

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15



1ST/2ND GRADE



Knights of North Castle Shoes of Peace

BANNER VERSE

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10 (NRSV)

CASTLE CALL-OUT

Armor Up with Peace!

BIBLE STORY

Mary's Journey to Bethlehem
(Luke 2:1-20)

In this session, we transition from the Old Testament to the New Testament. This is a familiar Bible story, and one we usually tell at Christmastime. Mary was just a young woman—a teenager—when an angel told her she would have a child: “the power of the Most High will overshadow you” (Luke 1:35b). The events of Jesus’ birth happened at the same time as a census for the entire Roman Empire. Judea was under Roman rule, so Mary and Joseph had to make a trip to Joseph’s ancestral home to be counted. The way the rest of the story unfolds is familiar to us: Mary and Joseph have trouble finding lodging, are eventually given a stable to use, and then Jesus comes into the world.

Queen Candi's DAILY DECREE:

On Day 3, we must stand firm on our feet.
Ah ha...SHOES help us to do that!

North Castle Welcome

Royal Musicians- “Knights of North Castle”

Sparky

Royal Musicians- “Hey! Hey, Goliath”

Armorer Isabel and Sparky

The Royal Players & The King's Book-
Mary's Journey to Bethlehem

Craft Corner - “Foil Art Nativity”

Assembly Trivia

Royal Musicians- “Emmanuel, God is With Us”
“Be Strong in the Lord”

The Round Table- “Keebler Cookies”
(Your pathway to Peace)

***The way to PEACE is to live like
Jesus did...LOVE ONE ANOTHER!***

RIDDLE 3: Searching for peaceful shoes upon ones' feet? Find a baby asleep where animals eat.



ANSWER:
A Manger!
Mary's journey to Bethlehem.

**Be Strong in
the Lord -
Share the news
of God's Peace
and Love!**



Cokesbury Craft Foil Art Nativity

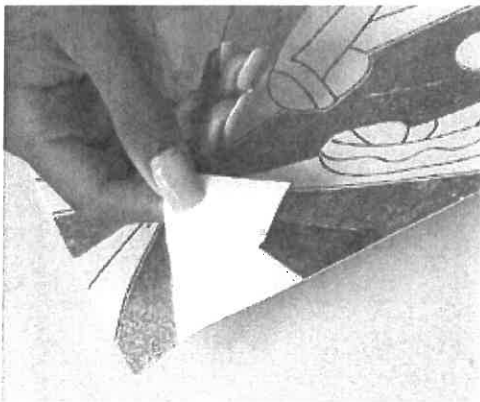
Purpose

Knights will create a nativity scene using foil art. This craft will help them remember and retell the Bible story.

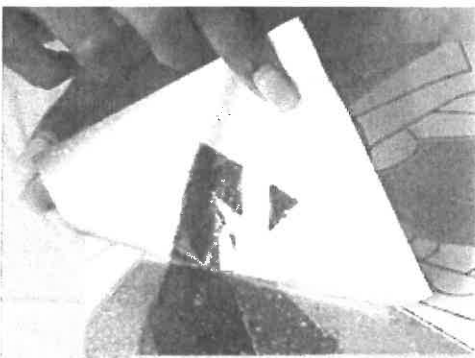
Preparation

Cover tables with tablecloths. Set out supplies. Write Knights' names on the back of their crafts.

Directions



Step 1: Knights peel off one section at a time of the sticky board.

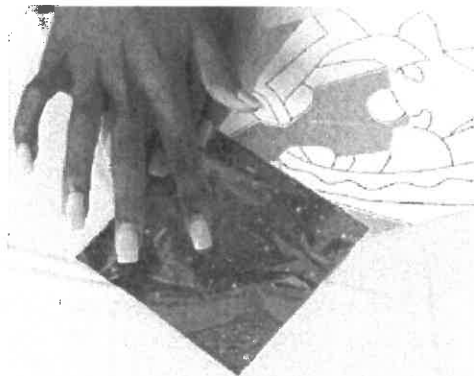


Step 3: Pull up the foil sheet from the selected section of the sticky board to make sure it is covered in foil. REPEAT with each section until the project is complete.

