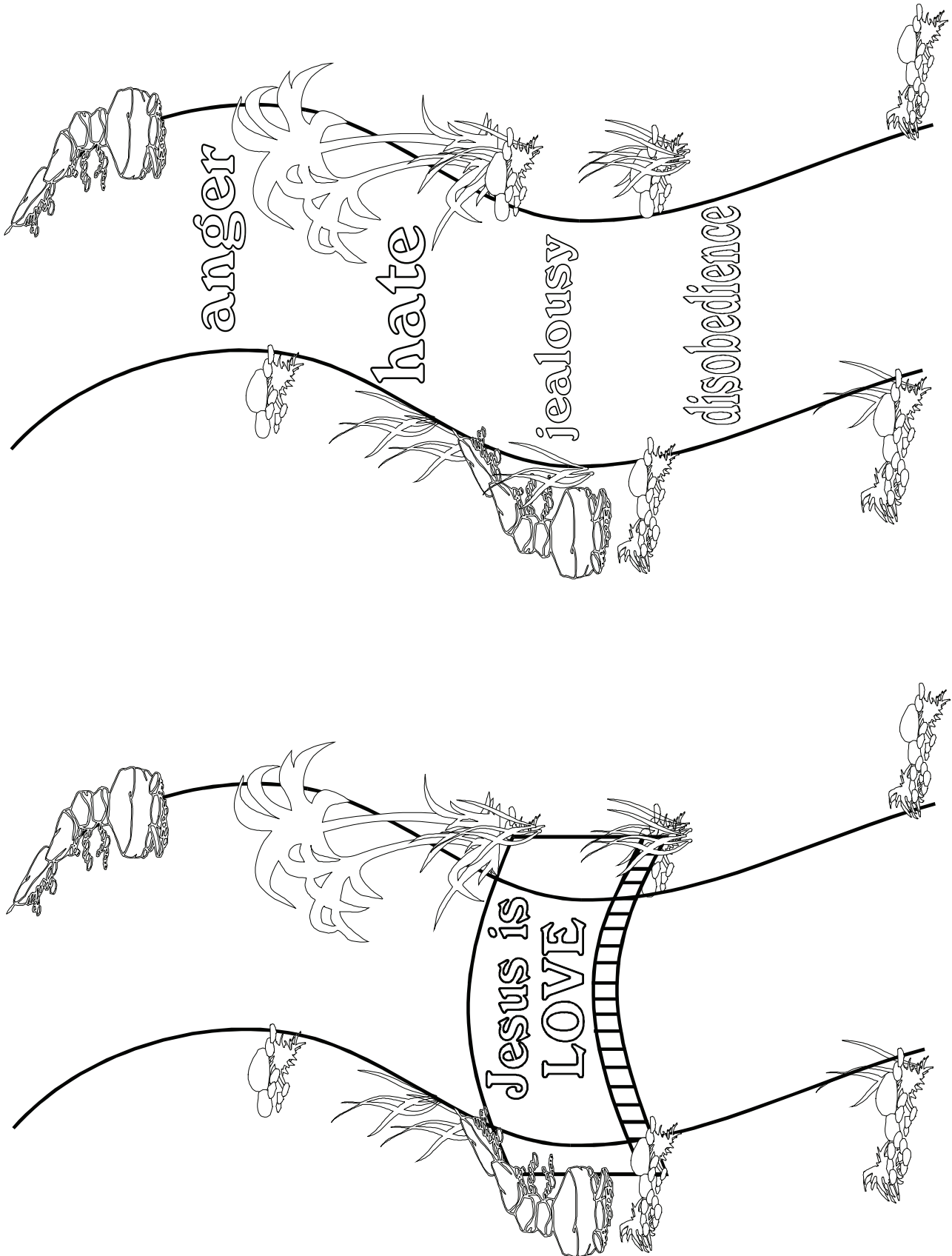
Jacob becomes Israel

Activity A - Rivers



Jacob becomes Israel

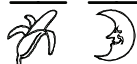
Activity A - Rivers



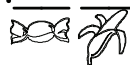
Jacob becomes Israel

Activity B - Find the Missing Words

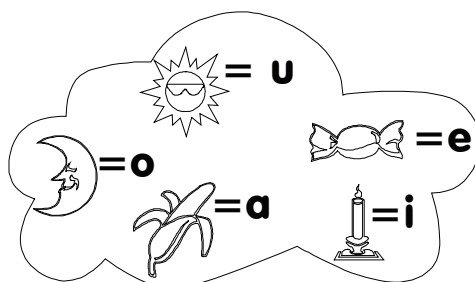
This is J _ _ c _ _ b.



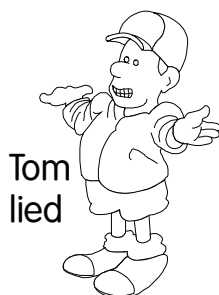
He was a l _ _ _ r and a ch _ _ _ t.



G _ _ d still loved him.



These children are Christians, but they have all made mistakes and have done wrong.



Tom
lied



Jane
disobeyed
mum and
dad



Ann
forgot
to pray



Bill
was
nasty

Does God still love them? _____ yes/no

Have you ever done something wrong? _____ yes/no

If you are sorry and tell Jesus, He will

f _ _ rg _ _ v _ _ y _ _ and h _ _ lp y _ _ .



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Joseph, the favourite son

Genesis 37:1-24

Storyline

Joseph was Jacob's favourite son because he had been born to him in his old age. When Joseph was seventeen, Jacob made him a beautiful coat. His ten older brothers were jealous and hated Joseph. Joseph had two dreams. In both dreams, Joseph was treated as an important person and his family seemed to bow down to him. His father kept the matter in mind, but his brothers hated him even more. One day, Joseph's brothers were away caring for the sheep. Jacob sent Joseph to see if they were alright. His brothers saw him coming and plotted to kill him, throw him into a well and tell their father he had been eaten by a wild animal. Reuben was the only one who did not want him hurt.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Tell the story. If the gluing activity has been chosen, do this early to allow the glue to dry in the sun before the coat is stapled. While waiting for the glue to dry, have a discussion about jealousy. Ask the children, if they have felt jealous of a brother or sister because their parents seemed to pay more attention to them or give them better presents. Have they been in a class where the teacher favoured one student over others? What did they do? How would they treat others if the teacher seemed to favour them? Relate this back to the chosen theme.

When discussing children's experiences, continue to highlight the thought that no matter what happens, God is only concerned with our heart attitude and whether we will trust Him.

Theme One

"Jealousy causes hatred and unhappiness"

The ten brothers were jealous because Joseph was their father's favourite. They could not say one kind word to Joseph. They hated him so much, they wanted to kill him. It is important that we do not allow ourselves to become jealous of our brothers or sisters or friends, even if things don't seem fair. Jealousy can lead us into further sin. With God's help, we can love others even when things appear to be unfair. God is not interested in what is fair/unfair. He is interested in our heart's response that would trust Him no matter what.

Key Thought

The brothers' jealousy of Joseph led them further into sin. We should beware that we don't become jealous as this may lead us to commit other sins.

Aim

For children to feel confident in their God-given place in their family, and in the Body of Christ and not to envy others in different positions.

Memory Verse

"An angry man stirs up strife." (Proverbs 29:22).

Theme Two

"God can speak through others"

Joseph's dreams were from God. Joseph's brothers could not see this because they hated Joseph and refused to accept the dreams' meaning. When Joseph told his father of the second dream, he pondered over what it could mean. When someone speaks to us, we ought to obey, not complain or get angry like Joseph's brothers.

Key Thought

How do we respond to God's word?

Aim

We need to be willing to hear God's word from our parents and other who care for us.

Memory Verse

"A man's pride will bring him low." (Proverbs 29:23).

Activity A - Gluing/Sewing

Materials

- Pattern on Activity Sheet.
- Enough plain coloured material to cut one coat for each child.
- Small pieces of different coloured material.
- Scissors.
- Glue/stapler or, for older, students needle/cotton.

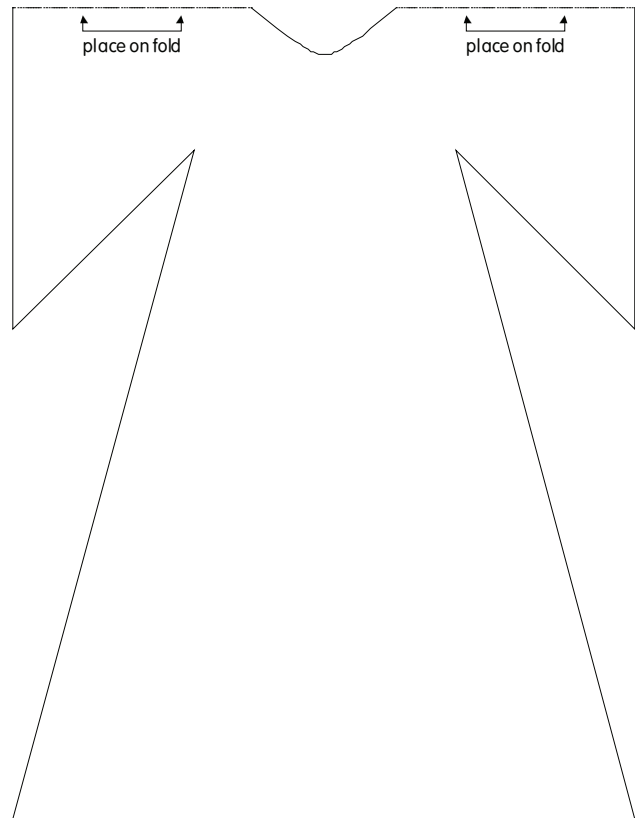
Steps

At Home

- Using the pattern, cut out one coat for each child, making sure the material is folded at the top before cutting out.

In Class

- The children cut out pieces of material and glue all over the coat. Staple the sides of the coat to join front to back.
- The older children could sew the cut out material to the coat using large running stitches and pre-threaded and pre-knotted needle and thread. The sides could then be sewn up.
- If time will be short, use colourful material for the coat and omit adding further cut out pieces.



Activity B - Drawing/Collage

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.
- 11 star stickers for each child (optional).
- 12 small grass seed stalks for each child to represent sheaves (optional).
- Sticky tape.

Steps

Before Class

- If using grass seed stalks, depending on available facilities, pre-cut sticky tape to save time.

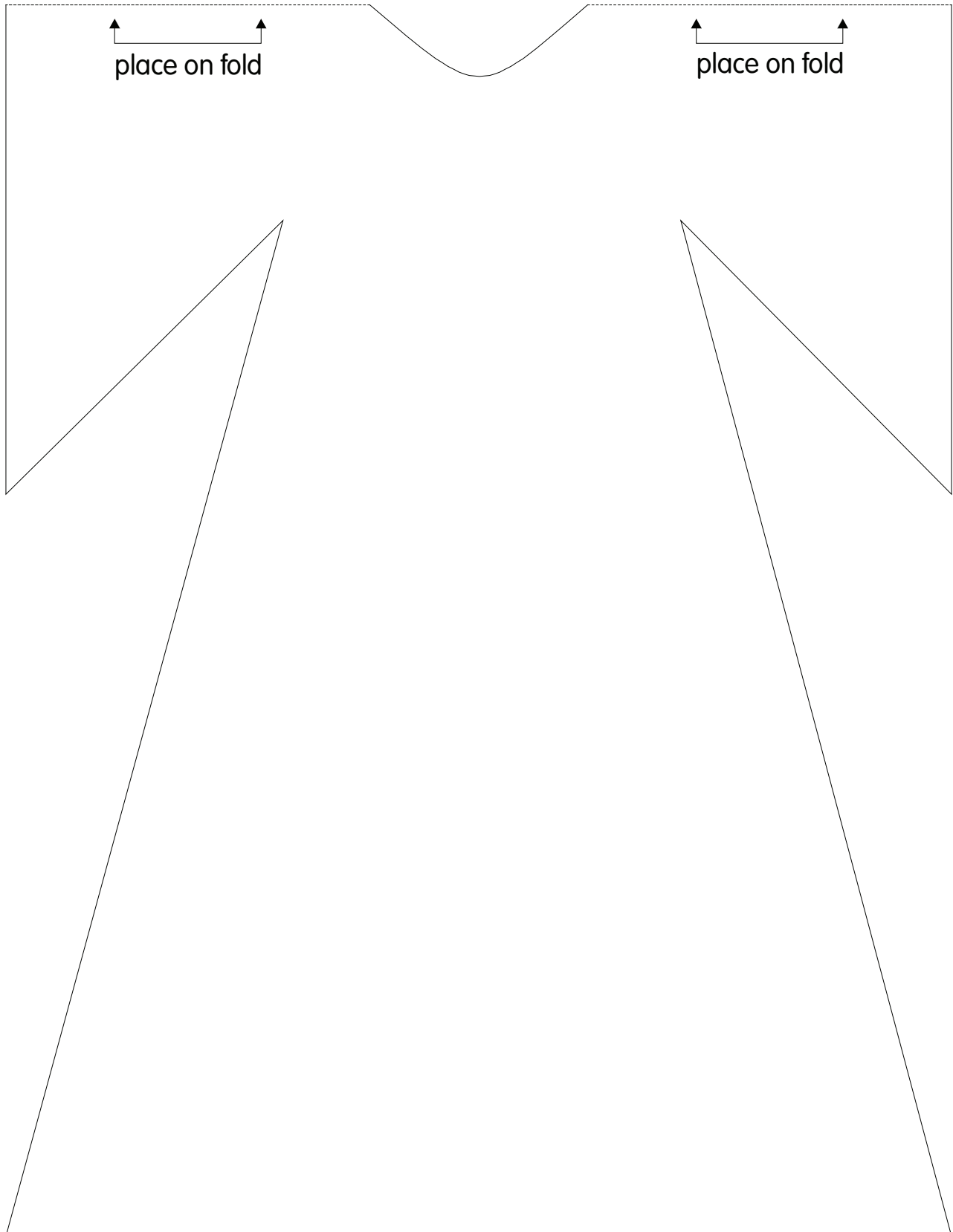
In Class

- If using grass seed stalks, sticky tape one upright grass seed stalk in the first section of the page and the remaining eleven horizontal to represent the brother's sheaves bowing to Joseph's sheave. If grass stalks are unavailable, ask the children to draw the scene.
- For the second dream, ask the children to draw Joseph, and the sun, moon and stars bowing down to him. If using star stickers, place the stickers at the ground around Joseph's feet.



Joseph, the favourite son

Activity A - Gluing/Sewing



Joseph, the favourite son

Activity B - Drawing/Collage

Joseph's dream about
the sheaves in the field.

Joseph's dream about
the sun, moon and stars.



Joseph goes to Egypt

Genesis 37:25-36; 39

Storyline

Reuben did not want Joseph killed, so the brothers took Joseph's coat and threw him into a pit. Reuben planned to rescue Joseph later. While Reuben was away, his brothers sold Joseph for 20 shekels of silver, to some Ishmaelites travelling to Egypt. The brothers deceived their father by dipping Joseph's coat in goat's blood. When Jacob saw it he assumed Joseph had been eaten by a wild animal. Jacob mourned deeply for Joseph. Joseph was sold to Potiphar, the captain of Pharaoh's guard. The Lord was with Joseph. He was successful in all things becoming overseer of all Potiphar's affairs. The Lord blessed Potiphar's house for Joseph's sake. Potiphar's wife told lies about Joseph which Potiphar believed. Joseph was put in prison. Again the Lord showed kindness. Joseph found favour with the prison warder. Soon Joseph was in charge of all prisoners.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Have an informal question and answer session to review last week's lesson.
2. Tell the story.
3. If selecting Theme One, refresh the children's memories about Genesis 27 in Lesson 15 where Jacob lied to Isaac.
4. If selecting Theme Two, have a discussion about unfair things from the children's experiences and how they reacted. Recall how Joseph reacted to unfair things that happened to him. Have your own suggestions if children have none of their own, eg. having to clean your room after a young visitor has messed it up.
5. Select either Activity

Theme One

"God hates lies"

Jacob's sons lied to him about what had happened to Joseph, just as Jacob had earlier lied to his father in order to obtain his brother's blessing. God hates lying in any form. The power of God's word is able to change people from telling lies when they repent and ask Him to help them in this area.

Key Thought

God wants us to be truthful in all things.

Aim

For the children to know that if they repent, God can change them.

Memory Verse

"A righteous man hates lying." (Proverbs 13:5).

Theme Two

"The tests God allows"

Many of the things that happened to Joseph could have seemed unfair. He did nothing to deserve these apparent disasters, but the Lord allowed them to come to his life to test if he would stay true to God. Joseph continued to believe God and trust that the vision he had been given in his dreams would come true. Sometimes God allows us to have problems in our lives just to test our faithfulness to Him in the hard times.

Key Thought

Despite many difficult times allowed by the Lord, Joseph continued to trust God. God has not promised that our lives will be free from difficulty. We need to trust Him when we face difficulties.

Aim

For the children to understand that God can allow problems to come to our lives. Will we trust that the Lord is with us?.

Memory Verse

"Trust in the Lord, and do good." (Psalm 37:3).

To encourage discussion, it may be helpful to have your own simple testimony of how you learnt to trust God in a difficult/unfair time. Keep it short and simple.

Activity A - Colour and Cut



Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felts/crayons.
- Scissors.
- Stapler.

Steps

At Home

Pre-crease each Activity Sheet as follows:

- Fold A to B and C to D to make a vertical crease (beside Joseph). Unfold.
- Fold bottom of paper behind the top section so that the back of C meets the back of A and the back of D meets the back of B making a horizontal fold through Joseph making it possible for the children to see the lines of the prison bars along which they are to cut. Unfold.

In Class

- The children colour Joseph.
- Fold page along the crease through Joseph.
- Cut along lines to make prison bars. (Depending on the skill of the children and the time available, this step could also be done at home.) Unfold.
- Fold along the vertical crease next to Joseph to put the prison bars over Joseph.
- Staple along the edge.

Activity B - Quiz

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- Ask the children to circle the letter beside the correct answer.
- For children whose reading skills are still developing, this activity should be done as a group with the teacher reading the questions and the possible answers and the children raising their hands to tell the right answer.

