

# I Am Thankful

## Lesson Objectives

- The children will name something for which they are thankful.
- The children will say "David" when asked who sang thankful songs to God.
- The children will thank God in prayer.

## Bible Story Text

Psalm 100

## Bible Truth

Sing to the Lord.  
(Psalm 96:1)

## Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

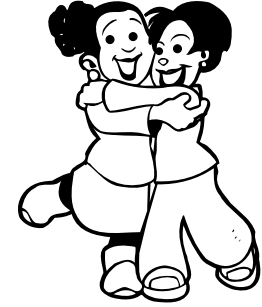
Centers:

Bible Story: We Are Thankful

Life Application: What Am I Thankful For?

Craft: 'Grateful' Gobbler

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



# I Am Thankful

## Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a preclass center. Have no more than six children at each center.

### Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.

### Preparation

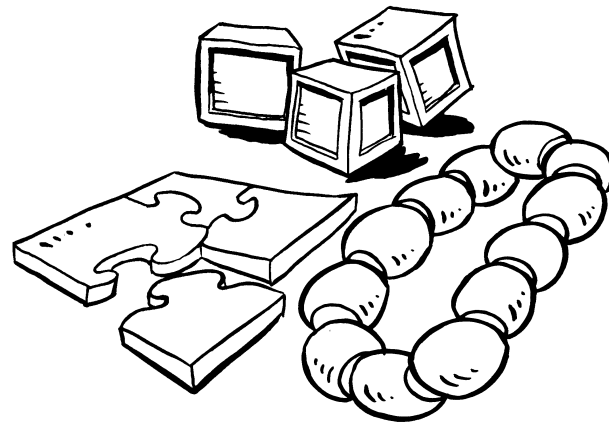
1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.
2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

### Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.

### Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.



# I Am Thankful

## We Are Thankful

The children will hear that we have many things to be thankful for.

### Bible Story Text

Psalm 100

### Materials

For each child:

- 1 small paper plate

For the teacher:

- Bible
- diorama from the Unit 15 Lesson 1, Bible Story
- David figure from the Unit 15 Lesson 1, Bible Story
- food magazines
- scissors
- 1 piece of construction paper
- glue stick

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out and color the picture from Reproducible Page A.
2. Glue the picture onto the piece of construction paper.
3. Cut out 4 pictures of food from the magazines for each child and glue them to the plates.

### We Are Thankful

Open the Bible. *The Bible says that David was a young man who really loved God. He spent lots of time outside taking care of his father's sheep. Show the children the box without the David figure. Point to the sheep inside the shoebox. What sound does a sheep make? Make sheep sounds with the children. Add the David figure through the slit in the box.*

*David liked to think about God while he took care of the sheep. When he looked at the sky and saw all the beautiful clouds that God made and when he saw the trees and the beautiful hills of grass, he thought about how incredible God is!*

*Do you know what David did to show how much he loved God? He sang songs to God, and he danced for God! That is called worshiping God. Let's say that together: "worshiping." Do you think people who are worshiping God are happy or sad? Yes, happy! Do you think God wants us to be happy or sad? Yes, he wants us to be happy! Well, when David saw all that God had made and thought about how much God loved him, it made him so happy that he danced and sang to God.*

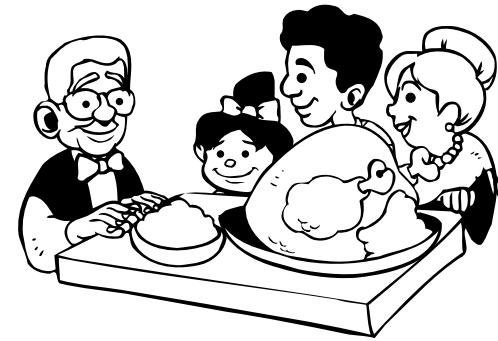
Show the picture of the family at the dinner table. *Look at this family. They are getting ready to eat their Thanksgiving dinner. Before they eat, each person is going to pray and tell what they are thankful for. Name something that each person is thankful for. Keep it short and simple! This is Grandma. Grandma, what are you thankful for? I am thankful for my beautiful grandchildren. This is Daddy. Daddy, what are you thankful for? I am thankful to be a disciple and to be here with my family.*

### Conclusion

*Who in our Bible story sang thankful songs to God? Yes, David did.*

*We are going to sing a song about being thankful for the food that God gives us. Give each child a paper plate with pictures of food on it. Sing "We Are Thankful" from the Unit 15 Song Sheet, substituting the food names on the paper plates*

*Say a short prayer with the children. Dear God, thank you for Thanksgiving and for all the food you give us. Thank you for our family and friends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*





# I Am Thankful

## What Am I Thankful For?

The children will play a matching game to remind them that they have much to be thankful for.

