

# Daniel

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will participate in the story of Daniel in the lions' den.
- The children will state that Daniel believed that God is powerful.
- The children will tell one way they believe that God is powerful.

## Lesson Text

Daniel 6

## Scripture Memory Verse

"My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions."

*Daniel 6:22*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Dandy Lion Mask

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

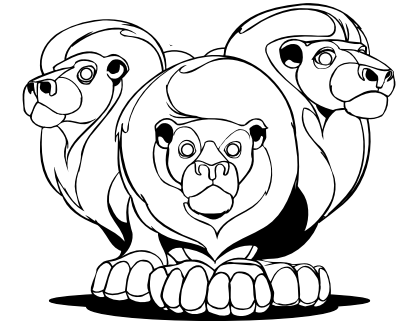
Bible Story: A Night to Remember

Craft: Three Times a Day

Scripture Memory: Daniel Scramble

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

## God's Young Heroes Lesson 7



# Daniel

## Dandy Lion Mask

The children will preview today's Bible Story as they make lion masks.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 white paper plate, 9" (for every 2 children)
- 6 pieces of black or brown pipe cleaner, 3"
- 2 pieces of yarn, 12"
- 1 piece of yellow ribbon, 24"
- 2 brown construction paper triangles, about 3"
- crayons or markers

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- stapler
- hole punch
- invisible tape

### Preparation

1. Cut the paper plates in half to make the basic mask.
2. Cut a triangular notch in the masks for the children's noses. See sample on this page.
3. Cut two large holes for the children's eyes.
4. Punch holes from one end of the masks to the other, about one inch apart, as shown.
5. Tie the two pieces of yarn to the first holes on both sides of the mask, as shown.
6. Make a sample mask to show the children.

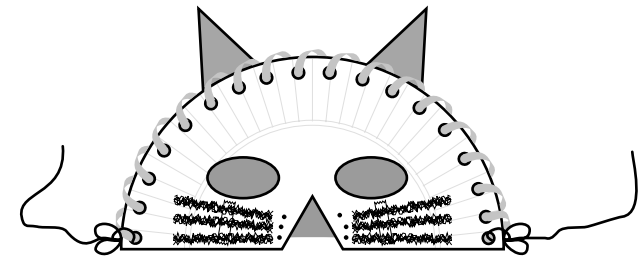
### Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Show them your sample mask and tell them that they will make a mask to use during their Bible Story about Daniel and the lions' den.
2. Distribute the masks you prepared, crayons, pipe cleaner pieces and ribbon. Tell the children to color their masks in brown or yellow or orange, the colors of a lion.
3. Help the children tie one end of their ribbon and sew it in and out of the holes to the other side, to make a mane, as shown. Staple the brown ears to the top of the mask for the children.

4. Help the children to tape their pipe cleaners in place on either side of the nose to make whiskers, as shown.
5. Have the children write their names on the inside of their masks. Fit the children's masks comfortably on their faces and tie with the yarn. Slip them off and give the masks to the Bible Story teacher.
6. For children who finish early, have them make an extra mask for children who arrive late.

### Teacher Tips

- An alternative to ribbon for the mane is to use 1/4" x 1" strips of brown construction paper and curl them around a pencil and glue them around the face ahead of time. This will take more time to prepare, but will make a more realistic mane.
- This type of mask can also be made with felt or foam.



B

# Daniel

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## A Night to Remember

The children will participate in the story of Daniel in the lions' den.

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### Materials

For the teacher:

- Dandy Lion Mask (from Preclass)
- flannel board
- small pieces of felt or double-sided tape

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Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

B

NOTE: If possible enlarge the pictures on this page by 50-100%.

IMPORTANT: For sanitary reasons, be sure the children do not wear each others' masks.

O

### Preparation

1. Cut out and color the story figures from your copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Tape a piece of felt or put a piece of two-sided tape on the back of each story figure.
3. Practice presenting this story using the flannel board and story figures.

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### Introducing the Bible Story

Hold the Bible open to Daniel 6. Tell the children that today's Bible Story comes from the Old Testament book of Daniel. Hold up the book to show the title page to the children. Ask the children if they have ever heard of Daniel or of any stories about Daniel. Tell them that in today's story, they will learn about Daniel's amazing faith in God's amazing power.

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### Presenting the Bible Story

Place the flannel board where all the children can see it. Tell the children that they will help you tell the story of Daniel and the lions' den. Place the banner at the top of the flannel board.