Answers

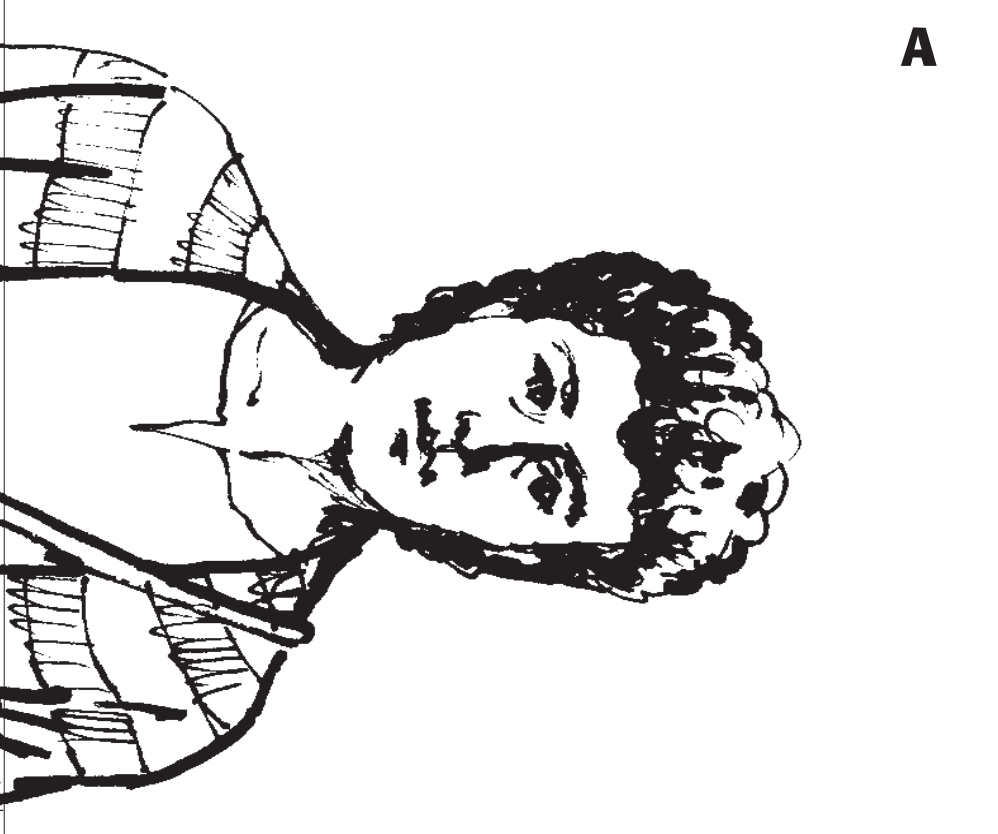
1. B
2. A
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. A

Circle the letter beside the correct answer.

1. Joseph's brothers threw him into
(a) a swimming pool
(b) a pit
(c) jail
2. The Midianite traders took Joseph to
(a) Egypt
(b) the circus
(c) his father
3. Joseph's brothers showed their father
(a) their flocks on their return
(b) Joseph's blood stained tunic
(c) spices they had brought from some Midianite traders
4. Potiphar was
(a) the Pharaoh
(b) Joseph's uncle
(c) the captain of the guard
5. Potiphar bought
(a) a slave called Joseph
(b) a new camel
(c) grain for the winter
6. Potiphar's wife
(a) went on a holiday
(b) told lies about Joseph
(c) bought a new slave
7. When he heard his wife's lies, Potiphar
(a) sent Joseph home
(b) sent Joseph to Pharaoh
(c) sent Joseph to jail
8. The prison keeper
(a) put Joseph in charge of the other prisoners
(b) played cards with Joseph
(c) let Joseph go free

Joseph goes to Egypt

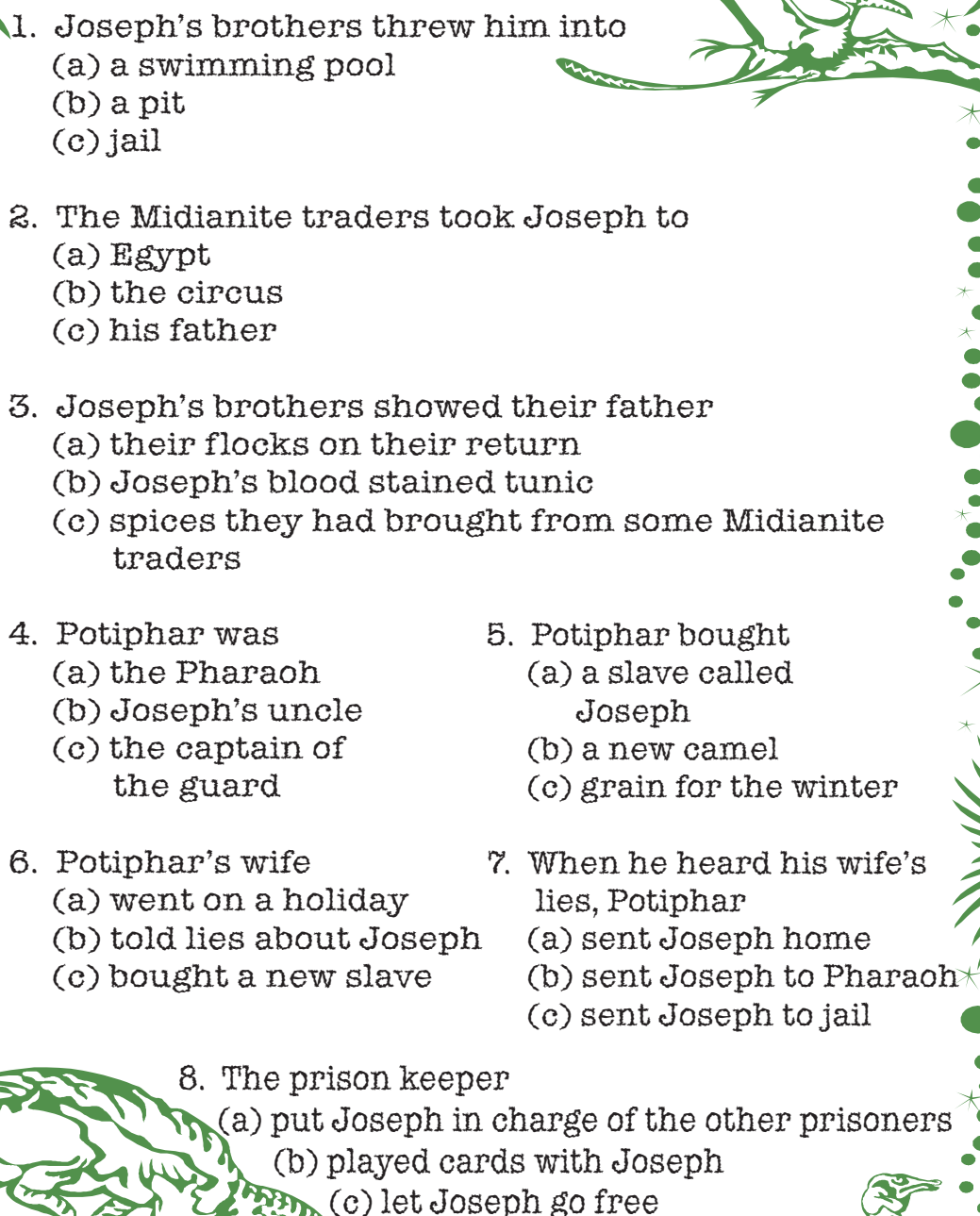
Activity A - Colour and Cut

C	 A
D	Fold Cut on solid lines when paper is folded length ways. B

Joseph goes to Egypt

Activity B - Multiple Choice Quiz

Circle the letter beside the correct answer.

- 
1. Joseph's brothers threw him into
(a) a swimming pool
(b) a pit
(c) jail
 2. The Midianite traders took Joseph to
(a) Egypt
(b) the circus
(c) his father
 3. Joseph's brothers showed their father
(a) their flocks on their return
(b) Joseph's blood stained tunic
(c) spices they had brought from some Midianite traders
 4. Potiphar was
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(b) sent Joseph to Pharaoh
(c) sent Joseph to jail
 8. The prison keeper
(a) put Joseph in charge of the other prisoners
(b) played cards with Joseph
(c) let Joseph go free

Joseph interprets the dreams

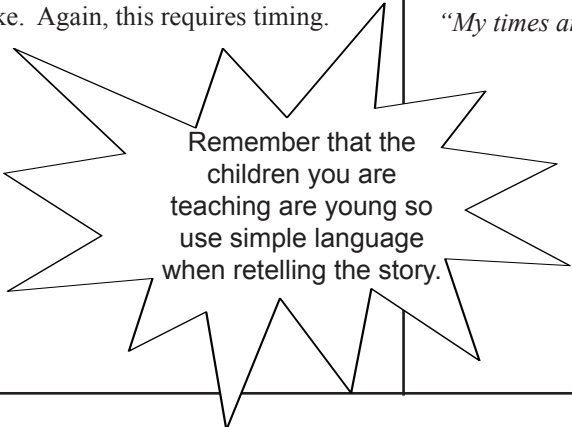
Genesis 40 & 41

Storyline

Pharaoh's butler and baker were put in the same prison as Joseph. They had dreams, the meaning of which Joseph explained. He told the baker he would be executed. Joseph told the butler that he would be restored to office and requested him to ask Pharaoh to release him. The butler forgot Joseph until two years later, when Pharaoh had dreams which no one could interpret. The butler told Pharaoh how Joseph had accurately interpreted his dream. Joseph was quickly brought to Pharaoh. Joseph told Pharaoh that it was God, not he who had the power to interpret dreams. He explained that Egypt would have seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. Joseph was put in charge of his plan to store food for the coming famine as Pharaoh recognized his wisdom.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Tell the story. Explain the role of the butler, ie the person who tasted everything the Pharaoh ate and drank to see if it had been poisoned.
2. If using Theme Two, play any skipping game using two people to turn a five metre (approx.) length of rope. Talk about the need for timing to be right to be able to skip. God's time is always right. Alternatively, play "Snakes", ie two people holding the ends shake the rope back and forth on the ground. The children jump over the moving rope trying not to touch it or to get 'bitten' by the snake. Again, this requires timing.



Remember that the children you are teaching are young so use simple language when retelling the story.

Theme One

"God helps us"

God had given Joseph the gift of interpreting dreams. Joseph was willing to serve to help the butler and the baker. Again, when using his gift to interpret Pharaoh's dreams, he gave glory to God as the one who had the power to interpret dreams.

Key Thought

God helped Joseph to interpret dreams and Joseph was thankful. God will help us to serve Him at school and at home.

Aim

For the children to know that God as God helped Joseph to serve, so too will He help us.

Memory Verse

"He ... gave gifts to men." (Ephesians 4:8).

Theme Two

"God always looks after us"

Joseph had hoped that when the butler was returned to his position as the Pharaoh's cupbearer, he would speak to Pharaoh who would release him from prison. However it was God's timing that this was to happen two years later. During those two years, Joseph continued to serve in the prison doing the work he had been called to do.

Key Thought

Joseph faced difficulties, yet he trusted the Lord. He served faithfully knowing that God's timing was perfect for his life. We can be sure that God is looking after us.

Aim

For the children to know that God is caring for them and they can know God wherever they are.

Memory Verse

"My times are in Your hand." (Psalm 31:15).

Activity A - Add To, Delete From the Picture

Materials

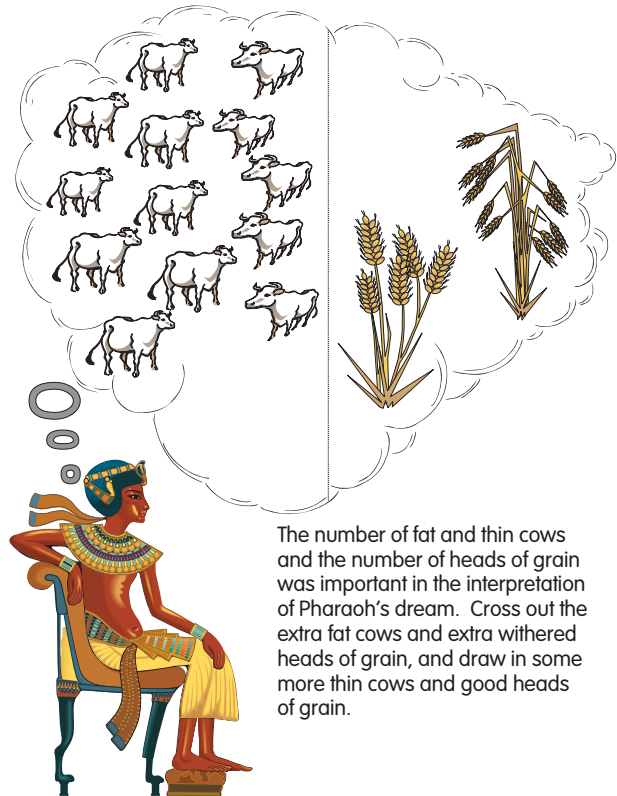
- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens/crayons.

Steps

- Read the instructions on the Activity Sheet to the class.
- Ask how many cows and how many heads of grain should be in the picture.
- Work out within the group what needs to be done to make the picture correct.
- Children correct their own picture.

Answer

- Cross out one fat cow.
- Draw in two thin cows.
- Draw in two fat heads of grain.
- Cross out four thin heads of grain



Activity B - Word Puzzle

Choose the correct answers from the list below and write it in on the lines provided.

1. The butler and the baker were put in the same prison as J_____.
2. On the same night both the butler and the baker each had a d_____.
3. Joseph asked the butler to make mention of him to P_____.
4. The morning after he had his dreams, Pharaoh was t_____.
5. After seven years of plenty would come seven years of f_____.
6. Joseph told Pharaoh to select a wise man and set him over the land of E_____.
7. All countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy g_____.

Word list:
famine Pharaoh Joseph troubled dream grain Egypt

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

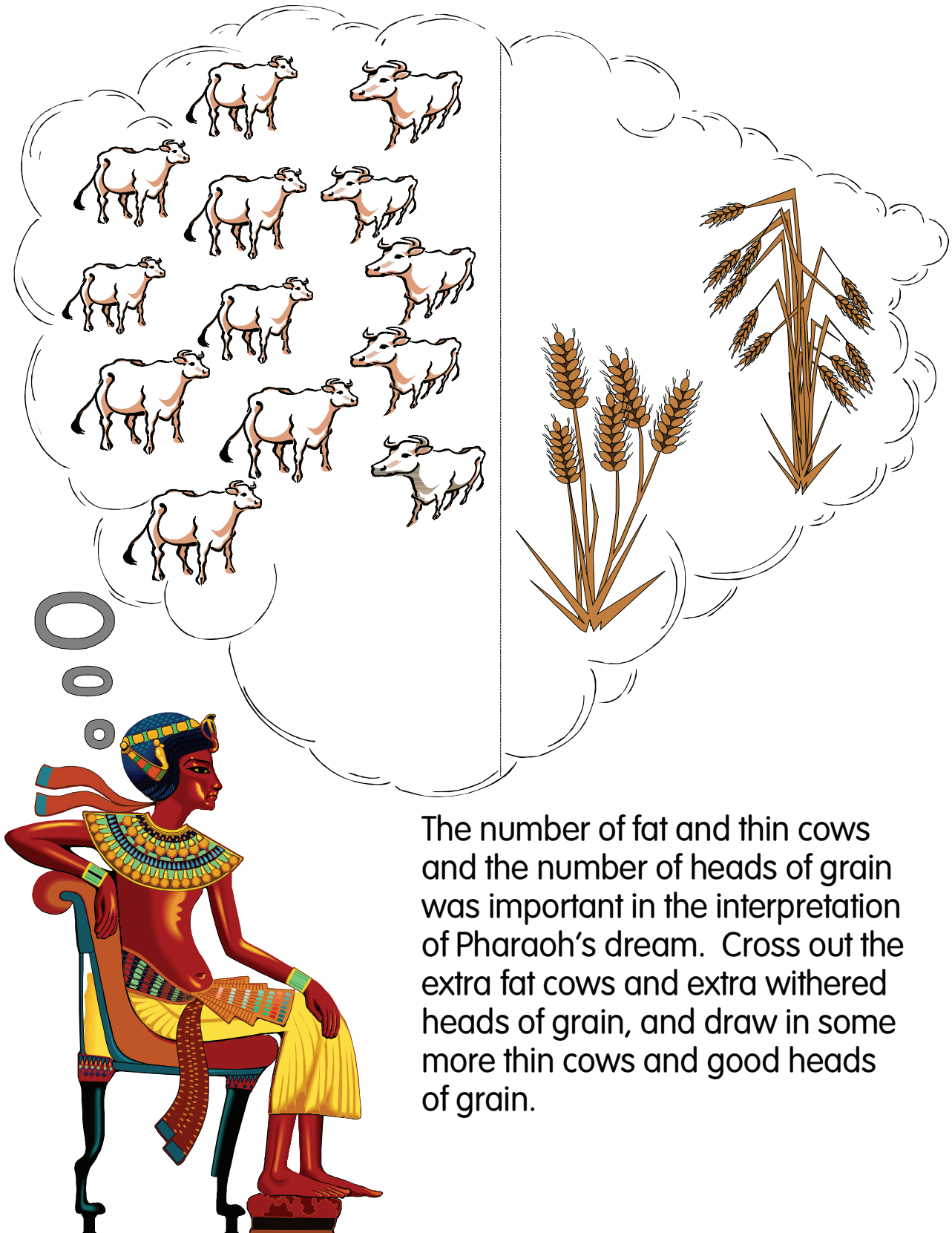
- Ask the children to complete the sentences using the words in the list below the questions. This activity may also be done in a group where everyone agrees on the answer before each child writes it in. This method is preferable for children whose reading skills are still developing.

Answers

1. Joseph
2. Dream
3. Pharaoh
4. Troubled
5. Famine
6. Egypt
7. Grain

Joseph interprets the dreams

Activity A - Add To/Delete From the Picture



The number of fat and thin cows and the number of heads of grain was important in the interpretation of Pharaoh's dream. Cross out the extra fat cows and extra withered heads of grain, and draw in some more thin cows and good heads of grain.

Joseph interprets the dreams

Activity B - Complete the Sentence

Choose the correct answers from the list below and write it in on the lines provided.

1. The butler and the baker were put in the same prison as J_____.
2. On the same night both the butler and the baker each had a d_____.
3. Joseph asked the butler to make mention of him to P_____.
4. The morning after he had his dreams, Pharaoh was t_____.
5. After seven years of plenty would come seven years of f_____.
6. Joseph told Pharaoh to select a wise man and set him over the land of E_____.
7. All countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy g_____.

Word list:

famine Pharaoh Joseph troubled dream grain Egypt

Joseph's brothers

Genesis 42:1 - 45:28

Storyline

During the severe drought, Jacob sent ten of his sons to buy food in Egypt. He kept Benjamin at home. Joseph was in charge of selling the food and he recognised his brothers but they did not know him. Joseph pretended to think they were spies, put Simeon in jail, and said he would release Simeon when the others returned to Egypt with Benjamin. Joseph gave them food and sent them home. Upon hearing what had happened, Jacob refused to allow Benjamin to go to Egypt but after some time, he had to relent or the family would starve. When Joseph finally saw Benjamin, he wept and told his brothers who he really was. He had forgiven them and sent them to bring Jacob, his father, to him in Egypt.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Tell the story. If available, use as many colourful pictures of people, money, a cup, grain or bread etc. as possible.
2. When the story arrives at the part where the brothers find their money in the bags of grain - have the children imagine they are one of the brothers.
3. Have Activity B sheets already folded and the children can 'discover' the bags of money under their tables.
4. Finish the story and then complete Activity B and A as well, if time permits

Having your resources organised, prepared and set out before the lesson always makes your lesson run more smoothly and effectively.

Theme One

"If we love, we will forgive"

When Joseph's brothers went to Egypt to obtain grain, they stood in front of Joseph, but did not know who he was. He could have refused to help the brothers who had treated him so badly. He still loved his family dearly and wanted to see Benjamin and his father. He had a plan so this could happen.

