Crafts

Craft Title: "Memorial Stones Diorama"

Materials List:
- Small shoebox or cardboard box
- Blue construction paper (or blue paint)
- Smooth river rocks or small stones (12 per student)
- Markers (permanent)
- Craft glue or hot glue
- Scissors
- Green construction paper
- Brown construction paper
- Optional: Decorative items like moss or toy figures

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Prepare the Box:
- Take the shoebox and lay it on its side to create a base for the diorama. The lid can be used as a stand for the box if needed.
- Line the inside bottom surface of the box with blue construction paper or paint it blue to represent the River Jordan.

2. Create the Riverbank:
- Cut strips of brown construction paper to resemble the riverbank on the sides of the river.
- Glue these strips along the edges where the blue paper meets the sides of the box.

3. Add Vegetation:
- Cut out shapes from the green construction paper to represent grass and small plants.
- Glue these shapes along the riverbanks to add a natural look.

4. Select the Stones:
- Each student should choose 12 small, smooth stones, representing the 12 tribes of Israel.

5. Decorate the Stones:
- Using the markers, have students write a name, word, or symbol on each stone that represents important qualities or values from the story, such as "Faith," "Courage," "Obedience," etc.

6. Build the Stone Memorial:
- Arrange the stones in a pile in the center of the "river" within the box, securing them with craft glue or hot glue. Discuss why Joshua set up stones as a memorial.

7. Optional Decorations:
- Encourage students to add extra touches, like moss, small toy figures, or additional drawings on the diorama to bring the scene to life.

Lesson Reinforcement:

- This craft helps students visualize the Biblical passage from Joshua 4, where God commanded Joshua to have representatives from each of the 12 tribes take stones from the Jordan River to

create a memorial.

- By creatively expressing what the stones symbolize and arranging them, students internalize the story's themes, like remembrance and faithfulness.

- The physical act of building the memorial reinforces the concept of remembrance and allows students to remember the significance through their own crafted "memorial."

This project combines storytelling, symbolism, and creativity, engaging students as they learn about Biblical history and lessons.