Hold up the Daniel story figure. *Daniel was a young man who loved God. He had been chosen to work for the king. Daniel was a hard worker and a good student who wanted to please God in all he did. The Bible says that three times every day Daniel prayed to God on his knees. Daniel thanked God and asked him for help.* Place Daniel on the flannel board.

Hold up the satraps story figure. *Daniel did such a good job that the other people who worked for the king, the satraps, were jealous. Daniel did his job better than all the others and the king wanted to put him in charge of everything. So the satraps wanted to get rid of Daniel. Place the satraps on the flannel board.*

Hold up the lions. *The satraps went to the king and told him to make a new law. This law would tell people that they could not pray to or worship any other god except the king. If a person did not obey this law, they would be thrown into the lions' den. The satraps knew that Daniel prayed to the Lord. They found him praying to the Lord God and told the king. The king was very upset. He knew that Daniel was his best worker, but he could not change the law. The king had Daniel thrown into the lions' den. Place the lions on the flannel board.*

Distribute the children's masks from Preclass and help the children to put them on. Tell the children to roar like hungry lions. Then have them be quiet and listen to what happened.

Hold up the king story figure. *Before the king had Daniel thrown into the lions' den, he told Daniel: "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" (Daniel 6:16) That night the king could not eat or sleep. He did not want Daniel to die. Listen to what the Bible says in Daniel 6:19-23:*

*At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"*

*Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king."*

*The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.*

*Daniel spent the whole night in a pit full of hungry lions—and he did not die! God rescued him. Daniel prayed to God and God used his power to rescue him. God wanted to show the king that Daniel's God was the true God. After that, the king had the satraps*



# Daniel

*(who tried to kill Daniel) thrown into the lions' den and they were eaten by the lions. Tell the children to roar like hungry lions again.*

*The king honored Daniel and Daniel's God and made a new law that the people in every part of his kingdom must fear and respect the God of Daniel.*

If time permits, choose some children to come and retell the story of Daniel and the lions' den in their own words using the story figures.

## Power Points

Review the specific ways that God used his power to help Daniel, including: closing the lions' mouths; no scratches or bites on Daniel; the king's love for Daniel; the king punished the people who wanted to kill Daniel.

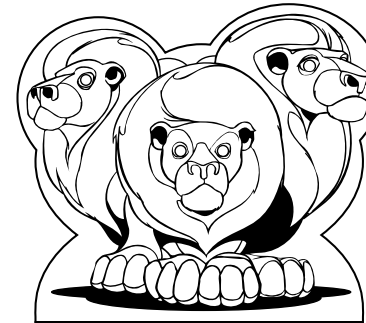
## Share and Tell

*In this story, Daniel was forced to choose between obeying the king or obeying God. Daniel loved the king, but he would not pray to him even though the new law commanded the people to. Daniel trusted God and continued to pray to his God—even if it meant that he was breaking the law. God wants us to obey the laws in our land, but he wants us to obey him most of all. Daniel trusted that God was more powerful than the laws, more powerful than the king, and more powerful than the lions!*

Ask the children if they have ever felt like they would get in trouble for praying to God or going to church. Encourage them to trust God the way that Daniel did and let God show his power. Encourage the children to tell the story of Daniel to their parents after church. Close with a prayer thanking God for his amazing power to rescue us.

## Teacher Tips

- Flannel boards can be made easily by gluing a large piece of felt to the same size piece of cardboard or wood. If felt is not available, the same effect can be achieved on a display board with Velcro on the backs of the story figures.
- Enhance this presentation by decorating the flannel board or making a simple lions' den scene yourself with construction paper or felt.
- For an even more dramatic presentation, adapt this to a skit or play performed by teachers and children.



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# Daniel

## Three Times a Day

The children will make a craft to remind them that Daniel believed in God's power.

### Materials

For each child:

- 1 white paper plate
- 1 piece of poster board, 1" x 8"
- glue stick
- brass fastener
- yellow markers or crayons

For the teacher:

- hole punch
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. Cut off the top third of the rim of the paper plates, as shown in Figure A.
2. Punch a hole in the bottom of the pieces of poster board.
3. Cut out the Daniel and sun pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
4. Make a sample of this craft to show the children.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story today, you are learning about Daniel. He was a young man who loved God and served him continually. Daniel worked for the king and had a very important job, but Daniel loved God more than anything else. Daniel prayed on his knees to God three times every day to thank God and ask him for help. Even when Daniel was thrown into the lions' den, he trusted God to rescue him. Daniel had an amazing faith in God's amazing power.*
2. Show the children your sample craft. Explain that the sun moves over Daniel to remind us that Daniel prayed three times a day. Suggest that he prayed every morning, noon and evening as you move the sun over Daniel from one side to the other.