Key Thought

If we have God's love in our hearts, He will help us to forgive those who wrong us, just as he has forgiven us.

Aim

To encourage the children to be thoughtful and forgiving, no matter how they are treated.

Memory Verse

"Forgiving one another ... as Christ forgave you."
(Colossians 3:13).

Theme Two

"God cares for those who repent"

Joseph watched and listened to his brothers carefully and he knew they were sorry for what they had done. He then told them who he was and the Lord blessed the whole family bringing them together in Egypt, where they would be safe from the drought.

Key Thought

When we are angry and complain like Joseph's brothers we can have a bad attitude. God can change our hearts if we are sorry and ask Him to help us.

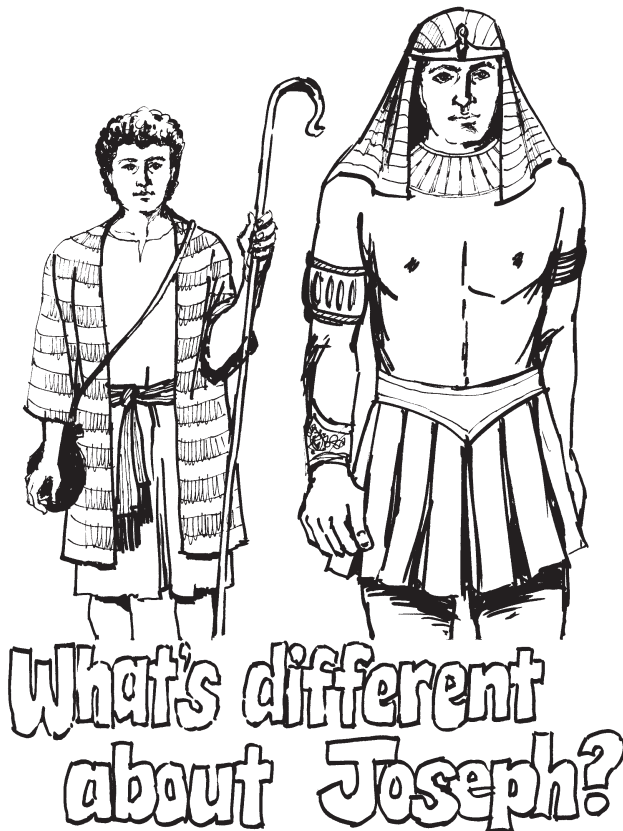
Aim

To have children realise that we need to be sorry and the Lord can change us.

Memory Verse

"Let us do good to all." (Galatians 6:10).

Activity A - Collage - Joseph



Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Scissors.
- Glue (Aquadhere).
- Drop sheet and hand cleaning gear (soap, water, bowl and towel).
- Suggested collage materials:
 - For jewellery: milk bottle tops, glitter, paper clips, stickers from newsagent, cellophane.
 - For clothes: scraps of fabric.

Steps

- Teacher explains some of the reasons Joseph's brothers couldn't recognise him, eg. he was older, different clothes, etc.
- Teacher discusses the differences in the pictures, one by one, and the children make a collage, on the older Joseph.
- If time permits, the children could collage the younger Joseph as well.

Activity B - Money Sack

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils or glue and glitter.
- Scissors.
- Some coins.

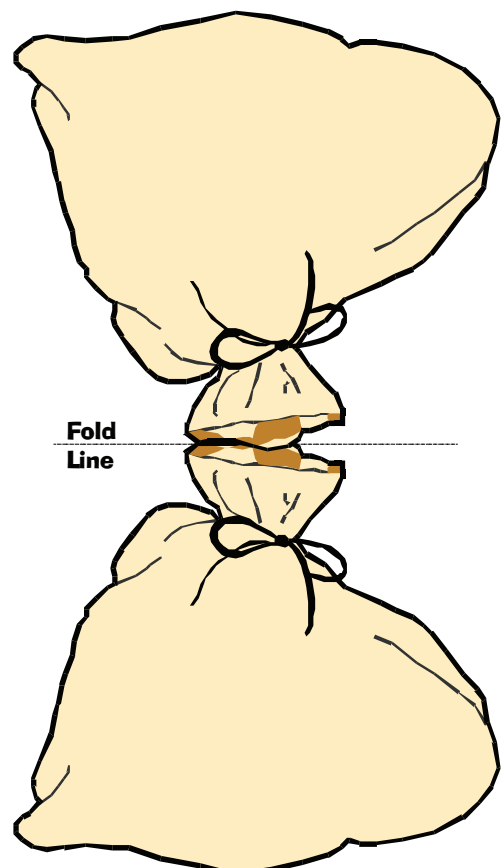
Steps

At Home

- Cut out money sacks.

In Class

- On the wrong side of the paper, the children draw (or trace) coins and either colour them or glue and glitter them. Another option is for the children to do coin rubbings, by placing a coin under the activity sheet and gently rubbing a pencil over the coin area.
- The children then fold the sack on the double line, so the coin's are hidden inside the sack.



Joseph's brothers

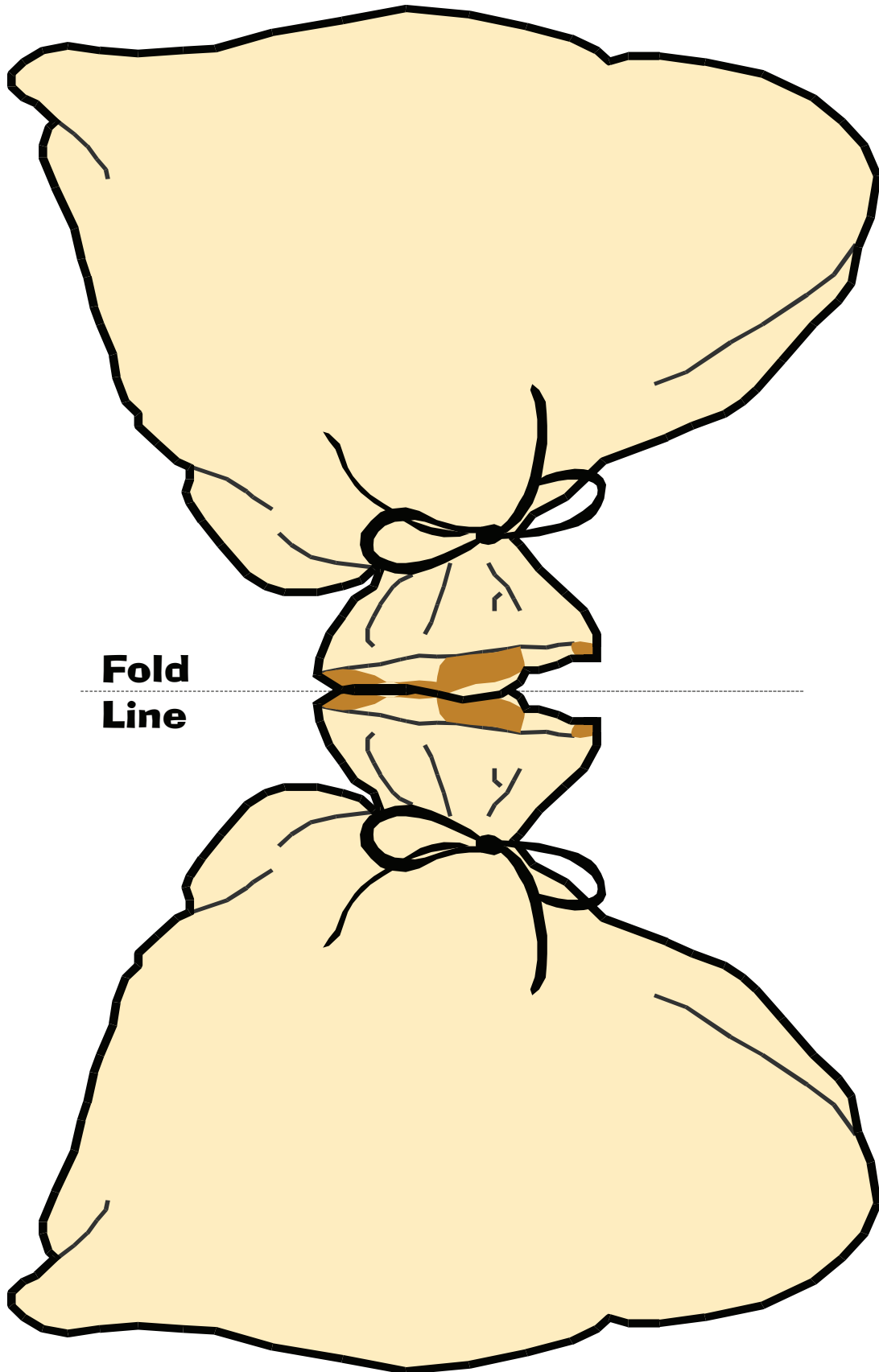
Activity A - Collage - Joseph



What's different
about Joseph?

Joseph's brothers

Activity B - Money Sack



Israel in Egypt

Genesis 46 - 49

Storyline

Jacob took his family and livestock and went to live in Egypt. During the drought, Joseph was able to sell food to all the people because he had stored much grain in the years before the drought. Seventeen years passed and it was time for Jacob to die. He called for Ephraim and Manasseh, Joseph's sons, in order to bless them. Israel placed his right hand on Ephraim's head and Joseph thought that this was a mistake because Ephraim was the younger and Manasseh was the older son. However, Israel explained that the younger son would become greater than the older son. Israel then blessed all of his sons before he died.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Tell or read the story from a Children's Bible using pictures or flannelgraph characters to add interest.
2. Discuss the events in Jacob's life that would have been sad or hard for him. List these on a blackboard or chart using simple illustrations.
3. Explain God's purpose in sending Joseph away from his family.

Theme One

"The Lord wants the best for us"

Jacob and his once deceitful sons ended up living on the best of the land in Egypt. The Lord had his hand on that family and He used hardships and sad times to change their hearts to trust in Him. Joseph, the 2nd youngest brother, had become the most important person in the land and his family were treated well.

Key Thought

The goodness of God is always towards us. Sometimes things can go wrong and problems arise, but we can trust God every day.

Aim

For the children to remember and be confident that the Lord loves them.

Memory Verse

"We are children of God." (1 John 3:2).

Theme Two

"Listen to God not to man"

Because Jacob was blind, Joseph tried to guide him as he blessed Ephraim and Manasseh. However, God was leading Jacob and knew which son would be best to carry on His blessings, just as He had known that younger Joseph would be greater than his older brothers. Quite often things do not happen the way we expect them to but the way God wants. Only the Lord knows the future and He already knows what His plans are for each of us.

Key Thought

We sometimes do not understand the way God is leading us, however, we can trust the Lord that His way is best.

Aim

To help the children to trust God in all things.

Memory Verse

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart." (Proverbs 3:5).

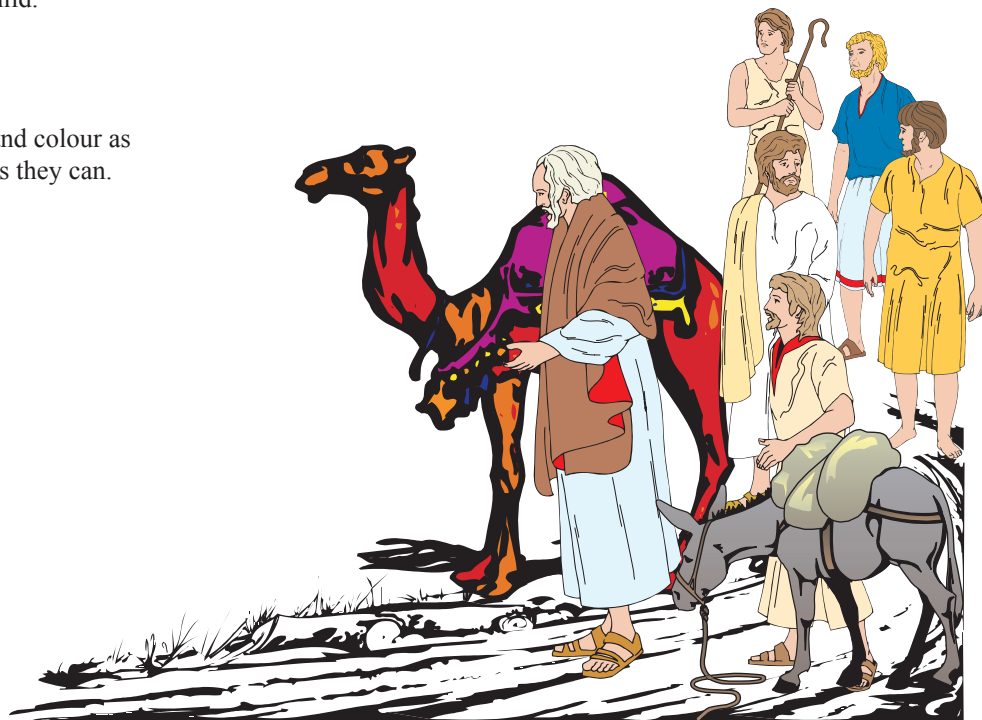
Activity A - Drawing

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.

Steps

- The children draw in and colour as many of the children as they can.



Activity B - Pop-up Israelites

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet of the background scene (pyramids) per child.
- 1 crowd scene per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Glue or sticky tape.
- Scissors.

Steps

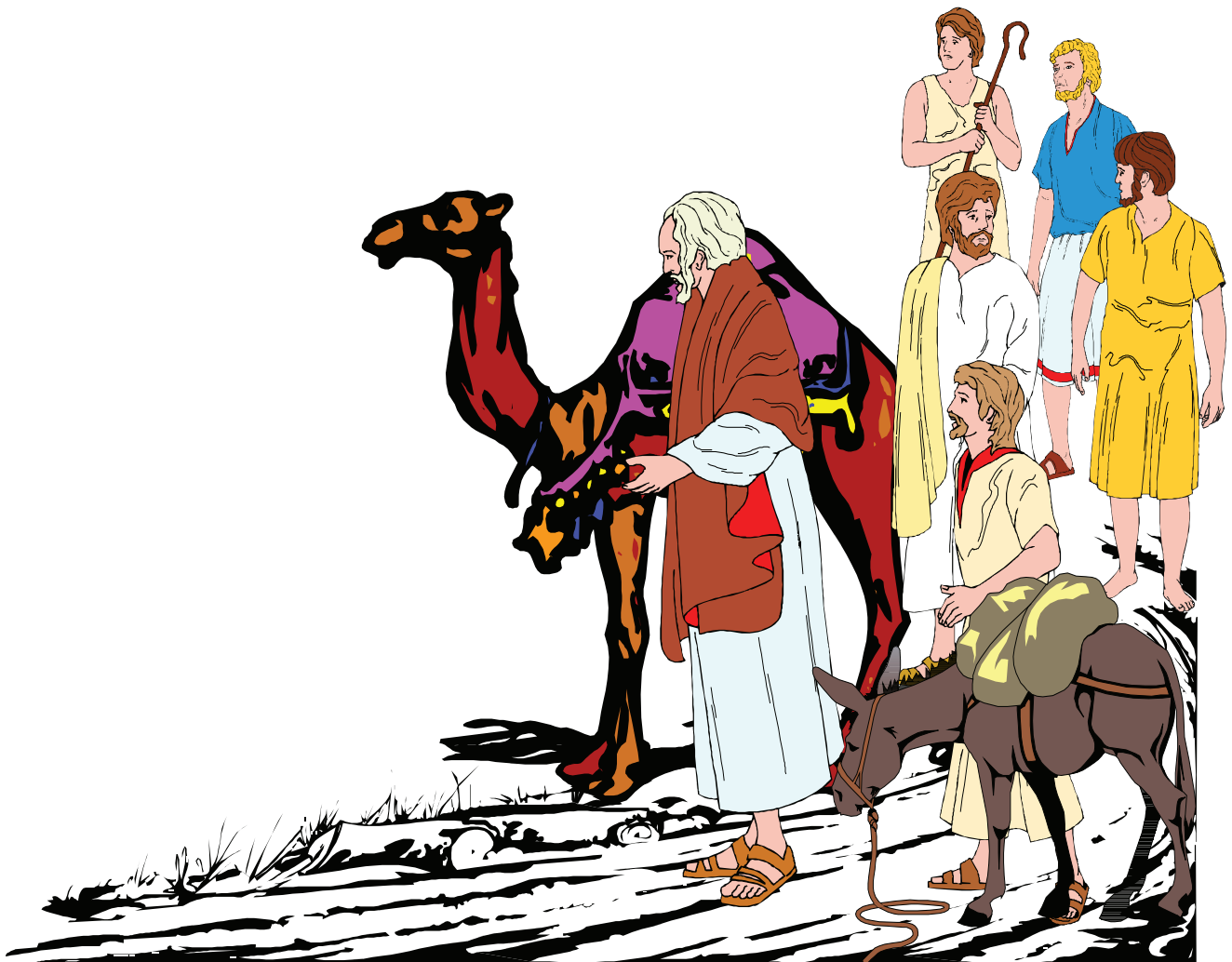
- The children cut out the crowd scene and fold the flap under.
- Colour the background scene.
- Glue or sticky tape the flap on the crowd scene to the space provided on the background scene.



Israel in Egypt

Activity A - Drawing

Jacob came to meet Joseph with 11 sons and 55 grandchildren. Draw some of the children coming, and colour them in.



