

Crafts

Craft Activity: Building Solomon's Temple Model

Objective:

To help elementary students understand the construction and significance of Solomon's Temple by creating a simple model.

Materials Needed:

- Cardboard boxes or shoeboxes (1 per group)
- Colored construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Markers or crayons
- Decorative stickers or gems (optional)
- Gold and silver foil paper
- Popsicle sticks
- Ruler
- Printed images of temple furnishings (altar, ark, etc.)

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Introduction (5 minutes):

Begin by briefly discussing the significance of Solomon's Temple as described in 1 Kings 6, focusing on its purpose and grandeur.

2. Base Structure (10 minutes):

Divide the students into small groups. Give each group a cardboard box or shoebox. This will serve as the base of the temple. Have students cut a large rectangle on one side of the box for the entrance.

3. Walls and Roof (15 minutes):

Use construction paper to cover the walls of the box. Encourage students to add designs or patterns using markers. Use additional cardboard pieces for a triangular roof, securing them with glue.

4. Decorations (15 minutes):

Provide gold and silver foil paper for students to create decorative elements reflecting the temple's detailed architecture. Encourage them to be creative with shapes and designs, adding them around the entrance and on the walls.

5. Interior (15 minutes):

Invite students to design the interior using printed images of temple furnishings. They can use popsicle sticks to create furnishings like the altar or the Ark of the Covenant, which they place inside the temple.

6. Final Touches (10 minutes):

Allow time for students to add any final decorative elements, such as stickers or gems, to enhance the model's look.

7. Presentation (10 minutes):

Have each group present their temple model to the class, sharing what elements they included and why. Discuss how these relate back to what they learned in 1 Kings 6.

Reinforcement:

This hands-on activity reinforces the lesson by allowing students to physically engage with the story of Solomon's Temple. As they build, they consider the temple's structure, sacred items, and overall significance. It also encourages teamwork, creativity, and the ability to connect historical descriptions with visual and tactile representations.