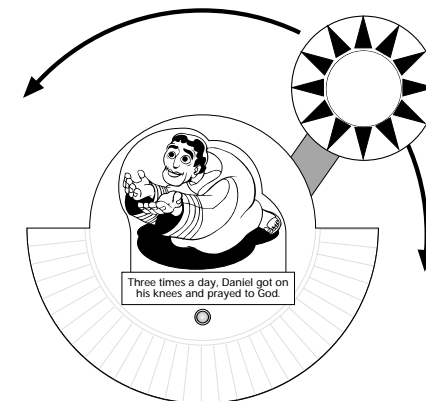
3. Distribute the plates you prepared, the Daniel and sun pictures, crayons and glue sticks. Have the children color their suns with the yellow crayons. Have them glue their suns to the non-punched end of the poster board. Help the children to glue their Daniel picture to their paper plates, as shown in Figure B.
4. Circulate among the children and place the brass fastener through the plate and the poster board strip, and secure. See Figure C.
5. Make sure the children write their names on their crafts.

### Conclusion

Ask the children how many times they pray every day. Ask them if they pray on their knees. Encourage them to try and pray like Daniel—three times a day on their knees to thank God and ask him for help—when they first wake up, when they get home from school, and before they go to bed. Encourage them to invite a parent or brother or sister to pray with them. Close with a prayer on your knees thanking God for his great power in the story of Daniel.

### Teacher Tips

- To save time, you may want to glue the Daniel pictures to the plates ahead of time.



# Daniel

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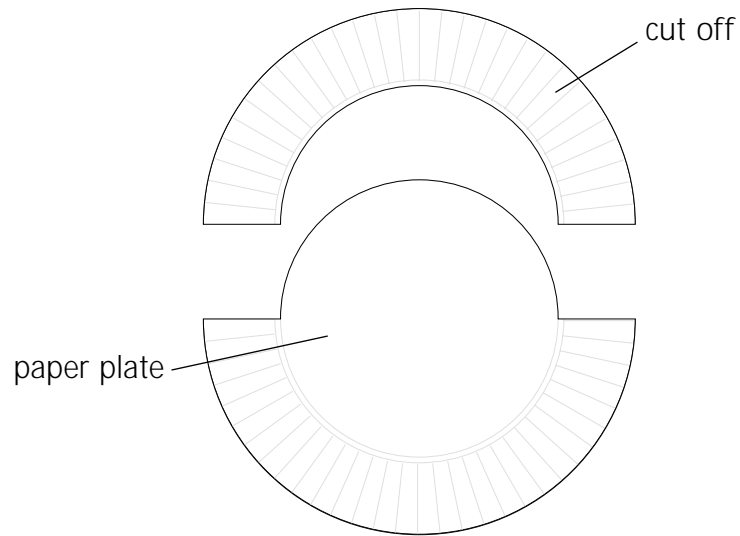