Israel in Egypt

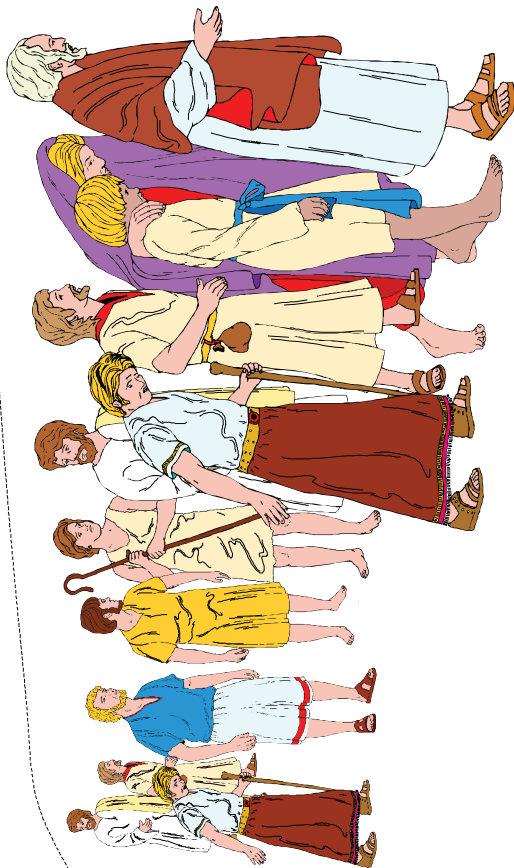
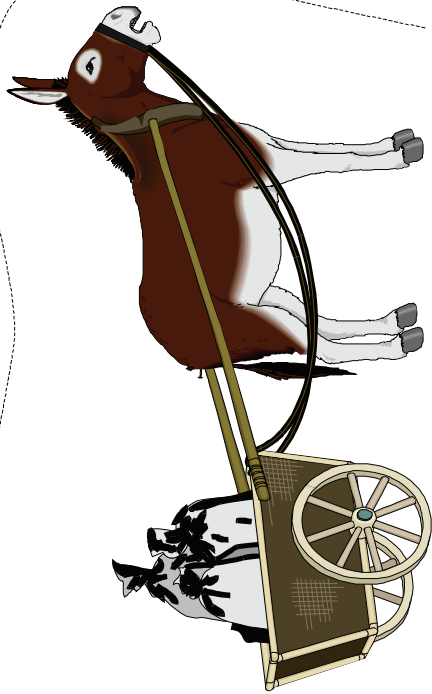
Activity B - Pop-Up Israelites in Egypt



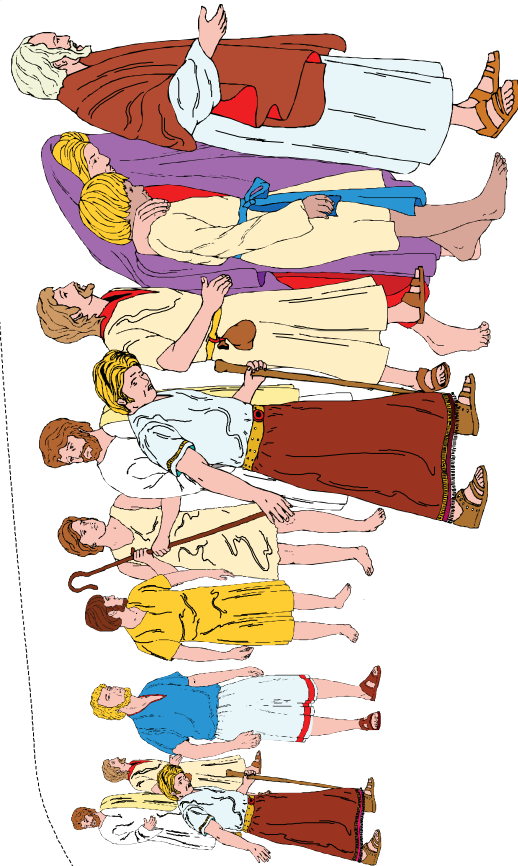
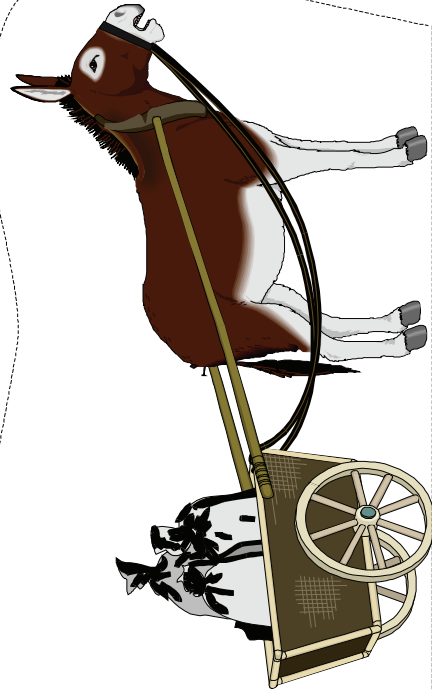
Glue folded bottom of crowd scene here.

Israel in Egypt

Activity B - Pop-Up Israelites In Egypt



Fold Under



Fold Under

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Israelites slaves, Moses born

Exodus 1:1 - 2:10

Storyline

A new king came to power in Egypt, who did not know how Joseph's work had blessed the Egyptians. He saw how the Israelites had increased in number and become mighty, and was afraid that they would turn against the Egyptians and take over the whole land. So Pharaoh set hard taskmasters over the Israelites and made them slaves. He ordered all Israelite boys be thrown into the river at birth. When Moses was born, his mother hid him for three months, then put him in a basket by the bank of the river. Pharaoh's daughter found him, and had compassion on him. Moses' own mother was able to care for him until he no longer needed a nursemaid. Then she took him to Pharaoh's daughter, who raised him as her own son in the royal household of Egypt.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. If selecting Activity B, this would be best done earlier in the lesson so that the sand collage can be placed in the sun to dry while the storyline and theme are discussed. Work together on the activity. Give each child a picture and ask them what is happening. Chat about how the slaves made the bricks as you glue the sand on. Chat about what the guard might be telling them as you make the ship. Chat about how even in this situation the Israelites could trust God. When all is tidy, settle the children and tell the story.
2. Have a container of sand and ask the children to guess how many grains there are. Chat about God's promise to Abraham. Did it seem impossible? Not to God. What are God's promises to us? Make a list together.
3. If Theme Two is selected, do not be perturbed if children of this age have little recollection of lessons 9 and 10 when God's covenant with Abraham was taught. Use this opportunity to review the story and trace Abraham's family line through Isaac, Jacob to Joseph and his brothers. Talk about how Abraham was Joseph's great grandfather.

Theme One

"God intervenes in our lives to have His way"

Moses' mother put him in the basket in the reeds by the river's bank, believing that God would have His way with her son. Even when Moses was too little to protect himself, God kept him safe, because He had a special purpose for him. God has a particular purpose for all of us.

Key Thought

God had plans for His people which no man (even a king with great power) could stop. God has a plan for our lives also.

Aim

To have the children see that we can trust God that He has all things in His hand.

Memory Verse

"Hold me up, and I shall be safe." (Psalm 119:117).

Theme Two

"God keeps His promises"

God promised Abraham that his descendants would be as many as the dust of the earth (Genesis 13:16), and the stars in the sky (Genesis 15:5). As the people of Israel grew in number, to the dismay of the Egyptians, God's promise to Abraham began to come true. God has made many wonderful promises to His people. We can be certain He will keep His promises to us just like He kept His promise to Abraham.

Key Thought

As the children of Israel grew in number, God's promise to Abraham began to come true. God will keep His promises to us in the same way.

Aim

For the children to know that they can trust God to keep His promises.

Memory Verse

"God is not a man, that He should lie." (Numbers 23:19).

Make sure when telling the story the children have nothing in their hands to distract them. Always encourage positive behaviour eg "I really like the way you are sitting quietly ready to listen."

Activity A - Colour, Glue and Slide

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 paddlepop stick per child.
- Glue or staples or sticky tape.
- Colouring pencils/crayons.

Steps

At Home

- Cut out the basket with the baby, and cut the slit on the dotted line at the edge of the reeds in the picture.

In Class

- The children colour the picture and the baby in the basket.
- Glue, staple or sticky tape the baby basket to a paddlepop stick.
- The baby can now be moved in and out of sight (through the slit) from the back of the picture, to give the appearance of being hidden in the bulrushes.



Activity B - Slavery in Egypt



Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Scraps of string or wool (for whip).
- Small amount of sand (for bricks).
- Glue (Aquadhere).
- Sticky tape.
- Drop sheet.
- Soap, water, towel for hand cleaning.

Steps

- Tape or glue string or wool to whip handle.
- If time permits, colour the picture.
- Brush glue on the brick.
- Sprinkle sand on the brick.
- Leave to dry while cleaning hands.

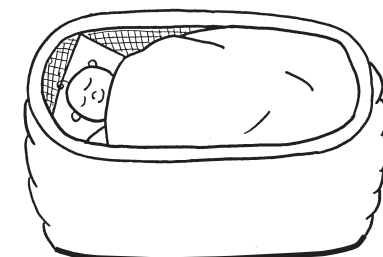
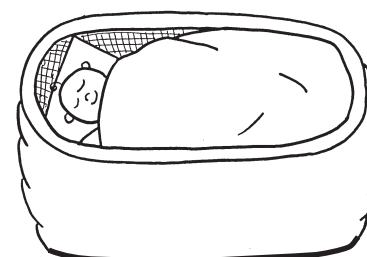
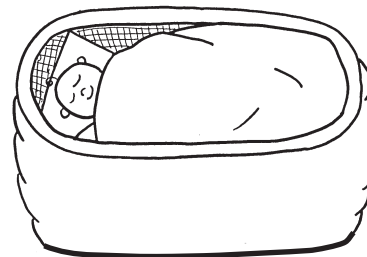
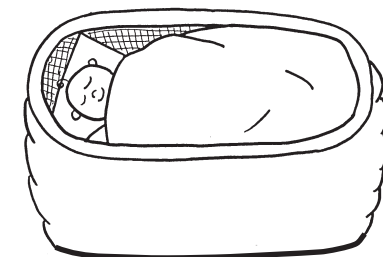
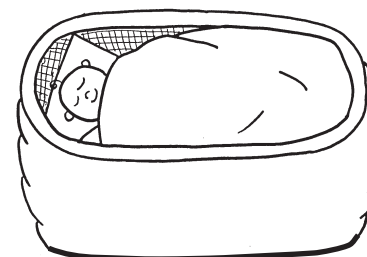
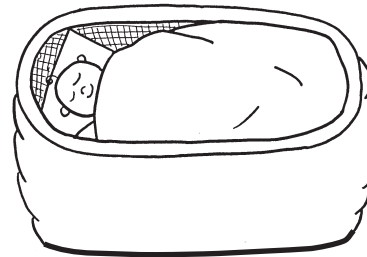
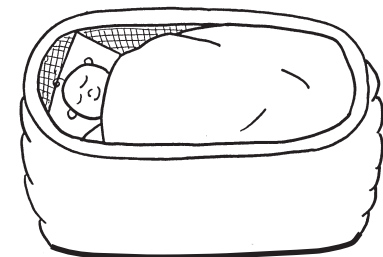
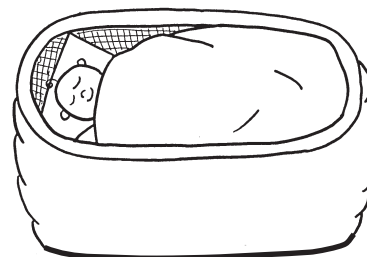
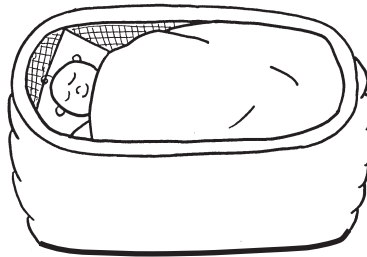
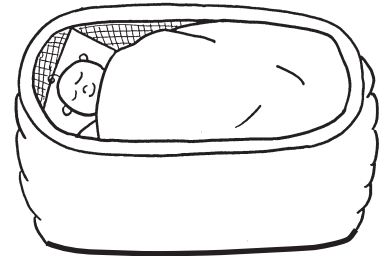
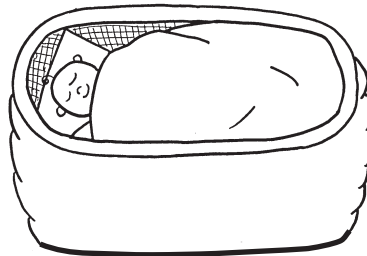
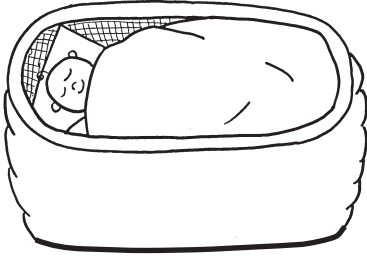
Israelite slaves, Moses born

Activity A - Colour, Glue and Slide



Israelite slaves, Moses born

Activity A - Colour, Glue and Slide



Israelite slaves, Moses born

Activity B - Slavery in Egypt



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Moses flees and returns to Egypt

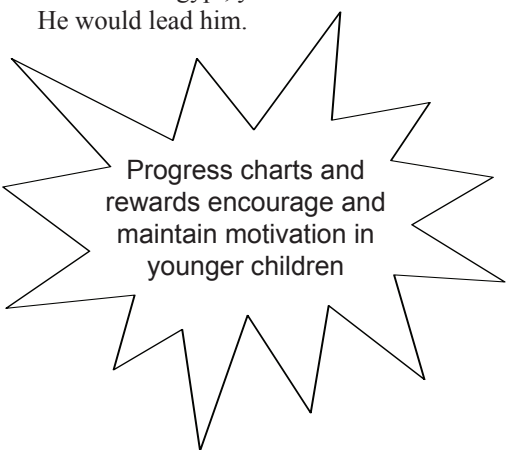
Exodus 2:11-25; 3 - 4

Storyline

Moses killed an Egyptian who was beating a Hebrew slave. When he realised he'd been seen, he escaped to Midian where he married Zipporah and worked for her father. Years later God spoke to Moses from a burning bush which was not being burnt. Moses was told to take off his sandals as he was on holy ground. God told him that the cries of the Hebrews had been heard and that Moses was to ask the Egyptian king to let the Hebrews go. Moses reacted with excuses but God proved His power to Moses by giving him signs. Moses continued to doubt saying he was a poor speaker and asked that someone else be sent. God appointed Aaron as spokesman. Together Moses and Aaron presented God's plan to the Hebrews who then worshipped God.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. As the teacher, you could dress up (towel for head dress) and tell the story of how God met you at the burning bush and what He asked you to do. Talk about how you felt at the different points in the story. End with the key thought.
2. Begin with the trust game (see Activity A). When the children have had a turn, settle them and tell the story. Ask questions about how they felt being blindfolded and lead around. Moses didn't know what would happen when he returned to Egypt, yet he trusted God that He would lead him.



Progress charts and rewards encourage and maintain motivation in younger children

Theme One

"God chooses those that the world calls weak"

God did not choose Moses because he was a great leader or a good speaker, even though through God's help he later became both. God chooses those who may seem weak and then gives them the grace to do what He is calling them to do as they continue to trust Him in faith.

Key Thought

God did not choose Moses because of what he could do but because of what God would do through him. In the same way, God does not choose us because of what we can do, but rather what He can do through us.

Aim

For the children to know God will help us in difficult situations.

Memory Verse

"The Spirit also helps in our weaknesses." (Romans 8:26).

Theme Two

"Excuses don't work with God"

Moses kept giving God excuses which he felt justified his not doing what God was asking of him. God eventually became angry with Moses. We must be careful not to anger God by arguing with Him about what we know He is requiring of us. God wants us to have willing hearts ready to obey.

Key Thought

Moses did not want to do what God was asking of him and gave many excuses. Let us obey straight away.

Aim

For the children to respond to God with a willing heart rather than excuses.

Memory Verse

"What does the Lord require of you?" (Micah 6:8).

Activity A - Trust Game

Materials

- Blindfolds.

Steps

- Blindfold half the class and pair them off with a leader outside.
- The leader is to take the blindfolded child for a walk.
- The blindfolded child must trust the leader that they will not fall or bump into anything.
- Swap over.
- Discuss how they felt and how they had to trust the leader even though they didn't know where they were going.



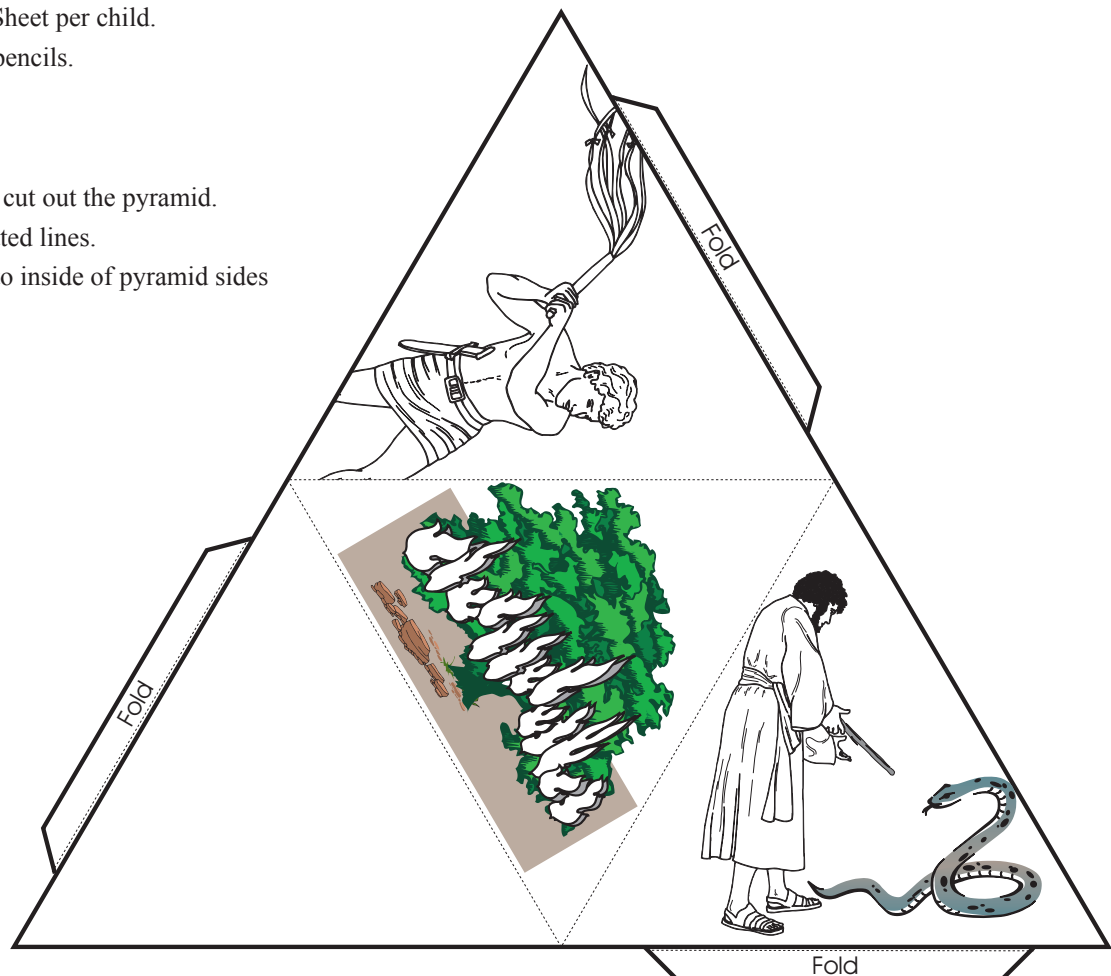
Activity B - Colour and Cut Pyramid

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Glue.

