Crafts

Craft: Saul's Army Paper Plate Shield

Materials List:
- Paper plates
- Aluminum foil
- Markers or crayons
- Craft glue or glue sticks
- Scissors
- String or ribbon
- Hole punch

Instructions:
1. Create the Shield Base:
- Distribute paper plates to each student. These will serve as the base of the shield.

2. Wrap with Aluminum Foil:
- Have the children wrap the front side of the paper plate with aluminum foil, securing the edges at the back. This will give the shield a metallic look.

3. Decorate the Shield:
- Allow the students to use markers or crayons to decorate their foil-covered shields. They can draw symbols, designs, or words that represent bravery and leadership, inspired by Saul's army.

4. Glue Down Decorations:
- If students wish to add additional materials like cut-out shapes or ribbons, use craft glue to secure these onto the shield.

5. Create Arm Handles:
- Punch two holes on opposite sides of the paper plate. Thread a piece of string or ribbon through the holes and tie knots at the ends to create a handle, so the shield can be worn on the arm.

6. Personalization:
- Encourage students to write their names or a personal motto on their shield to make it unique.

Reinforcement of Lesson:
This craft ties into 1 Samuel 13, where Saul assembles his army and faces a challenging situation. By creating their own shields, students can discuss the themes of leadership and courage that are prevalent in the story. The activity provides a tactile experience that helps children to understand the importance of protection and preparation in facing life's challenges, just as Saul's soldiers prepared for battle. As they decorate and personalize their shields, students are also encouraged to think about what qualities make a good leader, connecting these traits to Saul's role in the narrative.