Figure A

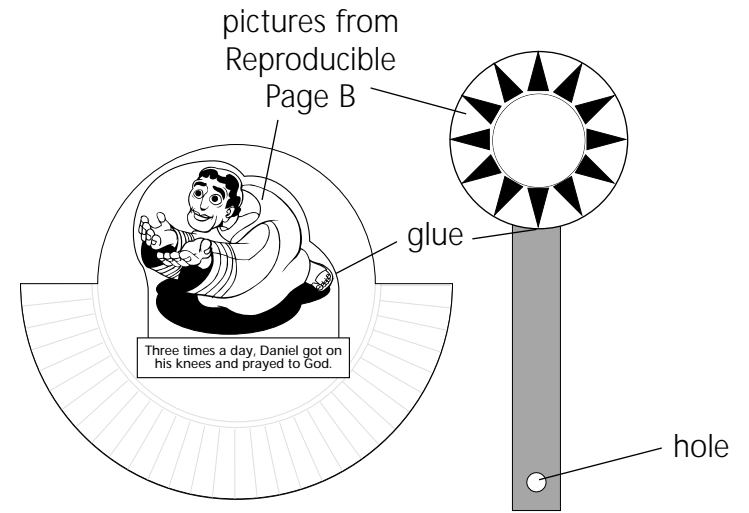


Figure B

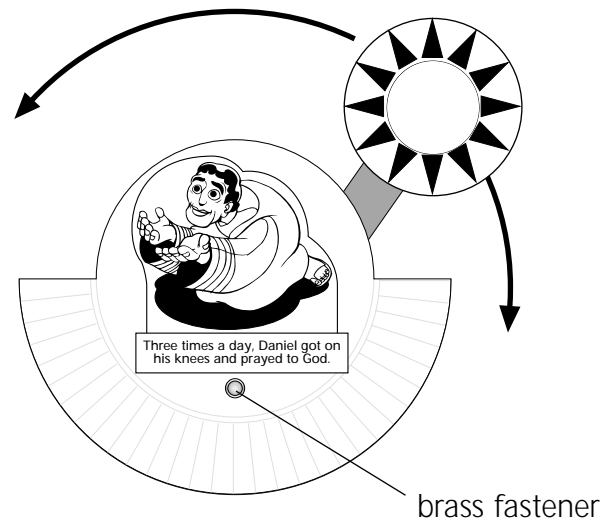


Figure C



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

# Daniel

## Daniel Scramble

The children will learn today's Scripture Memory Verse through this word scramble game.

### Scripture Memory Verse

"My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions."  
*Daniel 6:22*

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- 12 index cards, 5" x 8"
- 2 pieces of poster board, 22" x 28"
- black marker
- blue marker

### Preparation

1. On the first six index cards, neatly print in black marker the following phrases, being careful to copy capitalization and punctuation as it appears: "My God/sent his angel,/and he/shut the mouths/of the lions."/Daniel 6:22
2. On the second set of six cards, make another set just like the first one in blue marker.
3. On each piece of poster board, trace the six index cards in two rows of three. Write the Scripture Memory Verse in the spaces just as it appears on the index cards. Do this in black marker on one piece, and blue on the other.
4. On the back of both pieces of the poster board, trace the six cards in the same way, leaving the spaces empty.
5. Practice leading this activity.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *Today you are learning about a young man named Daniel, who loved God and served him continually. Daniel had a very important job working for the king. The king respected Daniel so much that it made the other men who worked for him angry and jealous. They wanted to get rid of Daniel, so they made a plan to have him thrown into the lions' den. But Daniel trusted God. Daniel prayed on his knees to God three times every day to thank God and ask him for help. Even*

*when Daniel was thrown into a lions' den, he trusted God to rescue him. Daniel had an amazing faith in God's amazing power, and God rescued Daniel from the lions. In your Scripture Memory Verse, you will learn the words that Daniel said to the king the next morning after Daniel was with the lions all night.*

2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card and say it to the children three times as they listen. Point to each word as you say it. Ask the children to say it together with you three more times. Ask the girls to say it with you, then the boys. Have the children each take a turn standing and saying the verse with you to the rest of the group.
3. Divide the children into two groups. Place the two pieces of poster board, with words face-up, on the floor or a table a few feet away. Line up the two groups behind the two pieces of poster board. Show the children the cards that you prepared. Explain that each card has words from the Scripture Memory Verse written on it. They will play a relay to see how quickly they can make the verse.
4. Distribute the sets of cards to the two groups of children, the black cards to one group and the blue cards to the other group. Make sure that each child has at least one card. Tell the children that the first child from each group will go up to the poster board and place his card on the matching space on the poster and then return so that the next child can go. Have all the children do this until all the cards are placed. The object is to be the first group to place all its cards correctly and be seated.
5. Collect and shuffle the cards again. Distribute them again and repeat Step 4. Do this exercise two more times.
6. Collect and shuffle the cards. Turn over the pieces of poster board with the empty spaces face-up. Tell the children that they will repeat the relay, this time placing the cards from memory. Tell the children that they can move any cards that have already been placed when they get to the board. The object is to be the first group to place all its cards correctly and be seated.
7. Ask for volunteers to say the Scripture Memory Verse alone.