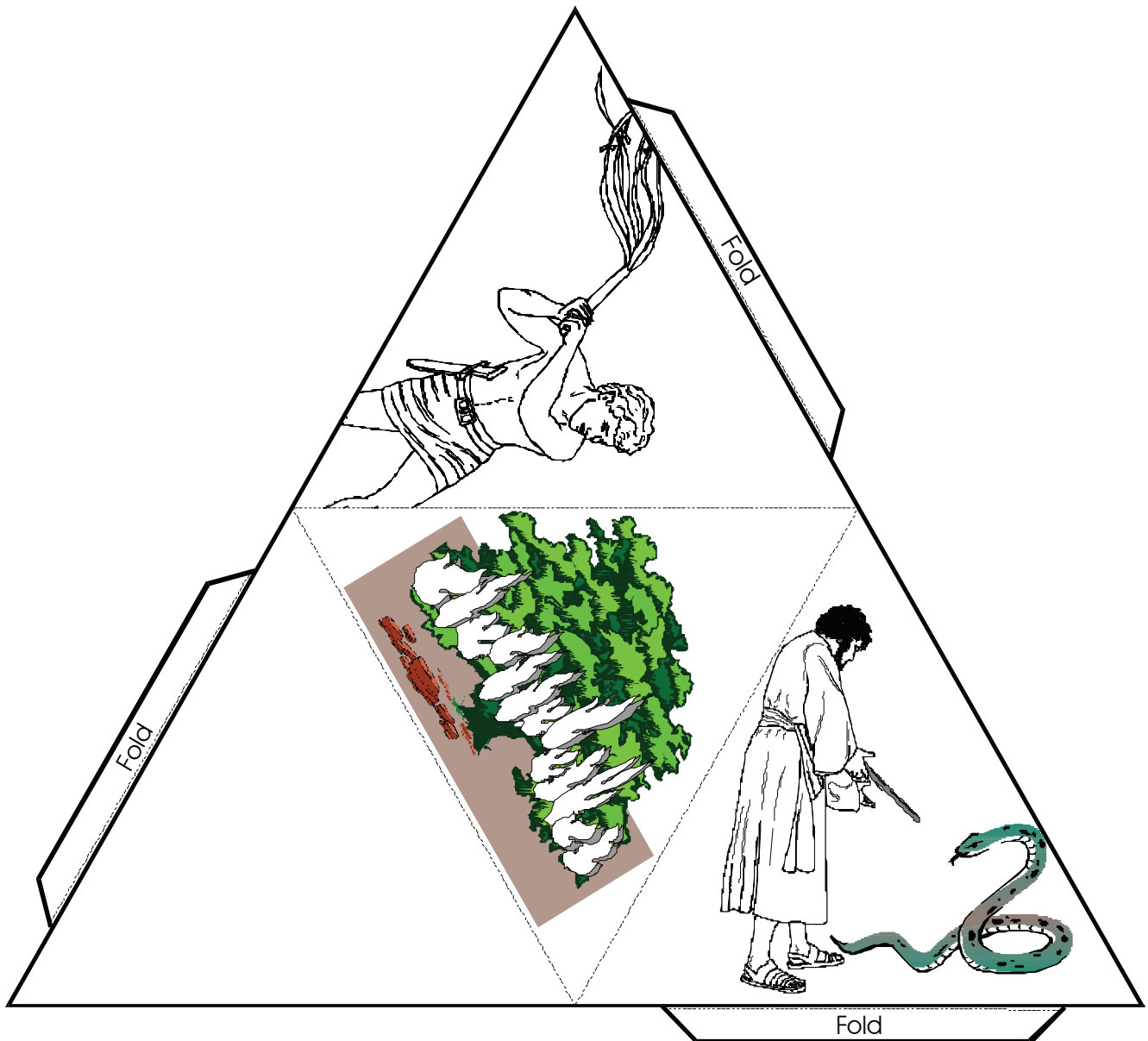
Steps

- Colour and cut out the pyramid.
- Fold on dotted lines.
- Glue flaps to inside of pyramid sides



Moses flees and returns to Egypt

Activity B - Colour and Cut Pyramid



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"Let My people go"

Exodus 5 - 11

Storyline

Moses and Aaron met with Pharaoh to ask him to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. However, Pharaoh said, "No" and in fact made the Israelites work harder. The people were angry with Moses because of this. God then spoke to Moses about His promise to deliver His people. Each time Pharaoh refused, God brought a plague upon the land. These are the things that God made happen: (1) all the waters in the land became blood, (2) a plague of frogs, (3) a plague of lice, (4) a plague of flies, (5) all Egyptian livestock became diseased, (6) a plague of boils on all the Egyptians and their animals, (7) hail, (8) a plague of locusts, (9) thick darkness upon the Egyptians for 3 days. None of these plagues affected the Israelites, or changed Pharaoh's mind, but in fact made him harden his heart even more. The final plague brought death to every first-born in Egypt, both people and creatures.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Activity B may be used as an aid to tell the story. For example, tell the children about the first plague, pass around red crayons or pencils for everyone to draw a river of blood, before going on to the second plague - frogs. To save time in the lesson, you may wish to create your own simple line drawings for each plague and photocopy these off so that the children can simply glue in the appropriate picture as you tell the story.

Theme One

"We cannot always see God's hand"

When things are going wrong for us, it can be hard to believe that God is in control and is working for our good. At times like this we can think that God has forgotten us and is not helping us, however, we need to keep trusting.

Key Thought

We need to remain confident that God knows all things and what is best for us.

Aim

For the children to know with absolute certainty, that God is in control no matter what.

Memory Verse

"All things work together for good to those who love God."
(Romans 8:28).

Theme Two

"Obey God whatever happens"

We must obey God because He is God, not simply because we think things will turn out better for us if we do. Sometimes things can be harder because we have obeyed God. At times like this, God tests our obedience to see whether it is real or not.

Key Thought

Obedience is not a magic word. Moses obeyed God even when he didn't get the results he expected. He kept on doing what God instructed him to do no matter what the consequences.

Aim

For the children to know that obedience should come from wanting to please God, not from a desire to get what we want.

Memory Verse

"And His voice we will obey." (Joshua 24:24).

Activity A - Bricks and Straw

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Brown paper 'bricks'.
- Glue.
- Colouring pencils.

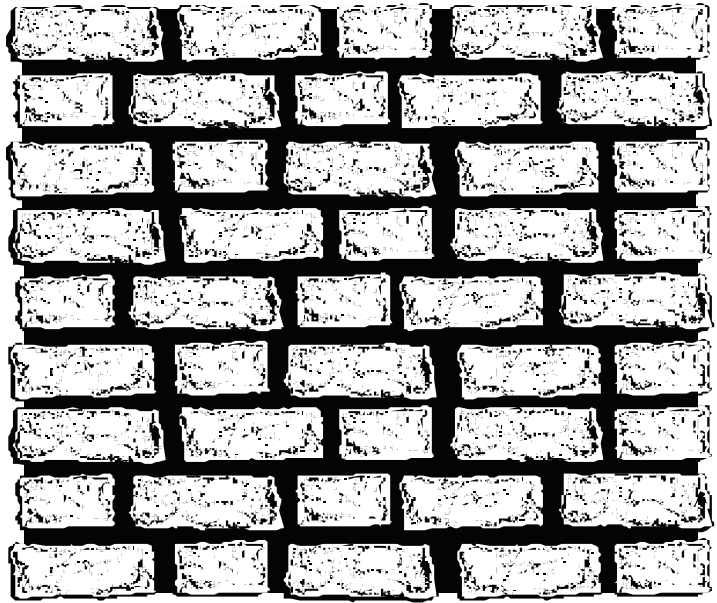
Steps

At Home

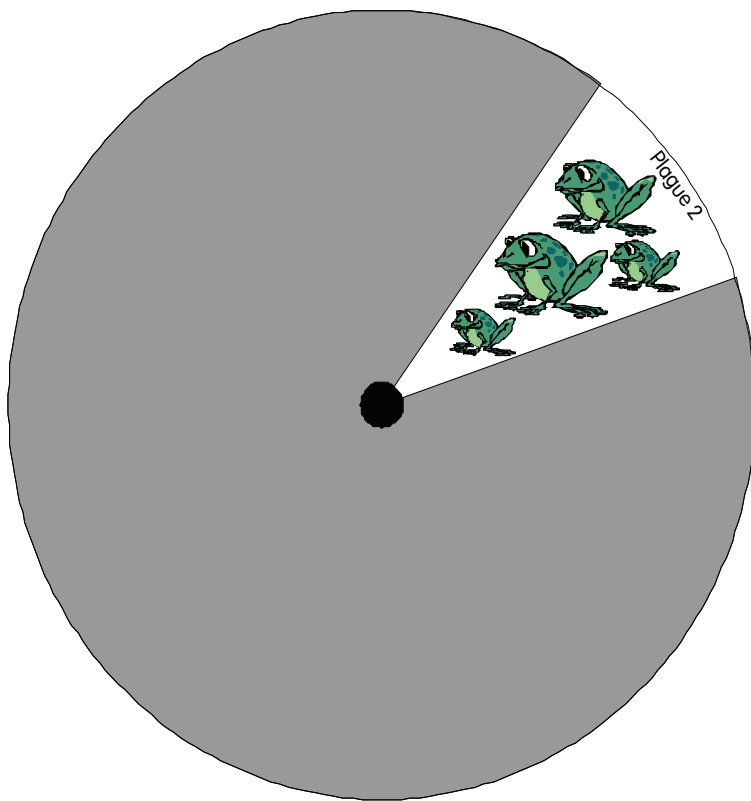
- Cut out a large supply of 'bricks' from brown paper - make bricks of similar sizes to the ones on the wall.

In Class

- Children glue bricks onto the wall.
- On the lower section of the Activity Sheet, children draw bundles of straw.



Activity B - Plagues Turning Wheel



Materials

- 1 of each 2 Activity Sheets per child.
- Cardboard.
- Glue (stick glue is best).
- Colouring pencils.
- Split-pins - 1 per child.

Steps

At Home

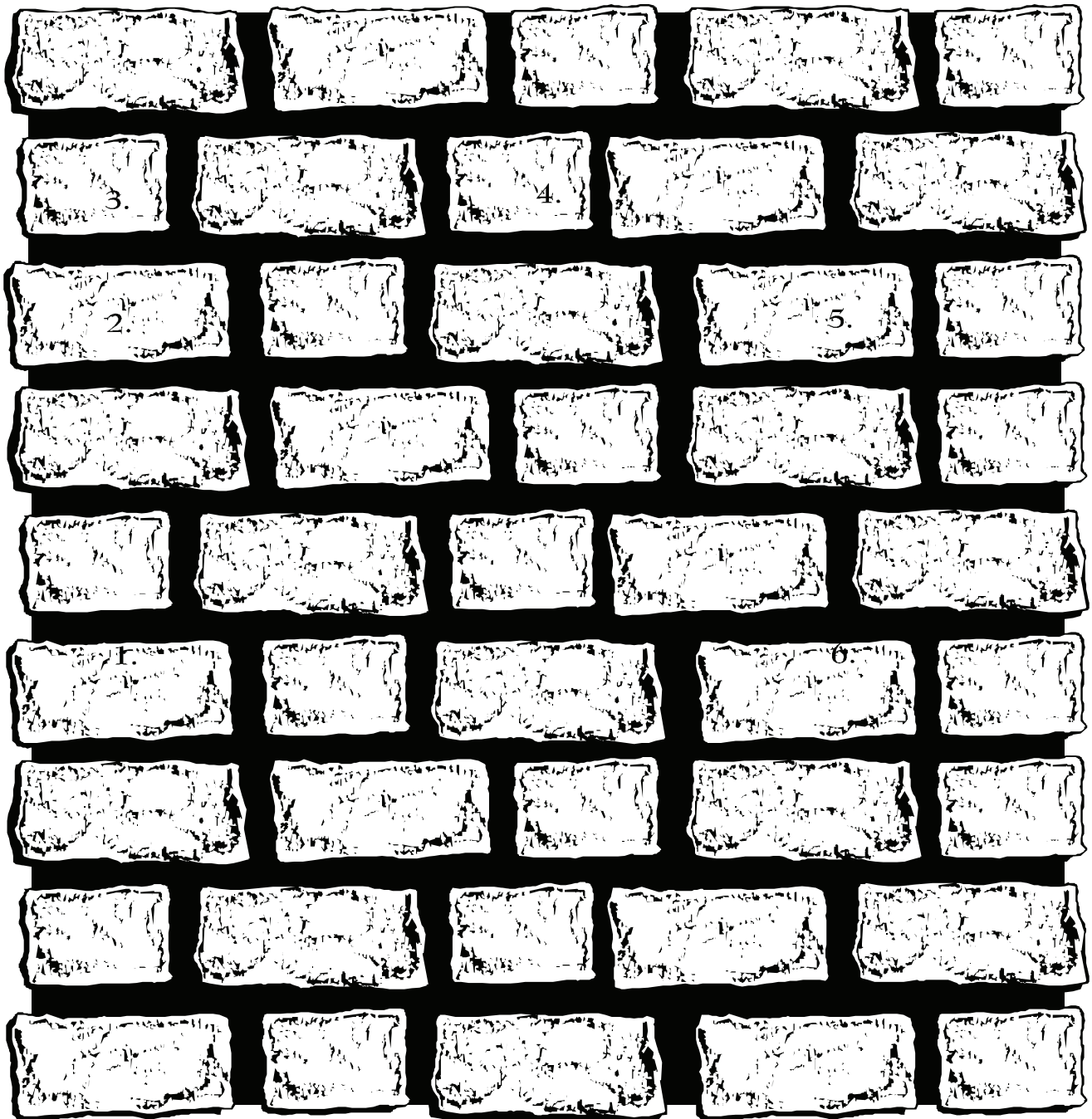
- Cut out and glue all circles onto cardboard. When dry, place under weight to stop them from curling up.

In Class

- Children draw something to represent each of the 10 plagues in the wedge.
- Children place circle with piece cut out on top of full circle with plagues drawn.
- Help children to insert the split-pin in the centre of the circles and open it out.
- Children hold the full circle and move the upper circle around to reveal the 10 plagues.

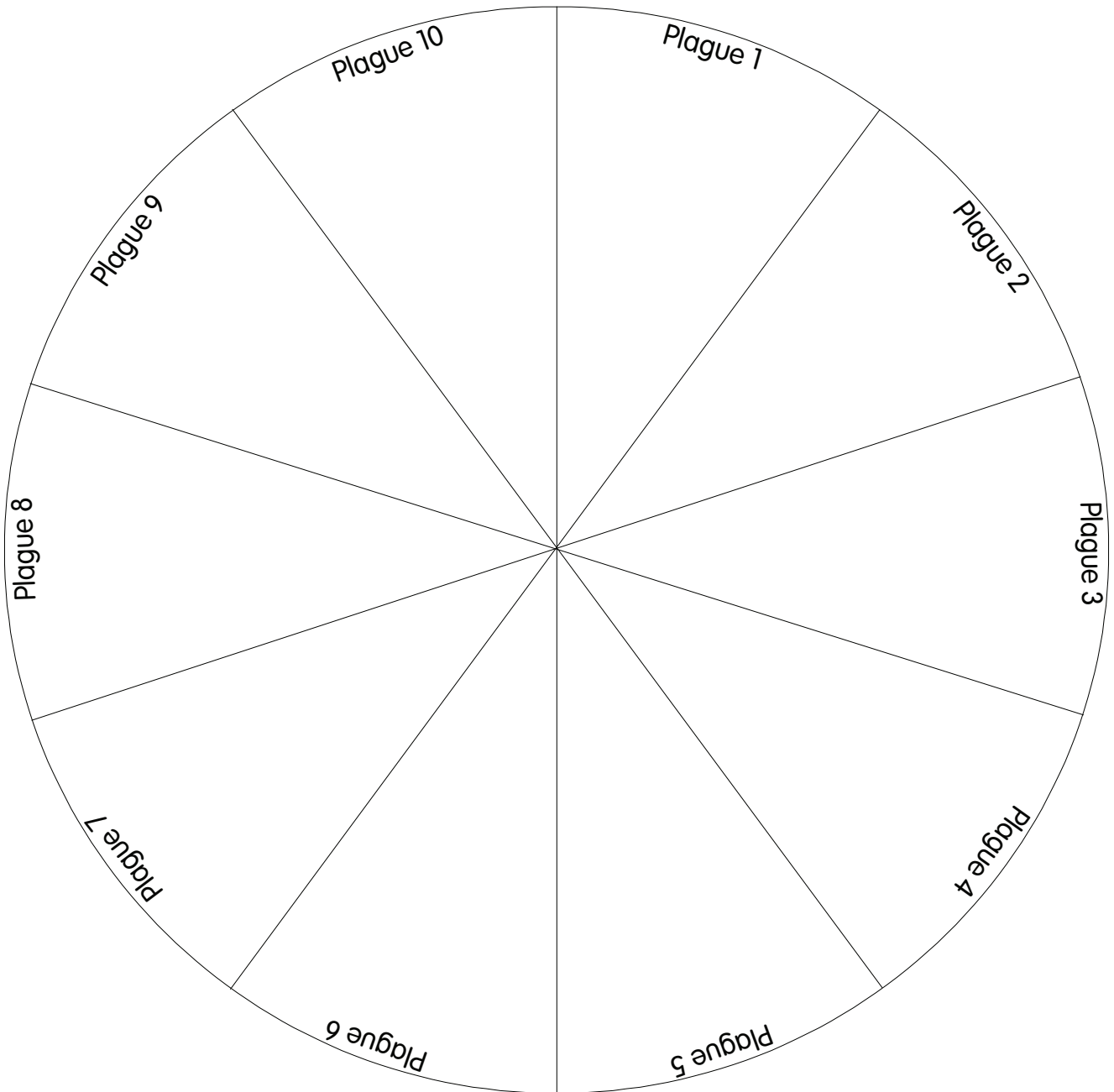
"Let My people go"

Activity A - Bricks and Straw



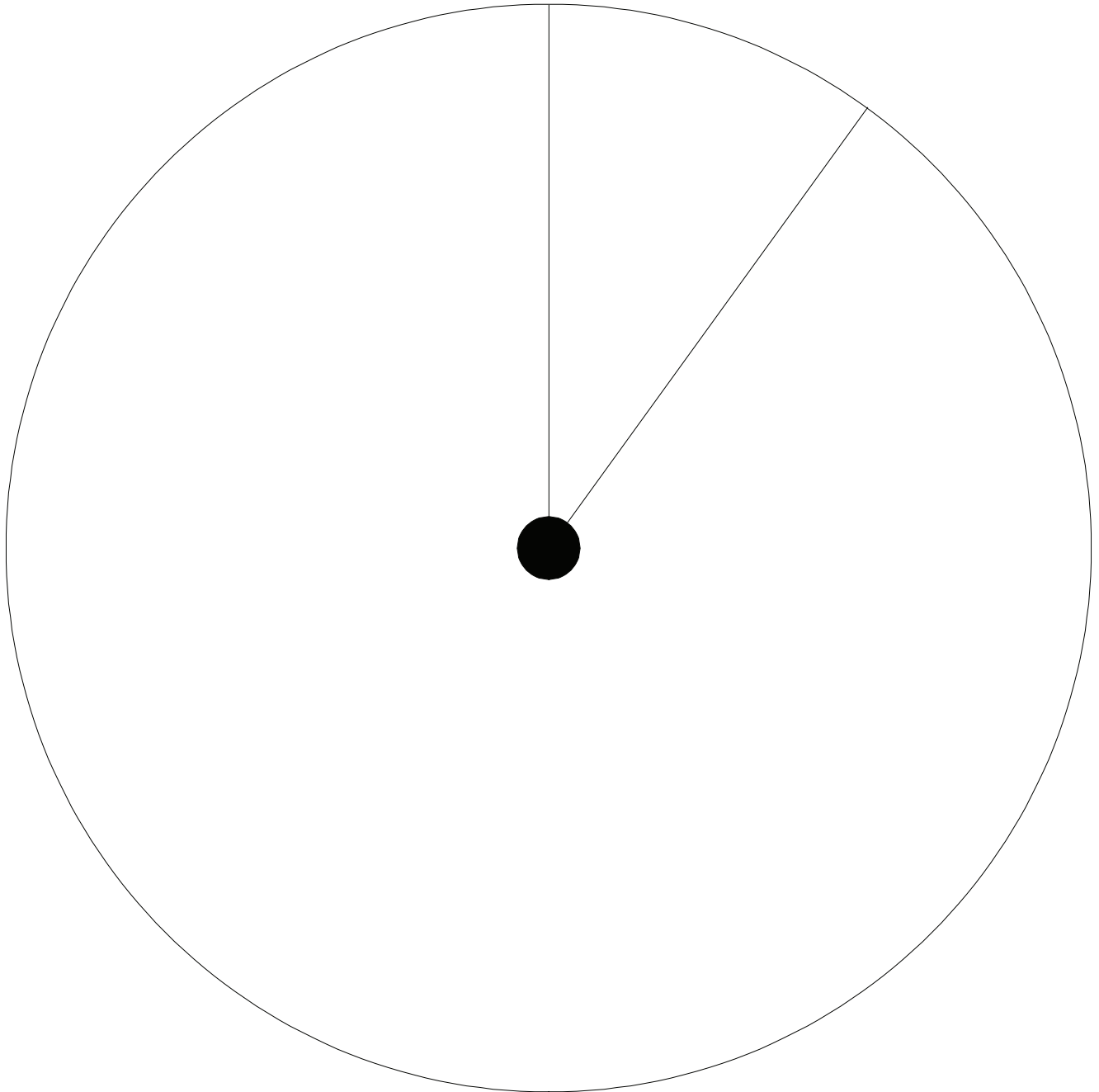
"Let My people go"