Ages

Appropriate for all ages. Young Knights will need assistance.

Leaders: Please supervise this craft activity by making sure Knights are **placing the foil non-shiny side down** to add color to spaces.



Step 2: Knights will apply selected foil (**non-shiny side down**) onto the sticky board. Rub shiny side of the foil. Cover the entire area of the craft.



Bible Story




Mary's Journey to Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-20

Castle Callout

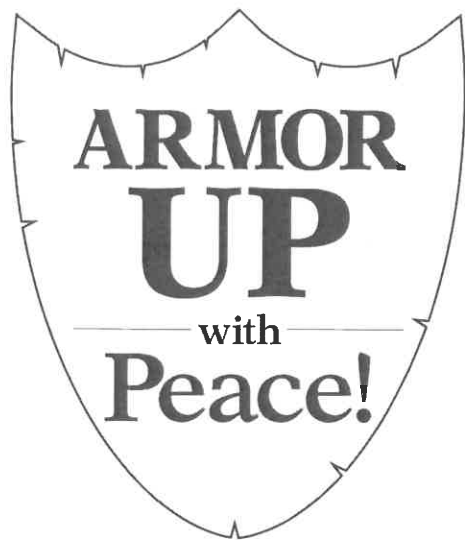
Armor Up with Peace!

Materials

-  plastic tablecloth
-  Foil Art Nativity
-  black marker

Bible Tie-In

In this Bible story we discover that Mary and Joseph were on a long journey to Bethlehem. They couldn't find a place to stay when they arrived, so they went to a place where animals slept. That night baby Jesus was born. Our craft is called a nativity. A nativity of the birth of Jesus is a display of the way it might have looked when Jesus was born.



REFLECTION TIME

1st - 2nd Grade

Along with these questions, your Bible Story "FUN PAGE" is included.
(What's Different)

1. This story has a lot of angels in it. Can you remember everyone in this story who saw angels? (Mary and the Shepherds)
2. How would you feel if you saw an angel?
3. What did the angels say every time someone saw them? (Don't be afraid.)
4. Do you think the people were able to stop being afraid just because the angel said to?

Jesus was born into a world that greatly needed and still needs peace. One thing that can bring each of us peace is knowing that God is with us. Jesus coming into our world was good news of peace back when he was born, and it is good news today because it helps us know God is with us. Knowing this and having this peace is just another way God helps us to be strong.

Speaking of being strong, can you say our BANNER VERSE?

Ephesians 6:10 "Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power."

Jesus being born might seem like a strange way for God to show God's power, but God's power is different. God's power brings peace. God's power can be gentle, just like a baby.

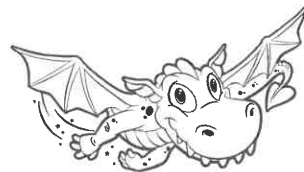
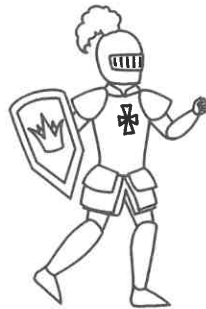
YOUNGER ELEMENTARY FUN PAGES

Banner Verse



Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10 (NRSV)

Circle the item in each row that is different from the others. As you complete this page, think of ways you can be strong in the Lord.





RANGER

Knights in Training!

You'll find
**OPTIONAL
ACTIVITIES**
to do
TODAY

Summer Adventure FUN at HOME!