# Daniel

## Conclusion

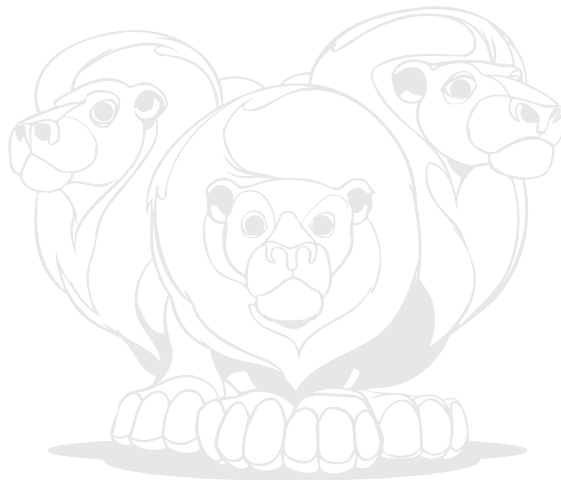
Remind the children that God still has power to rescue us today. Encourage the children to think about this verse the next time they are faced with a difficult or even scary situation. Close with a prayer for the children to see God's power in their own lives.

## Teacher Tips

- For smaller classes, use only one poster board and set of cards, having the children do this activity as one group.
- For groups with struggling or non-readers, have the children work in partners for the entire activity.
- For a more ambitious class, teach the entire verse of Daniel 6:22. Emphasize the fact that Daniel was found innocent in God's sight.

“My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions.”

Daniel 6:22





## Lesson Objectives

- The children will participate in the story of Daniel in the lions' den.
- The children will state that Daniel believed that God is powerful.
- The children will tell one way they believe that God is powerful.

## Lesson Text

Daniel 6

## Scripture Memory Verse

"My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions."  
*Daniel 6:22*

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Power Pendants

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: My God Can

Game: Standing Room Only

Bible Skills: Major Prophets!

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



## Power Pendants

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they make a pendant.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- crayons or markers
- 1 circle of construction paper, 4" diameter
- glue stick
- 1 piece of yarn, 24"

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- hole punch

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

### Preparation

1. Cut out the Power Pendants from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. Make a sample pendant to show the children.

### Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Remind them that this week's lesson was about Daniel in the lions' den. Show them the sample you made and tell the children that they will make their own pendants to remind them of this week's Bible Story.
2. Distribute the pendants you prepared, construction paper circles, crayons and glue sticks. Have the children color their pendants and glue them to the construction paper circles.

3. Circulate among the children to punch holes in their pendants, and distribute the yarn. Have the children thread their yarn through the holes as you help tie them. Encourage the children to wear their Power Pendants as reminders of Daniel's faith in God's power.
4. Make sure the children write their names on their pendants.

### Teacher Tips

- Reproducing Page C on heavy paper will eliminate the need for construction paper and glue.

## My God Can

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they tell one way to show they believe that God is powerful.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- large writing surface

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

Read Daniel 6 to review the events of the Bible Story, and practice leading this activity.

### Reviewing the Bible Story: Remember Daniel

Open your Bible to Daniel 6. Remind the children that this week's Bible Story comes from the Old Testament book of Daniel. *In the Bible Story this week, you learned about a young man named Daniel who loved and served God continually. Daniel had a very important job working for the king. King Darius respected Daniel for the excellent work he did. In fact, no one could say anything bad about Daniel because he always did what was right. Some of the other men who worked for the king (the satraps) were jealous of Daniel. They made a plan to trap Daniel and have him thrown into the lions' den—for praying to his God! But Daniel had great faith in God. When the king learned of this, he was very upset. He did not want Daniel to die. He told Daniel that he hoped his God would rescue him. The next morning, the king hurried to see what happened—and he found Daniel alive! Daniel didn't even have a single mark or scratch on him! God had rescued Daniel. Daniel believed that God had the power to rescue him—and God did!*

### Life Application

Tell the children that they may find themselves in situations like Daniel's one day. Referring to your copy of Reproducible Page D, explain that you will read three different situations. After each one, let the children go around in the circle and say "My God Can \_\_\_\_\_" and fill in the blank with something they believe that God could do in the situation. Write their answers on the large writing surface. Be prepared to offer the first suggestion. Encourage the children to think of ways that God's power could change a situation that seems otherwise impossible.