Activity B - Plagues Turning Wheel



“Let My people go”

Activity B - Plagues Turning Wheel



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The first passover, Israel delivered

Exodus 12

Storyline

The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron telling them to explain to the children of Israel that they were to take a perfect male lamb, kill it at sunset and put the blood on the side and top door-posts of their houses. The lamb was to be roasted and eaten with unleavened bread. They were to eat it fully clothed, ready to go on a journey, and to eat in a hurry. This was the Lord's Passover. They explained that God would pass through the land of Egypt that night and strike all the firstborn of Egypt, both man and beast. This was God's judgment on Egypt, but God would pass over each house that had the blood of the lamb on the door-post. This was their protection. They were to celebrate this Passover feast each year and teach their children the meaning of it. At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn of Egypt. Pharaoh and all his servants called for Moses and Aaron and told them to go. The Egyptians, in their haste to get rid of the Israelites, gave them articles of silver and gold.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. If choosing Theme 1, take along two pieces of playdough or plasticine per child. One small very hard piece, (either sun-dried or baked in the oven) and one fresh piece. Give the children hard pieces and ask them if they could mould them into something useful. They should find this impossible! Explain that this is what happens when we harden our hearts. God can't mould us. Now give them the soft pieces and show them how easy it is to mould them. It is the same for God when we have soft hearts.
2. If choosing Theme 2, incorporate Activity A with the teaching of the lesson.

Theme One

"Soft and hard hearts"

We have to decide whether we will obey God or not. If we choose to keep disobeying God, we shall find our hearts become "hard" towards Him. If we love to obey, we have what is called a "soft heart" and this will keep us close to God.

Key Thought

Pharaoh had decided to disobey God at every turn. If we choose to be disobedient our hearts will become hard. But if we listen and obey, we will know God.

Aim

To help the children to understand that God loves a soft and obedient heart.

Memory Verse

"Do not harden your hearts." (Hebrews 3:8).

Theme Two

"Different, but not hard"

God sometimes asks us to do something that we have never done before. When this happens we should be excited and not scared, because He never asks us to do things that are too hard for us. If we trust Him, He will enable us to do what He asks us to do.

Key Thought

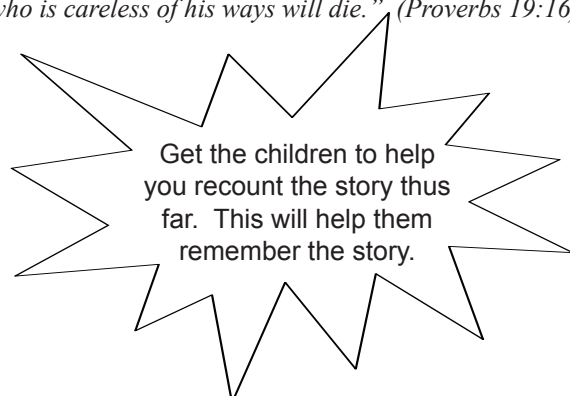
To prepare the Passover meal, the children of Israel had to follow God's instructions carefully. Because they did this they were kept safe. Our obedient actions please God.

Aim

For the children to happily follow God's instructions, whatever they may be.

Memory Verse

"He who is careless of his ways will die." (Proverbs 19:16).



Activity A - Getting Ready Mime

Make sure this activity is the last thing done, so the children can go when they have eaten the passover.

Materials

- Pita bread or flat bread sufficient for children to break off a piece each.
- Roast lamb, diced into chunks.

Steps

- Explain to the children that they will have to use their imagination, as they are going to act out the first passover. They will have to pretend the props are there.
- Place blood of lamb on doorposts and lintels. First on top, then on left and right.
- Tie belt on waist.
- Put sandals on feet.
- Hold staff in hand.
- Break a piece of bread off the larger piece and take a piece of lamb.
- Eat bread and piece of meat standing up, as if ready to go.
- When complete, exit.

Activity B - Lamb Sewing Card

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Cardboard (enough to make 1 sheet of A4 per child).
- Glue.
- Sewing bodkins 1 per child (these are blunt needles). Alternatively you could reinforce the end of the wool by wrapping a piece of sticky tape around it, or simply tie the wool to a bobby pin.
- Coloured wool.
- Scissors.

Steps

At Home

- Cut Cardboard to A4 size.
- Glue Activity Sheets to cardboard.
- Allow to dry, then place under weights to stop them curling up.
- Using a bodkin, punch holes around the lamb, on the dots.
- Thread bodkins ready for use.
- Tie a threaded bodkin to each sewing card ready for the activity.

In Class

- Children sew in and out around the outline of the lamb.
- Children sew across the lamb in whatever way they desire to fill in the lamb. Help will be needed to join on more wool.



The first passover, Israel delivered

Activity B - Lamb Sewing Card



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Crossing the Red Sea

Exodus 13:17 - 15:21

Storyline

God led the people around by way of the Red Sea. The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, and by night in a pillar of fire for light. The Lord told Moses to camp by the Red Sea, and that Pharaoh's heart would be hardened again and he would chase them. Pharaoh heard where they were camping, took his chariots and captains, and went after them. The children of Israel saw them coming and became very afraid. They cried out to the Lord and complained to Moses. Moses told them not to be afraid, but to stand and see God save them. The Lord made a strong east wind blow all night and the sea divided, so the children of Israel could walk through the sea on dry ground. The pillar of cloud moved behind the children of Israel and became light to the Israelites and darkness to the Egyptians who were chasing them. The Lord made it hard for the Egyptian army, by making the wheels come off their chariots. When the children of Israel were safely through, God told Moses to stretch out his hand again, and the sea returned, drowning the Egyptian army. The children of Israel saw the great work of God. They feared the Lord and believed Him and His servant, Moses. Miriam and the children of Israel sang songs of praise to God.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Cut and paste some blue cellophane or blue paper to the inside of a shoe-box lengthwise. Cut most of the two short ends out of the shoe-box (just leave enough on the ends to stop the sides from falling in or out). This will represent the rolled back waters of the sea. Create some people from pipe-cleaners. Add some sand and pebbles to the bottom of the box. As you tell the story, the children could participate, by moving the pipe-cleaner people through the sea.

Theme One

"Deliverance is of the Lord"

When we walk with the Lord, even though we don't know what each day will bring, we can trust Him; He will always make a way for us. As Christians we have started on a journey, just as the children of Israel had. He will care for us as he did for Israel.

Key Thought

When it appears that there is no way, God sees beyond what we can. We should not be worried or scared but trust and pray that God will care for us.

Aim

For the children to know that God is trustworthy in all situations.

Memory Verse

"Teach me Your way, O Lord." (Psalm 27:11).

Theme Two

"Our amazing God"

God has proved Himself to be faithful. His word shows us many times His amazing miracles that He has performed. He is still the same today and is still doing amazing things in the lives of people who will trust Him and follow Him joyfully.

Key Thought

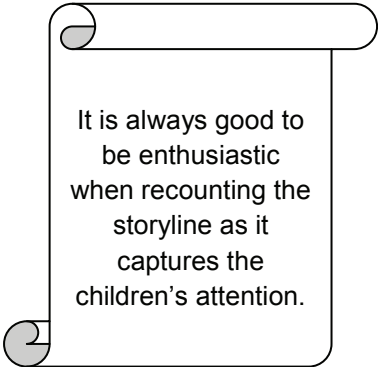
Just as the children of Israel were excited about the amazing way God saved them, so we too can be excited because we have the same God who saves us.

Aim

For the children to know that there is joy and excitement in going God's way.

Memory Verse

"We will rejoice and be glad." (Psalm 118:24).



It is always good to be enthusiastic when recounting the storyline as it captures the children's attention.

Activity A - Faith Lamp Mobile

Materials

- 1 of each 2 Activity Sheets per child, mounted or photocopied onto cardboard.
- Glue.
- Colouring pencils.
- Wool/string.
- Hole punch.
- Scissors.

Steps

At Home

- Depending on the abilities of your class, you may do as much of this activity as you wish, at home. Perhaps do all the cutting out and join the feet to the letters, just leaving the children to join the feet to the lamp.
- Cut even lengths of wool/string for mobiles.
- Punch hole in top of lamp and 5 holes at bottom of lamp, as indicated.
- Make up a mobile for children to copy on the day.

In Class

- Children cut out feet and letters FAITH.
- Punch holes in feet and letters as indicated.
- Using the wool/string, join feet to lamp, making sure feet are walking towards the light.
- Join the letters to the feet in the correct order.



Activity B - Rejoicing with Music

Materials

- A variety of clean empty containers, preferably with plastic lids eg: ice cream containers, plastic bottles such as juice or cream bottles, etc.
- A variety of things to put in them like uncooked rice, pasta, or dried peas. Perhaps some small pebbles.
- Sticky tape.

Steps

- After putting different amounts of rice etc., in the bottles, sticky tape the lids on firmly. Use the ice cream containers as drums, and sticky tape their lids on while empty.
- Have the children sing some joyful choruses while making music with the shakers and drums.



Crossing the Red Sea

Activity A - Faith Lamp Mobile



Crossing the Red Sea

Activity A - Faith Lamp Mobile



Manna, water from the rock

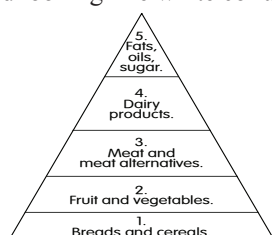
Exodus 16; 17:1-7

Storyline

After a month of wandering, the Israelites began complaining again because there wasn't much food left. They wanted to be back in Egypt. The Lord promised "bread from heaven" and told them how and when to gather it. That evening God supplied quails for them to eat and the next morning there was manna on the ground. Each household had to collect enough manna for the day, but if they were greedy, the left-overs rotted. Before the Sabbath, they collected a double quantity and it stayed fresh. Moses and Aaron kept some manna in a pot to remind future generations of the Lord's provision. The people continued to eat manna but as they travelled around there was no water for them to drink. They complained. The Lord told Moses to strike the rock in Horeb and water would come out. Moses was disappointed because the people doubted that God was still with them.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Show the children a food pyramid (they may not yet have seen one in the school system). Talk about how today, to stay healthy, we need a variety of the foods God has provided. Talk about how we can get sick by missing just one of the food types eg: lack of level 2 will bring about scurvy from a vitamin C deficiency. Lead to the fact that one food specially made by God, was able to keep these people healthy for a lifetime. For theme 1, highlight the fact that it would have been a boring experience they had to learn to accept, with regard to food. Teacher Note: Quails are edible birds, a little smaller than pigeons. They grow to 7" or 180mm. Manna was described as tasting like (Middle Eastern) wafers, made with honey and looking like white coriander seed.



Theme One

"Don't be a complainer"

Sometimes we can be very self centred. Even when God is meeting the needs in our lives, we can still find things to complain about. We must learn to realise that the Lord will always provide whatever is best for us even when what He gives is not what we would have chosen.

Key Thought

When the Israelites complained to Moses they were really blaming God. We must remember that all complaining is really whingeing about God's provision.

Aim

To encourage the children to have a thankful heart at all times at what God provides for them.

Memory Verse

"My God shall supply all your need." (Philippians 4:19).

Theme Two

"God is good"

We know that every good gift comes from God. We know, too, that He is well able to meet every need. Just as God has always met us in the ordinary circumstances of life, so too in the unusual circumstances.

Key Thought

In the wilderness God provided in every way what was good for the children of Israel. Out of God's goodness, He provides what is good for us, too.


Aim

For the children to know that **whatever** God provides for them is **totally** good.

Memory Verse

"Forget not all His benefits." (Psalm 103:2).

Activity A - Picture Book of God's Help

<p>1.</p> <p>God is our Helper</p>	<p>God helped the Israelites.</p> <p>2.</p> 
<p>3.</p> <p>Something God did for me.</p>	<p>4.</p>

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.
- Stapler.

Steps

At Home

- Cut out Activity Sheets and staple into 4 page booklets, one per child.

In Class

- Children colour in the title page. On the second page they can draw in the water coming from the rock, some manna in the baskets, and colour the picture. On the third and fourth pages they draw pictures of things that God has done to help them in the past, or of anything they can remember from the Scriptures.
- The object of the activity is for the children to remember God's provision.

Activity B - Collecting Manna

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Staplers.
- Popcorn.
- Tablecloth.
- Large bowl.
- Blanket.
- Water cooler with tap, or similar.
- Cups - 1 per child.

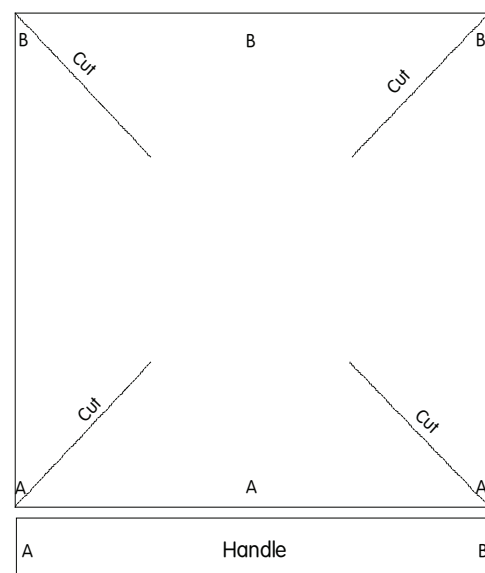
Steps

At Home

- Cut out the baskets.
- Fill the water container.

In Class

- Spread blanket for children to sit on.
- Children make baskets by placing all 'A' points together and stapling, then all 'B' points together and stapling them. Add handle by stapling at points A - B.
- Seat the children on the blanket.
- Spread the tablecloth on grass and place a large bowl of popcorn in the centre.
- Ask each child in turn to take their basket and collect 1 piece of 'manna'. Do this 5 times, (representing the 5 days), then on the 6th allow them to collect 2 pieces each.
- Help children fill cups with water from the cooler.
- Enjoy 'manna' and water for morning tea.



Manna, water from the rock

Activity A - Picture Book of God's Help

God
is our
Helper

1.

God helped the Israelites.



2.

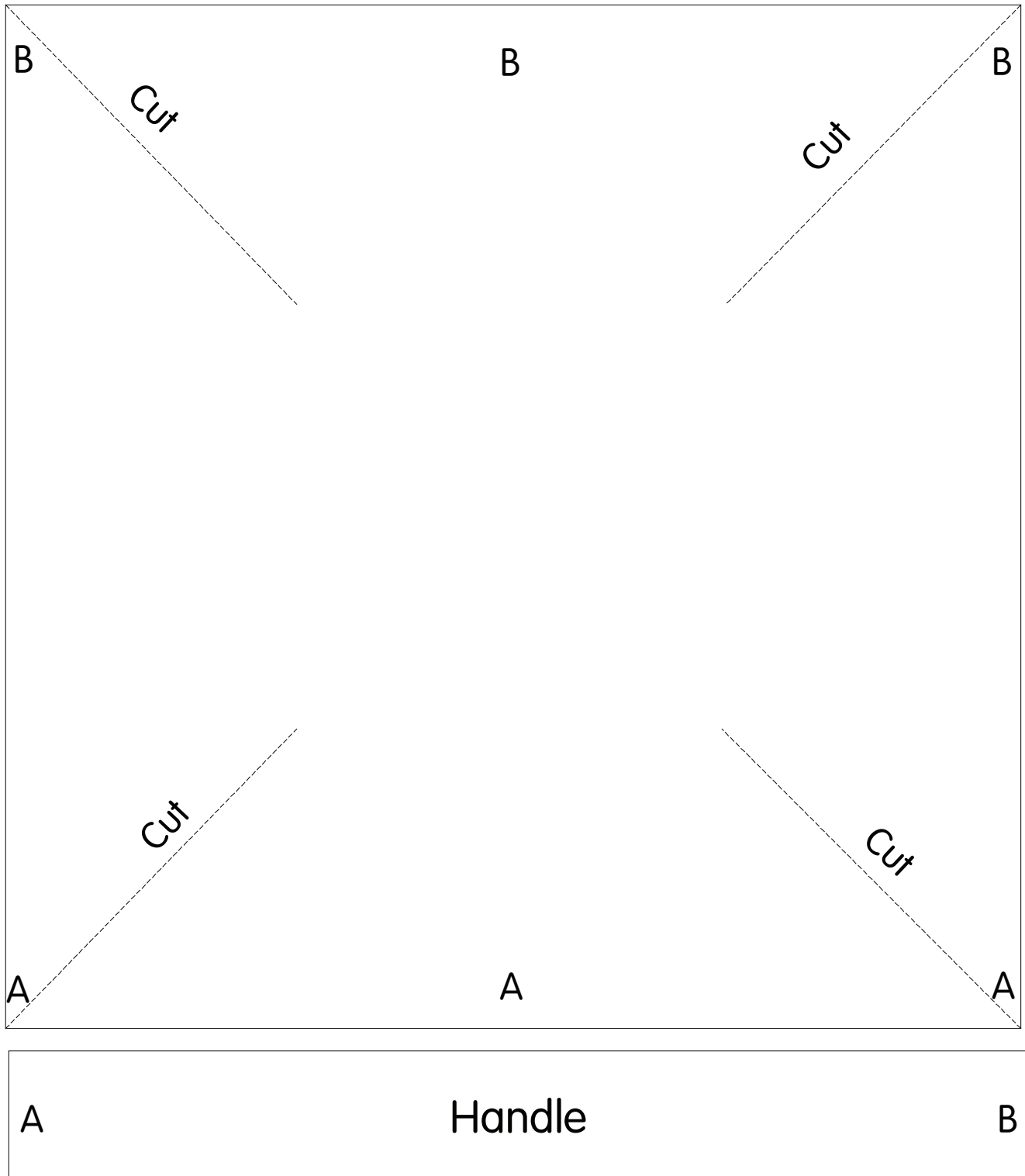
Something God did for me.