OPTIONAL
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15



1ST/2ND GRADE

Make-It-And-Take-It Bible Craft

Shoes of Peace

Purpose

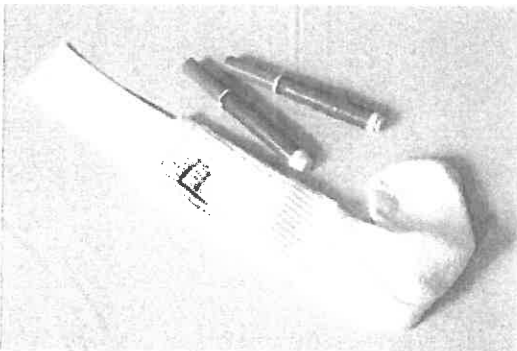
Knights will create part of the Armor of God to help them to remember their quests from VBS.

Preparation

Write the word PEACE on both socks with a black fabric marker.

Tape the socks to the table. This will make it easier to color the socks.

Directions



Step 1: Insert a divider in the sock to prevent color bleeding on the other side.



Step 2: Decorate the socks with red and green fabric markers. (These colors were selected as a tie-in to the Christmas story. However, you may use any colors you choose.)



Bible Story




Mary's Journey to Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-20

Castle Callout

Armor Up with Peace!

Materials

-  plain white socks (child-sized)
-  black, green, and red colors of fabric markers
-  other colors of fabric markers (optional)
-  cardboard
-  masking tape

Bible Tie-In

In this Bible story, Mary and Joseph were on a long journey to Bethlehem. They couldn't find a place to stay when they arrived, so they went to a place where animals slept. That night baby Jesus was born. Jesus is also called the Prince of Peace. Our socks will help us remember to be more like Jesus in all we do and say.

Marble Maze

I. Preparation

Practice controlling a marble by blowing it through the maze. You may wish to have a partner (a Knight or Castle Guide) work with you. You may find that quick, short bursts of air work best. Be prepared to stop the marble with another burst before it escapes the path!

II. Introduction

Say Something Like: **In today's story, Mary had to go on a long journey to reach Bethlehem. We're going to send some marbles on a journey across our tables.**

Ask: (Show Knights a marble) **What are some ways we could make this marble roll? What are some ways we could roll it without touching it?**

Ask: **Once the marble is rolling, how could we keep it from rolling off the table?**

III. Experiment

Step 1. Draw a path on a large piece of paper. Explain to the Knights that the paths should have three turns and stay about 6 inches (18 cm) wide throughout. Turns at right angles (90 degrees) will be easiest to navigate.

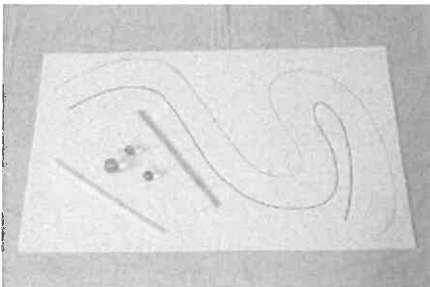
Step 2. Use straws to blow the marble through the maze (alone or with your partner). If the marble escapes the path, start over!

Step 3. Invite Knights to draw their own paths. Give each Knight a standard marble and a straw.

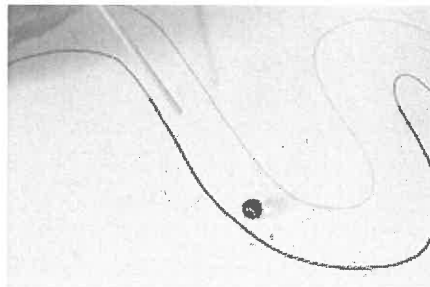
Step 4. Have Knights practice until they can get their marble all the way through the path without it escaping.

Step 5. Give each Knight a larger, heavier marble. Have them attempt to move this marble through the path. How is the experience different when they have a heavier marble?

Steps 1



Step 2



Bible Story






Mary's Journey to Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-20

Castle Callout

Armor Up with Peace!