### Let's Pray About That!

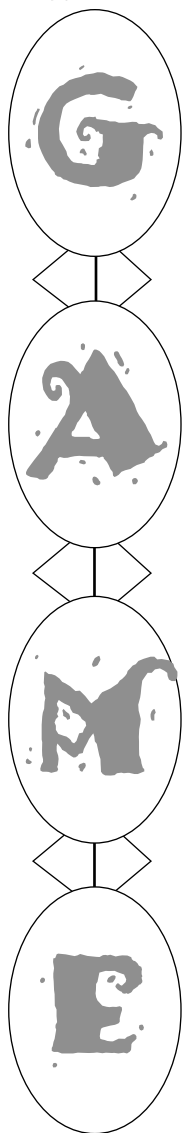
Go back and review each situation. This time ask the children, "What do you think your prayer would sound like in this situation?" Let the children offer ideas or actual prayers.

### Conclusion

Encourage the children for their ideas. Remind them to think of this discussion the next time they are faced with a really difficult situation. Close with a prayer asking God to help the children believe that God has power to help them the way he helped Daniel.

### Teacher Tips

- If time permits, have the children make up their own situations to use with other groups.



## Standing Room Only

The children will review this week's Bible Story and think of ways that God is powerful today.

### Materials

For each child:

- chair

For the teacher:

- cassette/CD player with music
- large writing surface
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures from your copy of Reproducible Page E.
2. Arrange the chairs in a line, back-to-back or facing alternate directions. Make sure there is one chair for each child.
3. Tape the pictures on the chairs.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In the Bible Story this week, you learned about a young man named Daniel, who loved and served God continually. Daniel had a very important job working for the king. The satraps were jealous of Daniel. They made a plan to trap Daniel and have him thrown into the lions' den. But Daniel had great faith in God. When the king learned of this, he was very upset. He told Daniel that he hoped his God would rescue him. The next morning, the king hurried to see what happened—and he found Daniel alive! Daniel didn't even have a single scratch on him! God had rescued Daniel. Daniel believed that God had the power to rescue him—and God did!*
2. Ask the children to say how God's power helped Daniel in this story. (Answers should include: closing the lions' mouths; no scratches or bites on Daniel; the king's love for Daniel; the king punished the people who wanted to kill Daniel.) Explain that they are going to play a game similar to musical chairs and tell the ways that God showed his power to Daniel, and ways he shows it today.

3. Line up the children in front of the chairs. Tell them to walk around the chairs while the music is playing. When the music stops, everyone should sit down. The children sitting on the chairs with the pictures should stand up. Ask the children with the pictures of Daniel on their chairs to tell one way that God showed his power to Daniel. Ask the children with the pictures of the light bulb to think of one way that God shows his power today. Be prepared to prompt the children with ideas or suggestions. Encourage the other children to offer suggestions, too.
4. Continue playing until all the children have had a chance to stand and tell about God's power.

### Variation: The Traditional Approach

To make this even more like musical chairs, set up the chairs with one less than the number of children (e.g., six chairs for seven children). When the music stops, the child left standing comes up to you and chooses one of the pictures that you have placed inside a bag or box. After the child has told one way that God shows or has shown his power, the children resume the game. Continue removing chairs each time, so that the children left standing must all come up and say how God shows his power.

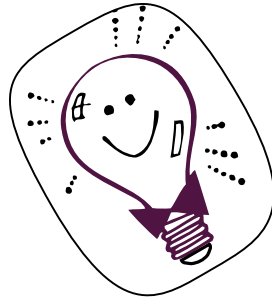
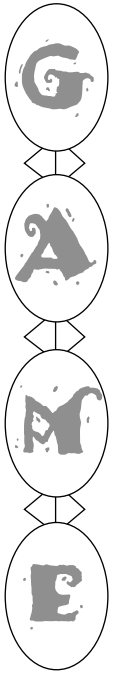
### Conclusion

Have the children sit in a circle. Ask them what is their favorite part of the story of Daniel in the lions' den. Encourage them to remember that God wants to help each of them just as much as he wanted to help Daniel. Close with a prayer for the children to love and serve God like Daniel, and to see God's power in their lives.

### Teacher Tips

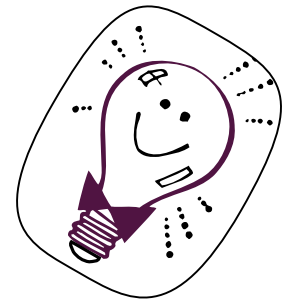
- Choose Christian music or children's sing-along music.
- If playing music is too distracting to other groups of children, have the children walk around the chairs saying this week's Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Then stop them at random points.