3.

4.

Manna, water from the rock

Activity B - Collecting Manna



Sinai and the ten commandments

Exodus 19 & 20

Storyline

Soon after leaving Egypt, the Israelites reached Mt Sinai and camped there. God called to Moses from the mountain and Moses told the people of the promises of God. The people quickly promised to do “all that the Lord has spoken”. The people got ready for the third day, when the Lord would come down on Mt Sinai to speak to them as He said He would. On the third day the people went with Moses to the mountain, but there was thunder, lightning, trumpets and smoke and the people were very frightened. They asked Moses to talk to them and not let God speak, or they would die. Moses told them that they needed to learn to “fear the Lord.” The people stayed at the foot of the mountain while Moses went up to the mountain top, where God gave him the ten commandments. The Lord also gave Moses instructions on how the people should worship Him and not build gods for themselves, and how they should live.

Suggested Teaching Approach

Tell the story using cone mountain from Activity A and pipe cleaner characters. Have children participate by making noise of thunder and trumpet and acting scared.

Discuss with children: **Theme 1** - How they can approach God through Jesus, in prayer.
Theme 2 - How sin in our lives makes us just the same as the world.

Theme One

“Approaching God”

Many people are afraid of God because they don’t know Him and they don’t trust Him. They don’t want to come near to God. We don’t have to be afraid to approach God. Jesus has made a way for us to come to God.

Key Thought

Unlike the children of Israel, we don’t have to approach a scary, shaking mountain, that is covered in cloud, with thunder and lightning. Jesus invites us to come to Him.

Aim

For the children to see that the way of approach to God is through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Memory Verse

“Jesus said ... ‘I am the way.’” (John 14:6).

Theme Two

“A holy nation”

God wants us to separate ourselves from wrong behaviour, such as lying, disobedience, jealousy, and learn to live God’s way. We should be serving God and God will change our hearts so that we can become like Him.

Key Thought

God gave His commandments to the children of Israel. He wanted them to be a nation different from the nations around them, to show what His kingdom is like.

Aim

For the children to know that God wants them to be holy as He is holy.

Memory Verse

“For you are a holy people to the Lord.” (Deuteronomy 7:6).

Activity A - Make Mt. Sinai

Materials

- Enough cardboard to cut out 1 mountain per child from the template provided. You can buy cardboard sheets, or use the backs of cereal boxes.
- Scissors.
- A stanley knife to cut slits in mountains.
- White cotton wool.
- Glue.
- Colouring pencils.

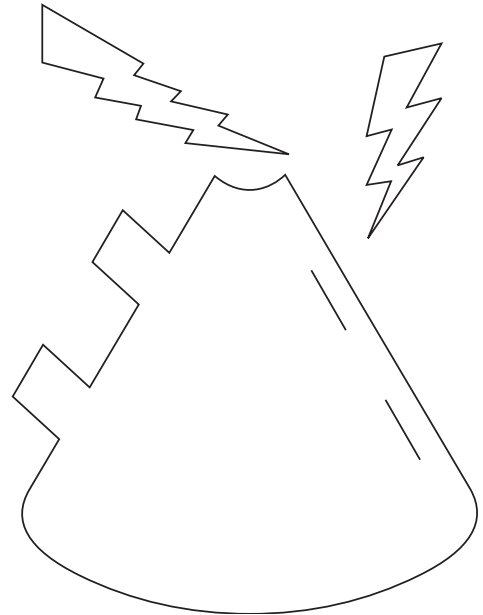
Steps

At Home

- Pre-cut mountains, and cut slits for tabs to go through, with a stanley knife. Make a mountain to assist in the telling of the story. Also make some toilet roll characters, by drawing faces, hair, clothes etc, on empty toilet roll cylinders. You will need at least 7 or 8. One to represent Moses, one for Aaron, and the rest to represent God's people. Out of the scraps of cardboard left over, cut out some jagged lightening strikes. (Approx. 2 per child.)

In Class

- Children colour mountain and lightning strikes.
- Children slide tabs through slits to make a cone shape.
- Children glue thinned out cotton wool around the top of the mountain to represent clouds.
- Children stick lightning strikes to cotton wool.



Activity B - God's Mirror

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- 1 piece of alfoil or silver backed gift wrapping paper, a bit smaller than half the size of an A4 sheet, per child. (Anything that is silver and shiny.)
- Scissors.
- Glue.

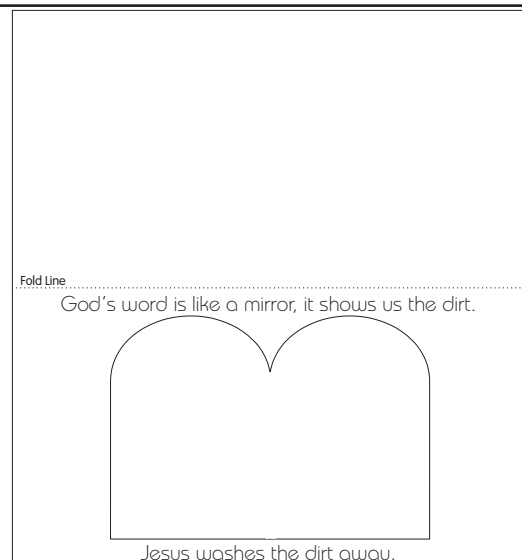
Steps

At Home

- If your class is not capable of cutting out the stone tablet shape, pre cut them at home. It is probably a good idea to make the fold line before class as well.

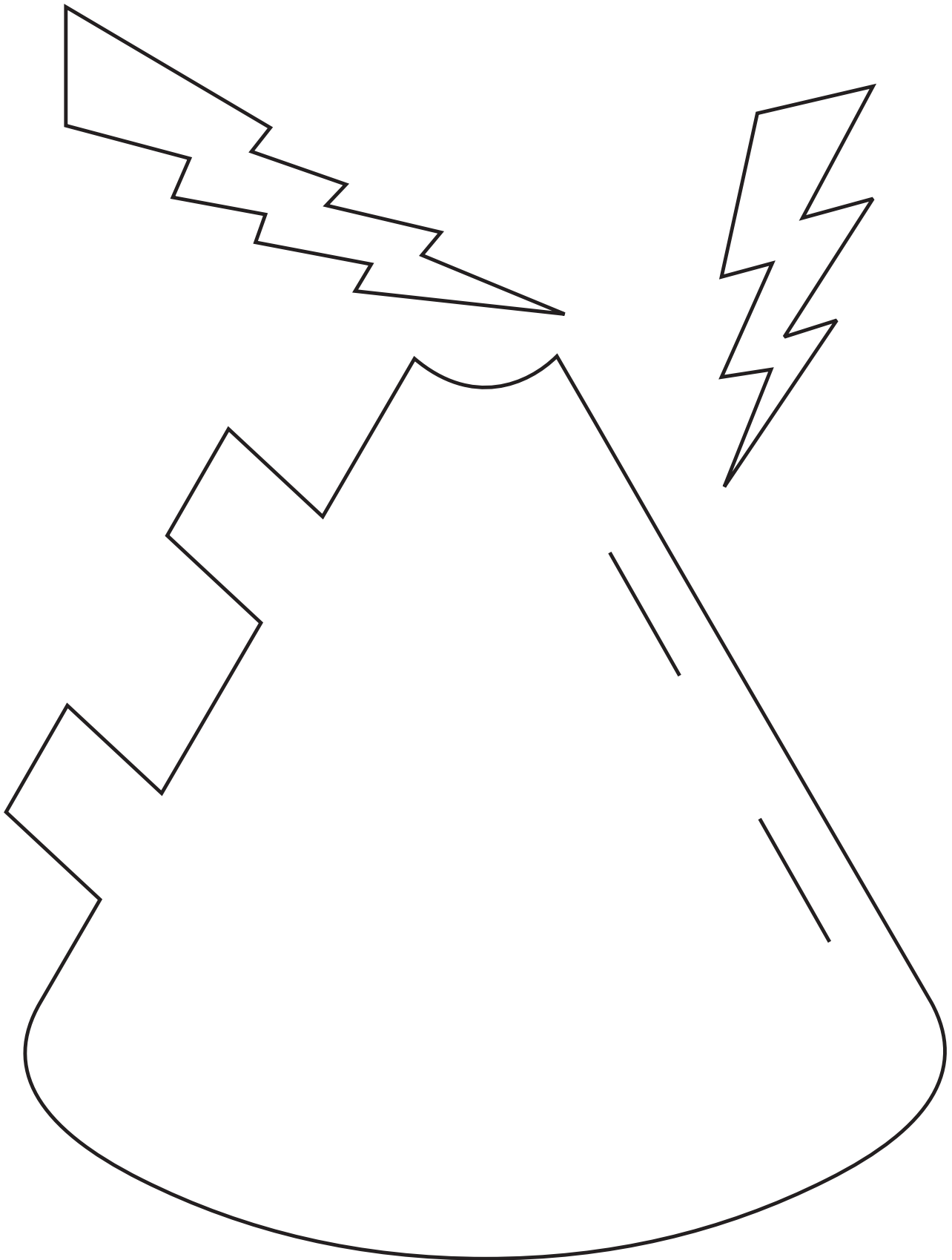
In Class

- Children turn over Activity Sheet, so that there is no writing showing.
- Children apply glue to the uncut half of the Activity Sheet and put silver paper on it, leaving a margin around the edge, with glue on it.
- Children fold down top half so that it sticks over the silver paper.
- You should now have a mirror in the shape of the two stone tablets, with writing around it.



Sinai and the ten commandments

Activity A - Make Mt. Sinai

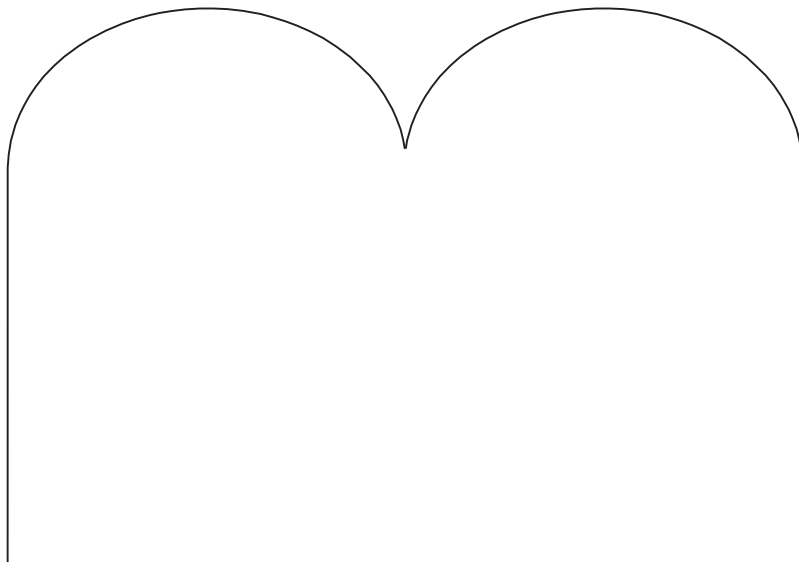


Sinai and the ten commandments

Activity B - God's Mirror

Fold Line

God's word is like a mirror, it shows us the dirt.



Jesus washes the dirt away.

Moses and the tabernacle

Exodus 24 - 30

Storyline

Moses told the people all that God had said and they agreed to obey. Moses was told to come up the mountain again to receive the law and commandments written on tablets of stone. The cloud covered the mountain for six days and on the seventh the Lord called to Moses. The people of Israel could see God's glory like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Moses stayed on the mountain 40 days and 40 nights. The Lord told Moses to get free-will offerings from the people and gave him the pattern of the tabernacle. He wanted them to build. Moses was given very detailed patterns for the building, all the furniture, garments, perfumes and duties for the priests, offerings to be made and the Sabbath law.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Children need to be given something they can see and touch for this lesson. Possibilities: (1) a model tabernacle which the teacher supplies, (2) making a mock up tabernacle with cans, boxes, rope, sheep skins, cow hide, sheets.
2. Using the model tabernacle, a priest, a lamb (get one from a child's farm set), people (building blocks or clothes pegs), tell the story showing what the priest and people did. Point out how the people could always see the cloud and fire but could only go into the outer court even though the presence of God was in the middle of their mobile city.
3. Have children repeat story using figures and animals.

Theme One

"True worship"

The centre of the worship of the children of Israel was the tabernacle. We gather as God's family to worship Him, but we can worship God every day when our hearts are committed to living and serving Him.

Key Thought

Just as the tabernacle was in the centre of the camp, and the centre of the lives of the people of God then, so Jesus is the head of the church and the centre of our lives today.

Aim

To help the children realise that true worship is an every day thing for God's people. The way we live shows how important God is to us.

Memory Verse

"Give me your heart." (Proverbs 23:26).

Theme Two

"God has an order"

Just as God had a special plan and an order for the children of Israel to build the tabernacle, God has a special plan and order for our lives. The family is the order that God has ordained, in which we are to live. Each member of the family has a special role and God enables us to fulfil that role through obedience and grace.

Key Thought

Just as God had an exact plan for the tabernacle, so He has an exact plan for families and how they should live.

Aim

To affirm and encourage each child in his/her place in the family and thus in the family of families, (ie the body of Christ.)

Memory Verse

"This is the way, walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21).

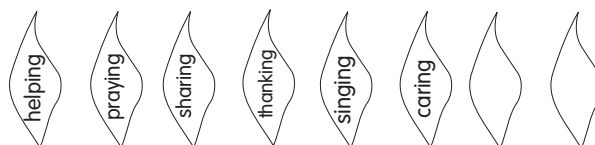
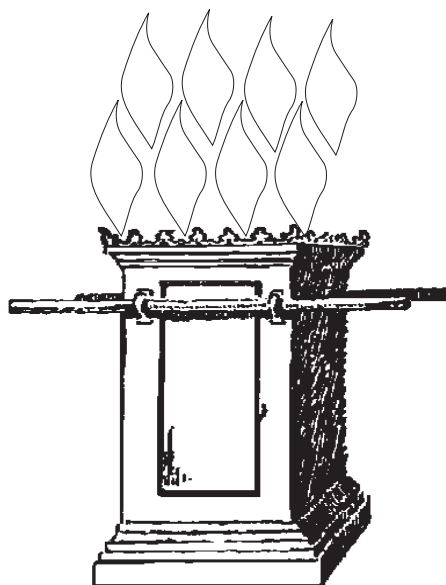
Activity A - Altar of Incense

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils.
- Scissors.
- Glue.

Steps

- Talk about the different ways we worship God, eg. helping, praying, singing etc.
- Have the children think of two more ways they can worship God, and write them on the two blank flames.
- Colour the flames red around the writing.
- Cut out the flames, and glue them onto the flame shapes above the altar.



Every day we worship God in different ways.

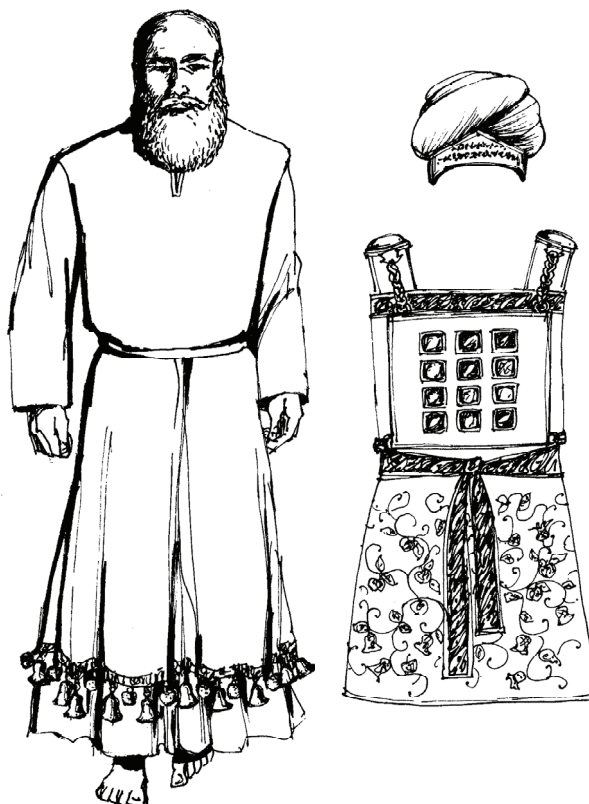
Activity B - Dress the High Priest

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Crayons.
- Scissors.
- Glue.