Materials

-  standard size marbles
-  large (shooter) marbles
-  markers or crayons
-  large pieces of paper: newsprint, oversized construction paper, chart paper, or similar
-  straws

Teacher Tip

Using rougher paper, such as construction paper, with thick crayon lines will make the task easier, so you may want to use these with younger Knights. Additionally, fewer turns will make the task easier for younger Knights. Paper straws will work fine for this activity and can be recycled after use.

Safety Tips

Instruct Knights to tie knots in their straws when they are done, to avoid others accidentally reusing their straws.

IV. Side Quest

Be creative with your mazes! Consider designing your marble courses using materials such as uncooked spaghetti noodles, soft modeling clay or play dough, waxed yarn, pool noodles, or toy car tracks.

Let Knights time how long it takes them to get their marbles through their paths. Try with different tracks. Can you beat other times?

V. How does it work?

You have probably noticed that objects that are sitting still do not start moving without something pushing them. It may be less obvious that objects that are moving keep moving unless something stops them. Isaac Newton described it this way in his first law of motion: An object in motion remains in motion and an object at rest remains at rest unless acted upon by an outside force.

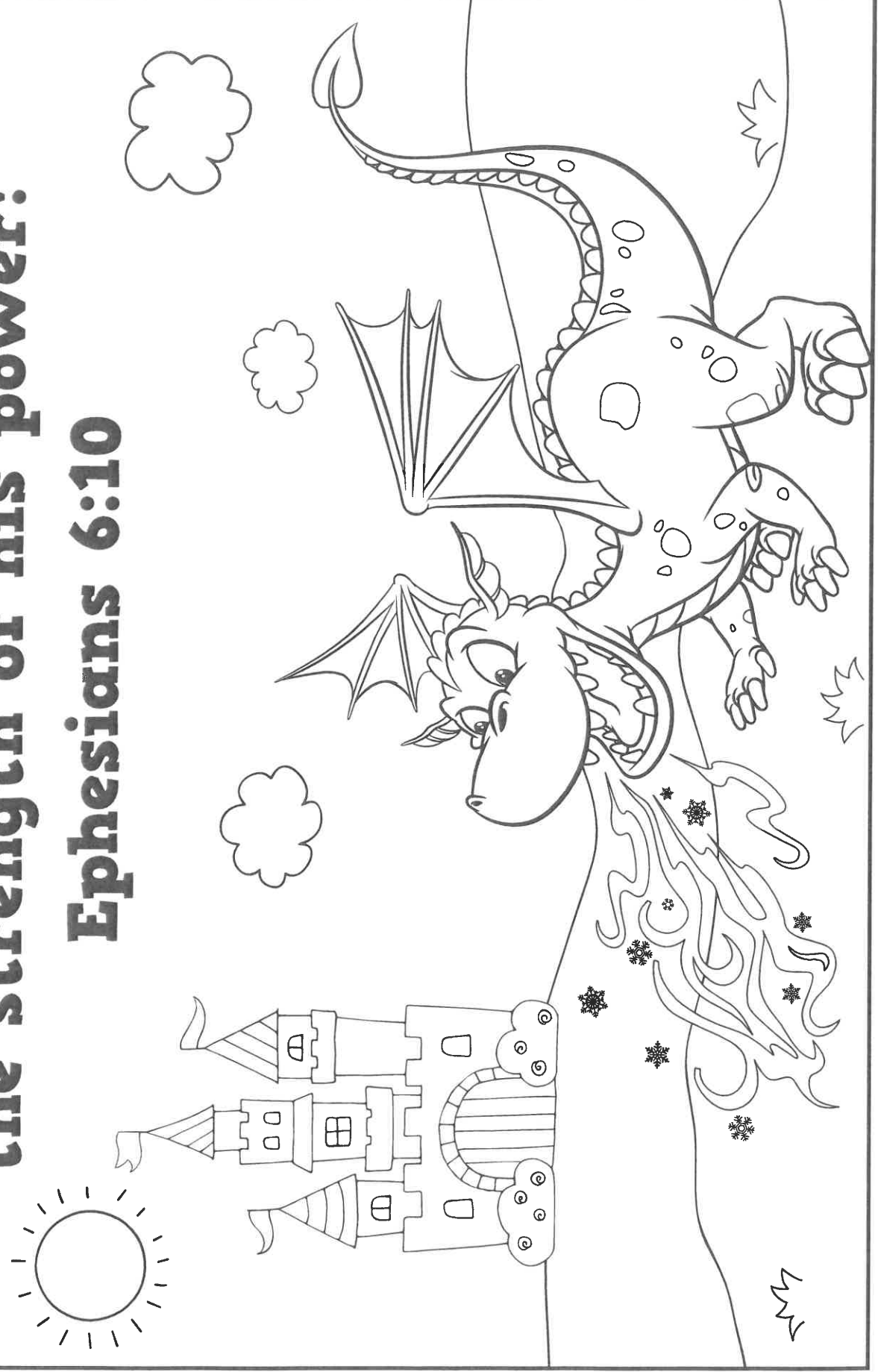
Of course, you have observed that objects do not stay in motion forever. This is because friction, or the rubbing between the object and the ground, is a force that eventually slows and stops an object. In this experiment, the marble experiences very low friction forces, so it requires force from the air to start the marble, and force from the air to stop the marble.