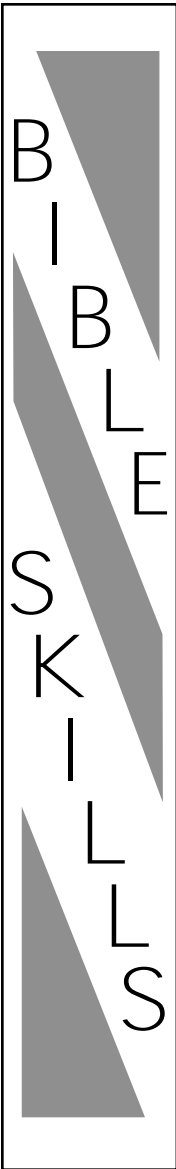




“My God sent his angel,  
and he shut the mouths  
of the lions.”

Daniel 6:22





## Major Prophets!

The children will review the names of the major prophets.

### Materials

For each child:

- self-sticking name tags

For the teacher:

- pen

### Preparation

1. On the name tags, write one of the following names: Daniel; Ezekiel; Isaiah; Jeremiah. Do this so that there is at least one of each, and in the case of most groups, at least two of each. See Teacher Tips.
2. Practice leading this activity.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In the Bible Story this week, you learned about a young man named Daniel who loved and served God continually. Daniel is called a prophet because he spoke God's words to the people. God gave Daniel the ability to understand the dreams of the king. God spoke to Daniel and told Daniel what to tell the people. Daniel was a very faithful man and he served God with all his heart. In the Bible, there are several different people that we call prophets. Today, we are going to review the ones we call the major prophets.*
2. Show the children the names on the back of this Lesson Card. Say them to the children and have them repeat after you. Let the children take turns saying the names with you.
3. Show the children the name tags you prepared and have each child put one on. Tell the children that they will play a fun game to review the names of the major prophets. Have the children sit in a circle.
4. Call out the name of a major prophet. The child or children wearing that name should stand up. Have them switch places with each other and then sit down. If only one child has that name, have him walk around the circle and sit down again.

5. Call out each of the prophet's names in random order, having the children with those name tags switch places as quickly as possible.
6. Finally call out, "Major Prophets!" and all the children must stand up and switch places with another child.
7. Continue calling out the different names, periodically calling "Major Prophets!" to get everyone up.

### Conclusion

Ask the children how they think they would feel if God had chosen them to be a prophet. Encourage them that God still wants people to speak his words to others, just like Daniel did. Close with a prayer thanking God for the Bible.

### Teacher Tips

- This activity works best with a larger group of children. Consult with your Lead Teacher about combining the centers to play this game.

Daniel

Ezekiel

Isaiah

Jeremiah





*Isaiah Jeremiah Major Prophets! Ezekiel Daniel Isaiah Jeremiah Major*

*Isaiah Jeremiah Major Prophets! Ezekiel Daniel Is*

*Prophets! Ezekiel Daniel Isaiah Jeremiah Major Pro*

## Isaiah

## Jeremiah

# Major Prophets!

## Ezekiel

## Daniel

*Prophets! Ezekiel Daniel Isaiah Jeremiah Major Prophets! Ezekiel Daniel*

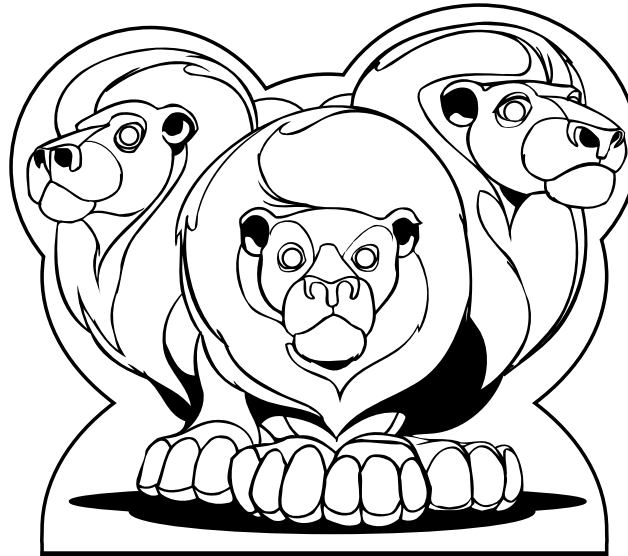


Core/Bible Story  
1 copy for the teacher (Optional - enlarge 50-100%)