### Bible Truth

Sing to the Lord.  
(Psalm 96:1)

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- Bible
- construction paper in 6 different colors, no brown or black
- brown construction paper
- scissors
- glue stick
- markers
- tape or Velcro
- 1 large paper plate

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 2 copies for the teacher

### Preparation

NOTE: Refer to the back of this card for a finished drawing of the turkey.

1. Cut out the turkey head and feather stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Prepare a "turkey" as follows:
  - A. Trace and cut out one turkey head from the brown construction paper.
  - B. Using a thin marker, add an eye to the turkey's face.
  - C. Write "I am thankful for..." in the center of the paper plate.
  - D. Tape the turkey head onto the plate.
3. To make the feathers:
  - A. Choose six different colors of construction paper.
  - B. Trace and cut out two feathers of each color.
  - C. Cut out and color the pictures from Reproducible Page C.  
NOTE: Be sure to color similar pictures identically.
  - D. Glue each picture onto a feather. NOTE: Be sure that similar pictures are on the same color feather. For instance, the pictures of the toys are each on a blue feather.

4. Tape one of each color feather on the back of the plate so that it sticks up over the edge.

### Instructions

1. Show the children the turkey and read the words to them. *Our friend, Tom Turkey, is a very thankful turkey. Do you know what "thankful" means? It means that Tom always says, "Thank you." Let's see what Tom says "thank you" for!*
2. Talk with the children about each feather on Tom. Let them tell you what color each feather is and, by looking at the picture, what Tom is thankful for.
3. Show the children the other six feathers. *I have more feathers here. Let's see what you are thankful for today.* Let each child choose a feather. Have the children tell what color the feather is and what the picture is.
4. *Tom is going to share his feathers with you! I am going to let each of you choose a feather from Tom that matches the one you are holding.* Help each child to choose and remove a feather from Tom that matches the one they are holding.
5. As a child chooses a feather, have the child tell you the color of the feather and what the picture describes.
6. When you have finished, let each child put one of their feathers back on Tom. The children will then each be left holding one feather.
7. If time allows play again, letting each child choose a different color feather with a different picture.