Newton also found that the force needed to start or stop an object depends on its mass. It is more difficult to start and stop the larger marble than the smaller marble because the large marble has greater mass.

VI. Bible Tie-in

Mary's journey to Bethlehem was not easy, but it did help bring God's peace to people. Sometimes being peacemakers can feel as difficult as navigating a path with a marble. God gives us "Shoes of Peace" to help us bring peace into the hard situations in our lives.

**Be strong in the Lord and in
the strength of his power!**
Ephesians 6:10





High Intensity Castle Race

Object

Knights will experience an element of today's Bible story while participating in a race using pool noodles.

Preparation

Designate a large area for the activity. Use ropes or sidewalk chalk to mark a starting line and a finish line. Gather supplies and place them near the starting line.

Let's Play!

Divide Knights into several teams. Have them line up at the starting line.

SAY: When the Knights of North Castle need to go on a quest, they travel on horseback. This course is designed to help Knights become experts at riding horses.

In this game, you'll pretend the pool noodles are horses. (Show a pool noodle to Knights.) Knights will need to ride the horses to the finish line and back.

1. Demonstrate this activity for Knights.
2. To add another layer of challenge, consider having each Knight carry a plastic ball as they gallop with their pool noodles to the finish line and back.
3. The team who completes the course first wins.
4. Begin the activity by having each team line up behind the starting line. Have Knights gallop with their "horses" to the finish line and

back, one team member at a time.

Bible Tie-in

SAY: Mary and Joseph had to travel on a donkey from their home in Nazareth to the town of Bethlehem. At the time, Mary was about to give birth to baby Jesus.

Think about that long trip for Mary and Joseph. I wonder what they were thinking as they traveled.

ASK: What do you imagine they were thinking?

Mary and Joseph knew God was with them as they traveled to Bethlehem. They had peace in their lives that God would help them.

When we have a tough task, we can ask God to help us. We can feel peace in our lives as we trust God to help us and others.

Say a closing prayer, then repeat our Castle Callout together!



Bible Story

Mary's Journey to Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-20

Castle Callout

Armor Up with Peace!

Materials

- ropes or sidewalk chalk (to mark a starting line and a finish line)
- pool noodles (cut in half)
- plastic balls (optional)

Teacher Tip

An adaptation of Castle Race for preschoolers is on page 17.

Medium Intensity

Find the Flip-Flops

Object

Knights will hear about today's Bible story and the Banner Verse as they play a search-and-find game using colorful flip-flops.