# Daniel in the Lions' Den



King Darius



Hungry Lions



Satraps



Daniel

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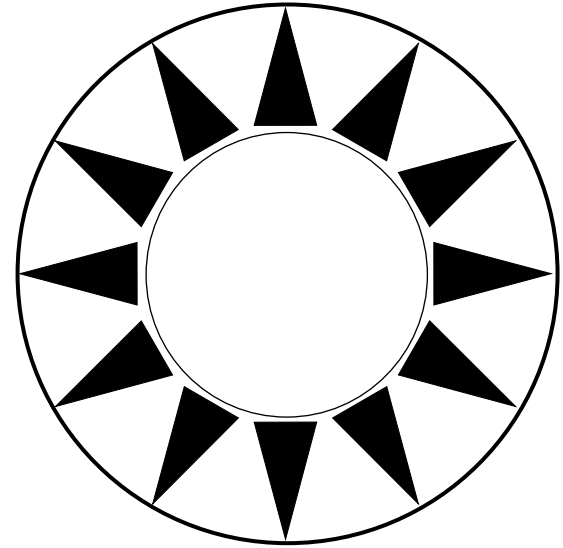
Core/Craft  
1 copy for each child

R  
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C  
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PAGE  
B



Three times a day, Daniel got on his knees and prayed to God.





Supplement/Preclass

1 copy for each child (Optional - heavy paper)

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R  
O  
D  
U  
C  
I  
B  
L  
E

PAGE

C



pendant picture



pendant picture

## Supplement/Life Application

1 copy for the teacher

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• It is a dark, rainy night. The lights in the house are off. You are tucked safely in bed. All of a sudden, you hear loud crashes of thunder and lightening. You feel scared. What can your God do?

Suggestions:

- Stop the thunder and lightening
- Help you fall asleep anyway
- Take away your scared feelings
- Bring your parents into your room to check on you

• You are in your class. The teacher is talking about math, which is your favorite subject. The teacher asks you to go to the board and show the class how to solve the problem. Some other children begin to make fun of you and call you the "teacher's pet." What can your God do?

Suggestions:

- Help you stay calm
- Help you do what the teacher asked you to do with a good attitude
- Make the teacher speak to the children and tell them to apologize

• Your family has planned a special family vacation. After driving for one hour, the car breaks down. You are far from where you are trying to go and now you don't know if you will ever get there. What can your God do?

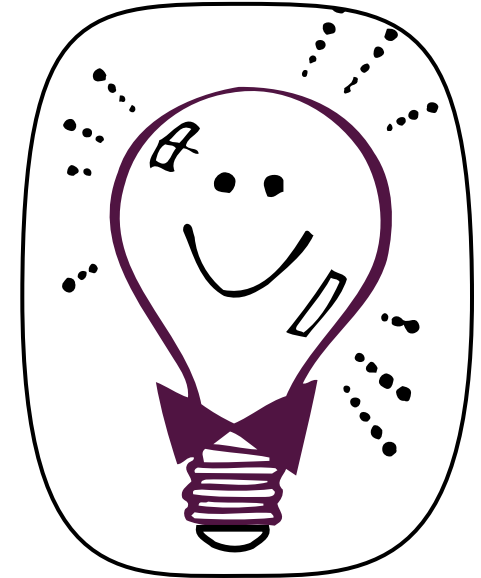
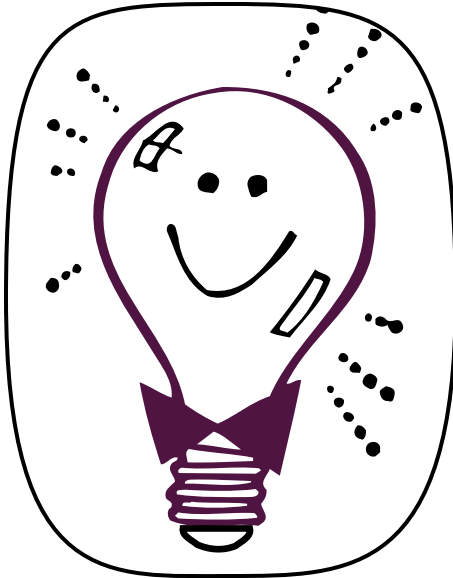
Suggestions:

- Keep everyone calm
- Send someone who can call for help
- Help you think of things to do or games to play while you are waiting
- Lead you to an even better vacation spot that you did not know about before.



Supplement/Game

1 copy for the teacher (Optional - heavy paper)



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