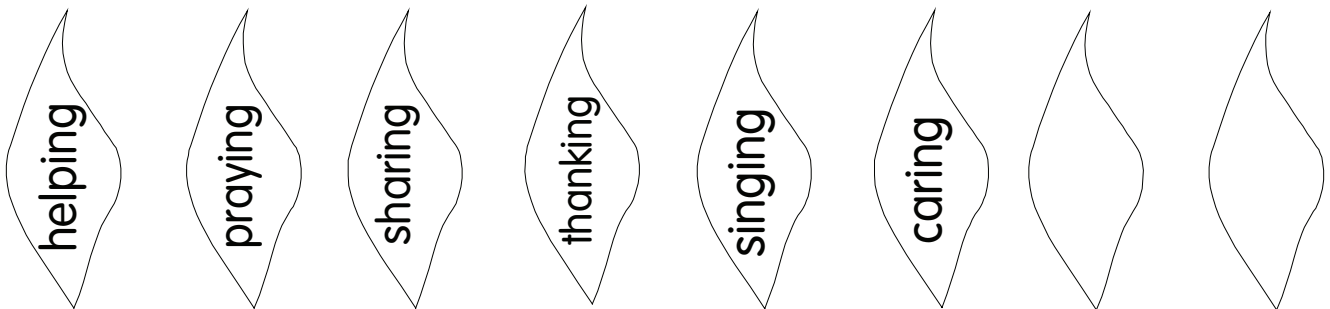
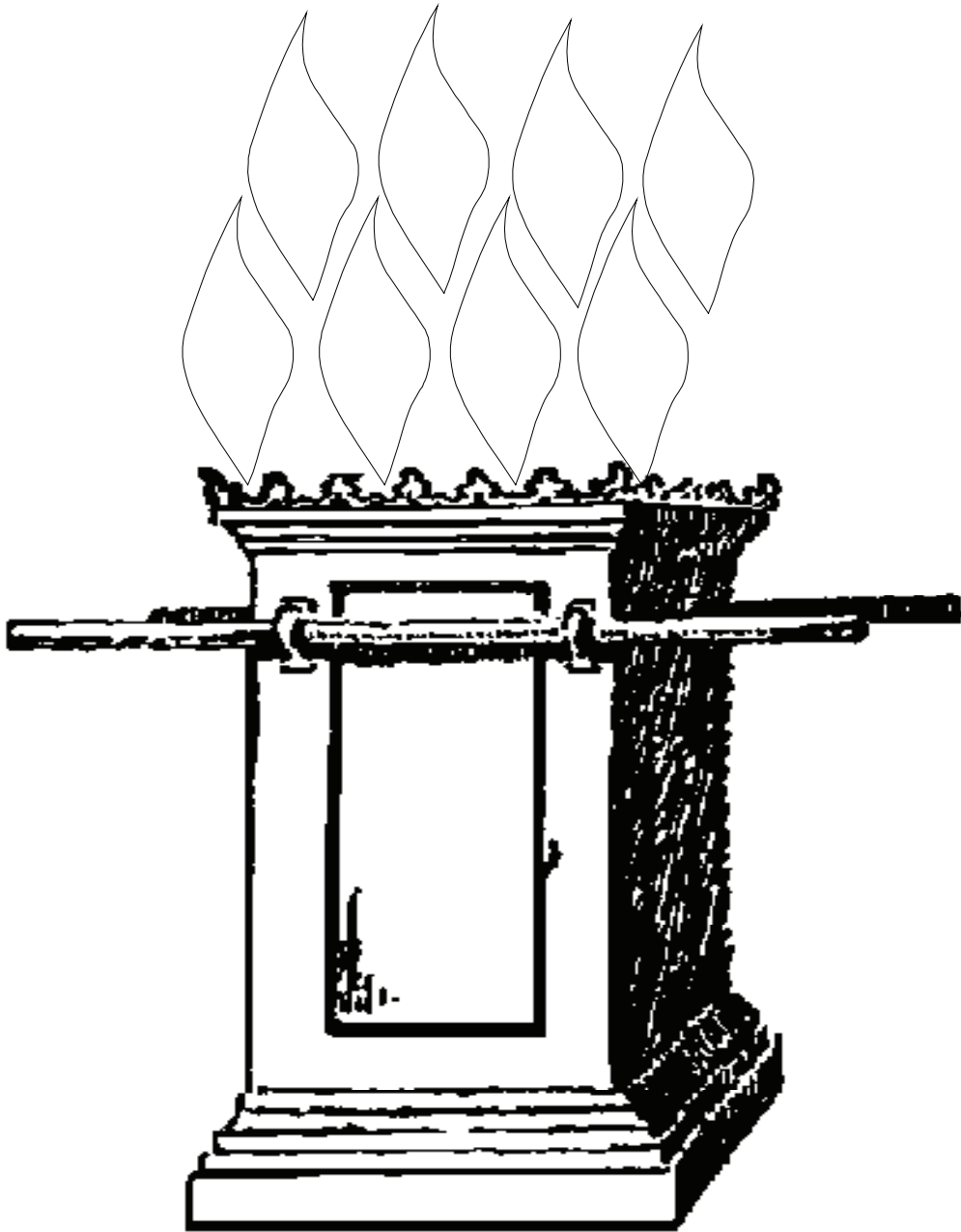
Steps

- Colour in the high priest's garments (it doesn't matter if designs are coloured over).
- Cut out garment and hat and glue onto the high priest.
- Alternatively pre-cut garments out of fabric. Glue them onto the high priest, and decorate with fabric paint.



Moses and the tabernacle

Activity A - Altar of Incense



Every day we worship God in different ways.

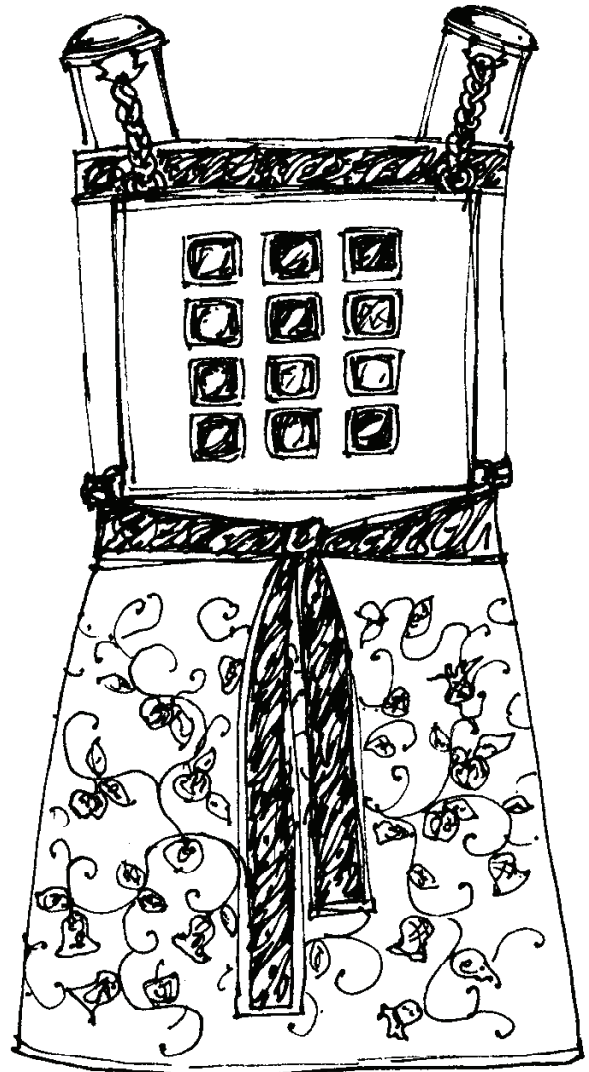
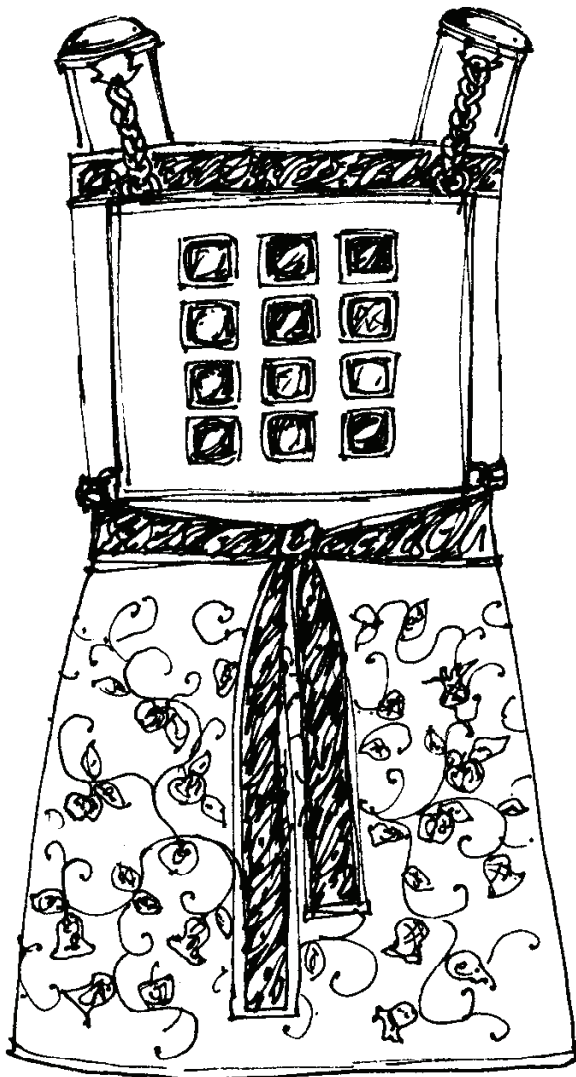
Moses and the tabernacle

Activity B - Dress the High Priest



Moses and the tabernacle

Activity B - Dress the High Priest



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The golden calf

Exodus 32

Storyline

Because Moses stayed up on the mountain for a long time, the people grew impatient waiting for him. They asked Aaron to make gods to go before them and lead them. He collected all the gold from the people and made a golden calf. He then built an altar and proclaimed a feast day for the Lord. The Lord saw all this and told Moses to go and correct these “stiff-necked people”. God was very angry and promised to destroy them, however, Moses pleaded with God not to do so. As Moses came down the mountain, he cast the two tablets, on which God had written, out of his hands and broke them.

Suggested Teaching Approach

1. Have all the ingredients for playdough arranged on a tray.
2. Discuss with children that these ingredients make something. What could it be? How will we know what to do with the ingredients? What would happen if we did what we thought was best without following any instructions?
3. Conclude this discussion with the thought that we need instruction from someone who knows and understands what these ingredients make and how to make it.
4. Recount using a picture Bible, the story of the golden calf, where the Israelites thought they knew what was best. God wanted to teach the Israelites how to live a Godly life, but they thought they knew better. Was it the plan God had for them? No! We need to have a heart that wants to listen and be taught. God has a plan and a way of living for us if we would have a soft heart to listen and obey.

Theme One

“Listening to God”

God leads us and guides us and teaches us how we are to live. He teaches children through their parents and leaders. God wants us to listen carefully to those who care for us.

Key Thought

The children of Israel lost sight of the fact that God was caring for them and worshipped an idol in His place.

Aim

To reinforce that God cares for us and listening to Him is an act of worship and learning.

Memory Verse

“Have no other gods before Me.” (Exodus 20:3).

Theme Two

“Watch and pray”

All sorts of people need us to pray for them. There are people who need to meet Jesus, people who need to be healed. We need to pray for others as well as ourselves, that they and we can be changed from living for ourselves to living for God. We should also watch for the answers to our prayers so that we can thank God.

Key Thought

As Moses pleaded with God for the Israelites, we too can pray and see God meet the needs of others.

Aim

To encourage the children to pray for themselves and others.

Memory Verse

“Pray for one another.” (James 5:16).

Activity A - Playdough Tablet

Materials

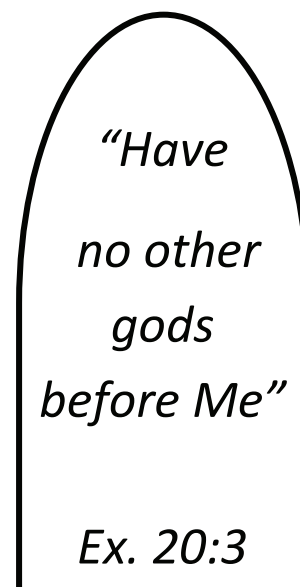
- Playdough – As per recipe
- Tablet insert

Steps

- Children mix the ingredients to make the playdough.
- Children colour in the tablet insert and cut it out.
- Children make a tablet from playdough and place the insert in the playdough tablet being careful to fold over the edges of the playdough to secure the insert

Non-Cook Playdough

1 cup flour
1/2 cup salt
2 teaspoons cream of tartar
1 cup water
1 teaspoon vegetable oil
food colouring of choice



Activity B - Time of Prayer and Colour in Picture

Materials

- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Colouring pencils/felt pens.

Steps

- Encourage the children to each pray for someone they know. It doesn't matter what the need is, the object is just to get them to pray. It would also be good for them to pray for one member of the congregation who they all know, who is in need of prayer. Try to get as many of the children as possible to each pray for that one person.
- The colouring activity is just so the children will have something to take home, so make it secondary.

God wants us to



for each other.

The golden calf

Activity A – Playdough Tablet

*“Have
no other
gods
before Me”*

Ex. 20:3

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Ex. 20:3

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Ex. 20:3

*“Have
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Ex. 20:3

The golden calf

Activity B - Time of Prayer and Colour in Picture

God wants us to



for each other.

Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

Numbers 13 - 14:10

Storyline

God told Moses to send twelve men to go and search out the promised land - one man from each tribe of Israel. He gave them a list of things to find out. They explored the land for 40 days, then reported back to Moses with grapes, pomegranates and figs. Their account was that the land was abundant, but the people who lived there were powerful and gigantic. Ten of the spies thought it would be too hard to take because of the giants, so they spread a bad report about the land. Two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, said that the Lord was on their side and that they could take the land. But the people listened to the ten spies and were afraid.

Suggested Teaching Approach

The story could be told in a small circle, explaining what spies are, and adding excitement by having the children join in with a “sh” every time they hear the word spy, or perhaps saying the words, “But the Lord was with them”, at a given signal from the teacher.

Theme One

“What are the ‘giants’ in your life?”

Sometimes our problems appear to be enormous and frightening. They may seem to us like giants that are impossible to overcome. However, if we trust the Lord we know that He can handle the problems, even those that seem like ‘giants’. If we have faith in Him, we shall be able to overcome them.

Key Thought

God doesn’t want us to be afraid, but to trust Him to overcome the ‘giants’ in our lives.

Aim

To help the children see that we don’t have to live in fear; but by trusting the Lord, we can overcome fear.

Memory Verse

“Be strong and of good courage.” (Joshua 1:9).

Theme Two

“Hearing with the ear of faith”

It is clear that God wanted the children of Israel to possess the promised land. He would not have taken them out of Egypt if He had not intended to bring them into the land. Two men saw that, despite the difficulties, God was well able to take them into the land. We need to listen to those who would encourage us to go in God’s ways and turn from those who would discourage us.

Key Thought

God’s people missed out on His best for them, because they did not listen with the ear of faith and believe in God’s power for them to take the land.

Aim

To help the children to believe in God’s way when others would try to lead them another way.

Memory Verse

“Hear, and your soul shall live.” (Isaiah 55:3).

Activity A - Game "Moses Says"

Steps

- Talk to the children about the importance of doing what the Lord says, whether we are told by our parents, or the people in charge of us. Moses was in charge of the children of Israel, and told them what the Lord said.
- Rules are the same as for "Simon Says," but use commands which reflected the life of the people of Israel at that time. Eg:
 - Hammer the tent pegs
 - Feed the sheep
 - Collect the manna
 - Wash yourselves
 - Pack up the tents
 - Pull out the tent pegs
 - Worship the Lord.

Activity B - Missing Words

Materials


- 1 Activity Sheet per child.
- Pens/pencils.

Steps

- After reading Numbers 13:18-20 to the children, have them fill in the missing words. Some of the children will need help with writing. Alternatively, have the children answer the questions verbally and use this activity as a means of class revision.


Answer

- weak
- many
- bad
- forests



What were the things Moses asked the spies to do in the land of Canaan?

He asked them to see what the land was like and whether the people who lived in it were strong or _____ and whether they were few or _____. Was the land God had promised them good, or _____? Were there _____ in this land?



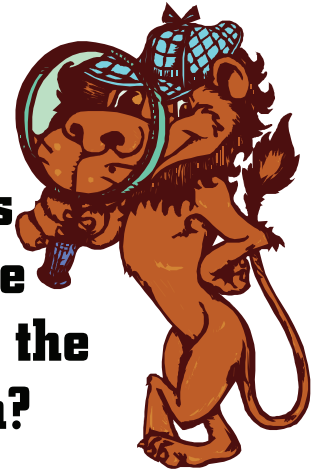
**weak
many
bad
forests**

Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering

Activity B - Missing Words



**What
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He asked them to see what the land was like and whether the people who lived in it were strong or _____ and whether they were few or _____. Was the land God had promised them good, or _____? Were there _____ in this land?



**weak
many
bad
forests**



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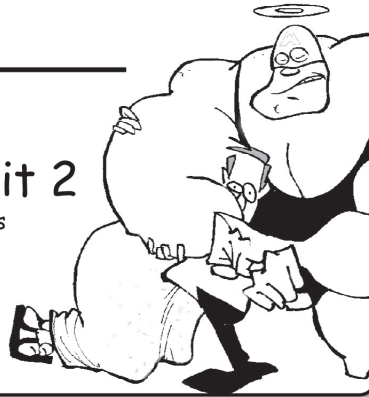
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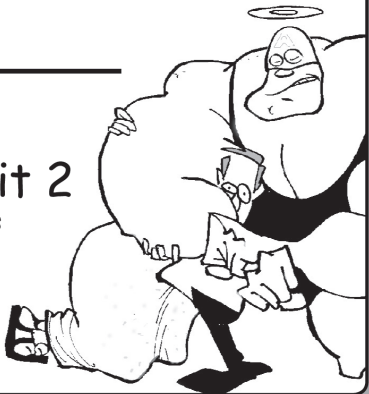
for completing
SonSeekers Unit 2
From Jacob to the 12 Spies



Well Done!



for completing
SonSeekers Unit 2
From Jacob to the 12 Spies



Sonseekers Curriculum

Unit One	Unit Two	Unit Three	Unit Four
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Creation 1 Creation 2 Adam and Eve The fall Cain and Abel Noah builds an ark The flood, Noah and his sons The tower of Babel Abram called, Abram and Lot The covenant with Abraham Ishmael and Isaac Sodom and Gomorrah The sacrifice of Isaac Rebekah, Isaac's bride Jacob and Esau Jacob's ladder, Leah and Rachel 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob becomes Israel Joseph, the favourite son Joseph goes to Egypt Joseph interprets the dreams Joseph's brothers Israel in Egypt Israelite slaves, Moses born Moses flees and returns to Egypt "Let My people go" The first passover, Israel delivered Crossing the Red Sea Manna, water from the rock Sinai and the ten commandments Moses and the tabernacle The golden calf Twelve spies, 40 years of wandering 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aaron's rod Moses hits the rock The bronze serpent Balaam and his ass Joshua and Rahab Crossing the Jordan, Jericho The sin of Achan The sun stands still Gideon's fleece Gideon and his army Samson Samson and Delilah Ruth, Naomi and Boaz Hannah Samuel hears God speak Eli, Hophni and Phinehas 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Saul chosen Saul and the Amalekites David chosen David and Goliath David and Jonathan David and Saul David crowned David and the ark Absalom Solomon becomes king Solomon's temple Israel divided, Rehoboam and Jeroboam Elijah and the widow Elijah on Mount Carmel Good King Jehoshaphat Elisha and the double portion
Unit Five	Unit Six	Unit Seven	Unit Eight
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The widow's oil, a boy raised Naaman Famine in Samaria Jonah The captivity of Israel (the northern kingdom) Hezekiah and Sennacherib Isaiah Josiah Jeremiah The captivity of Judah (the southern kingdom) Daniel interprets the king's dream The fiery furnace The writing on the wall Daniel in the lions' den Esther Restoration 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Zacharias, Elizabeth, Mary and John The birth of Jesus Jesus in the temple John the Baptist Jesus baptised and tempted The call of the disciples Water turned to wine The temple cleansed, Nicodemus The woman at the well Healing of the paralysed man The house built on the rock Jesus stills the storm The feeding of the 5000 The centurion's servant Forgiveness in Simon's house The sower and the seed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jairus' daughter, a woman touches Jesus Jesus walks on the water Miracles of healing The transfiguration A boy is healed The unmerciful servant A man born blind The good Samaritan Prayer The raising of Lazarus The lost sheep, coin and son Attitudes of a servant The marriage of the king's son The ten lepers The ten virgins The talents 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Palm Sunday The last supper and Gethsemane The crucifixion The resurrection Peter restored The risen Christ and His ascension The day of Pentecost Peter and John Peter and the Gentiles Stephen Philip Paul's conversion Paul's first missionary journey Paul's second and third missionary journeys Paul's capture and imprisonment Paul's final journey