Preparation

On each pair of flip-flops, use a permanent marker to write the Banner Verse in the following way: On the sole of one flip-flop in the pair, write "Be strong in the Lord" and on the other flip-flop, write "and in the strength of his power."

Let's Play!

Before the activity begins, hide the flip-flops around the play area (think Easter Egg Hunt).

1. Divide Knights into pairs.

SAY: Today, we are thinking about a piece of armor—Shoes of Peace. In this activity, you and your partner are going to be assigned a color. You must find two shoes—two flip-flops—in your color and bring them back here. However, make sure you have two flip-flops with each part of our Banner Verse.

2. Have Knights say the words of the Banner Verse together: "Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power."
3. When you say "go," teams should begin looking for their color of flip-flops.
4. When they find a matching pair with a complete Banner Verse,

Knights should show their pair to you or to a Castle Guide.

5. The game continues until all the flip-flops have been found.
6. Play again as time allows. Consider different variations of the game. For example, have pairs of Knights search for a different color or hide one flip-flop from their partner.

Bible Tie-in

SAY: In Bible times, people wore sandals often. Why is it strange to think about sandals as a piece of armor?

Encourage Knights to discuss why sandals would be considered a piece of armor.

SAY: When you think about it, good shoes actually would be an important piece of armor! But when Paul talked about shoes as part of God's armor, he didn't talk about "shoes of war." Instead, he wrote: "Put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to spread the good news of peace" (Ephesians 6:15).

Say a closing prayer, then repeat our Castle Callout together!



Bible Story

Mary's Journey to Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-20

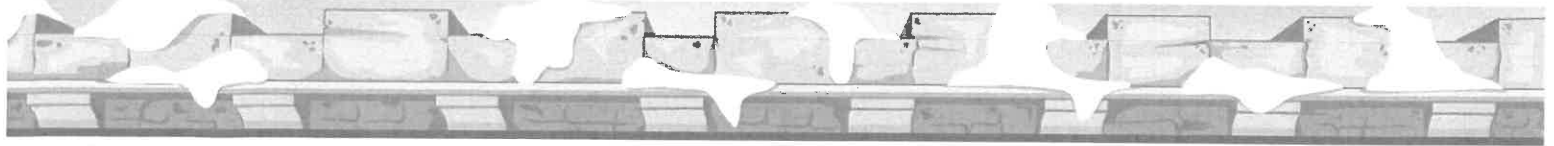
Castle Callout

Armor Up with Peace!

Materials

pairs of inexpensive flip-flop sandals in a variety of colors, one pair for every two Knights

a permanent marker



Bible Story

Mary's Journey to Bethlehem


Luke 2:1-20

Castle Callout

Armor Up with Peace!

Materials

(one set per team)

 surface for molding objects

 soft modeling dough

Teacher Tip

Instead of doing this type of Bible Charades using soft modeling dough, have children act out scenes from the Bible lesson.

Low Intensity Bible Charades

Object

Knights will be reminded of the Bible story as they play Bible Charades.

Preparation

Make sure the recreation area is ready for play. Gather the necessary supplies. Prepare the suggested names for Charades:

Angel

Baby

Manger

Star

Donkey

Shepherd

Tip! For your younger children find pictures of these items and show it to the one who is creating the shape.

Let's Play!

During this activity you will be using the soft modeling dough to mold an item having to do with the Bible story.

1. Divide Knights into small groups of three to four.
2. Select someone from each group to take the first turn. Tell or show that Knight the word or item to create.
3. Once the Knight has created the shape, see if other Knights can guess what it is.
4. Play several more times creating the other items on the list. Have Knights take turns for this activity.

Bible Tie-in

SAY: In this activity items from the Bible story were created. Imagine what it would have been like to have been Mary and Joseph as they traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Invite Knights to reflect on what it would have been like to Mary or Joseph. Depending on your time, allow them to share their reflections.

SAY: Great job today! Thank you for working together as a team to create these Bible Charades.

Say a closing prayer, then repeat our Castle Callout together!