### Bible Truth Activity

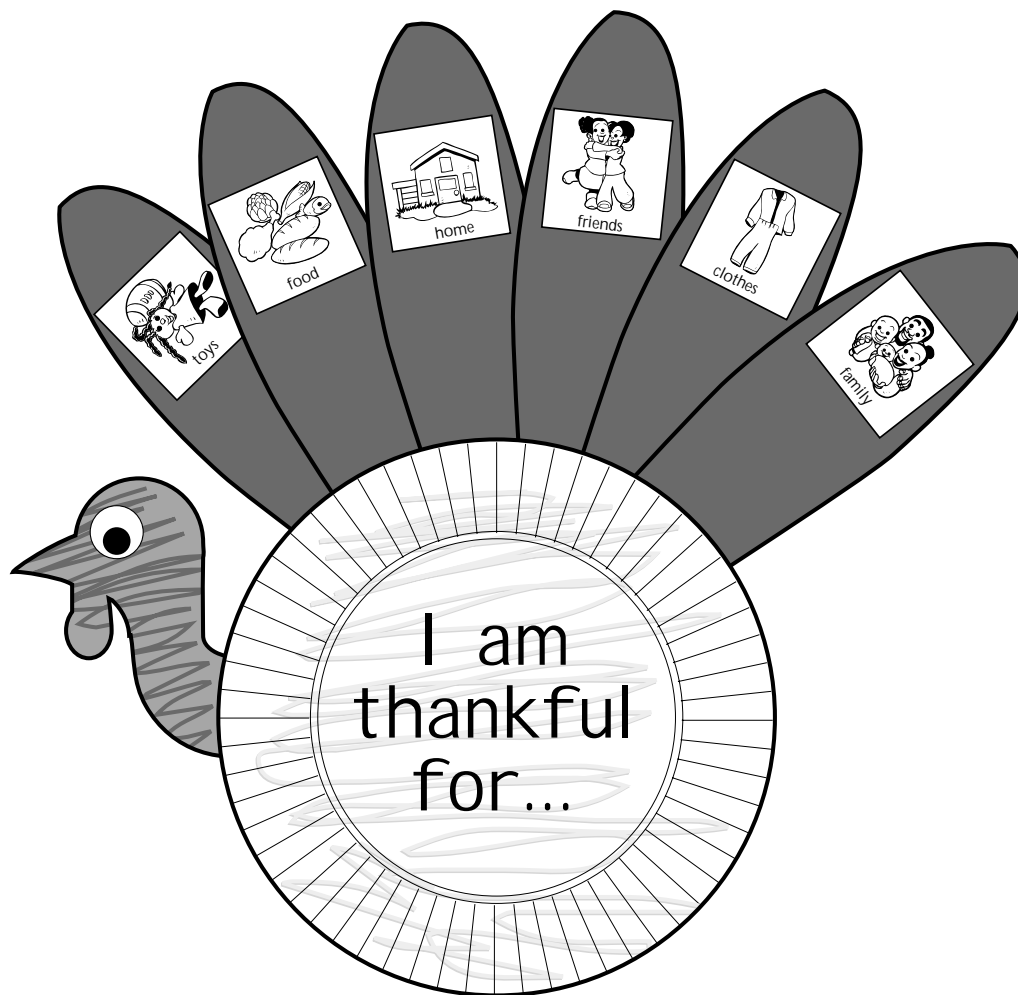
*One way we can show God how thankful we are is to sing to him. Open the Bible. The Bible says, "Sing to the Lord." Let's all say that together. Sing to the Lord. Let's sing a song to the Lord right now!*

Sing "We Are Thankful" from the Unit 15 Song Sheet. Substitute the words in italics with items from the pictures.

### Conclusion

*Let's talk to God now and be thankful as David was in the Bible story. Dear God, thank you for our family, for our friends and for good food. Please help us to be thankful to you every day.*

# I Am Thankful



"Tom Turkey"

# Craft

## I Am Thankful

### 'Grateful' Gobbler

The children will make turkeys expressing thanks for the many things that God has given them.

#### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 large paper plate
- 1 pipe cleaner
- 5" x 5" piece of brown construction paper
- 6 pieces of different colored construction paper, each 8" x 3"
- crayons
- glue stick

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- marker
- thin marker
- tape
- hole punch

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 1 copy for each child

#### Preparation

1. Cut out the turkey head and feather stencils from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Prepare a "turkey" for each child, see Figure A, as follows:
  - A. Trace and cut out one turkey head from the brown construction paper.
  - B. Using a thin marker, add an eye to the turkey's face.
  - C. Write "I am thankful for..." in the center of each paper plate.
  - D. Using the hole punch, make two holes at the bottom of the plate.
  - E. Tape the turkey head onto each plate.
3. Make a pair of "turkey feet" for each child as follows:
  - A. Cut each pipe cleaner into four 3" pieces.
  - B. Push a piece of pipe cleaner through each punched hole in the plate, approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
  - C. Tape the end of the pipe cleaner to the back of the plate to hold it in place.

- D. Twist the other two pieces of pipe cleaner around the bottom of the taped pieces forming the turkey legs. See Figure B.
4. Trace and cut out six different colored turkey feathers from construction paper for each child.
5. Cut out the six pictures from Reproducible Page D for each child.
6. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

#### Instructions

1. Show the children the turkey and read the words to them. *Our friend, Tom Turkey, is a very thankful turkey. Do you know what "thankful" means? It means that Tom always says, "Thank you." Let's see what Tom is thankful for today!* Read the words on each of the pictures to the children.
2. Give each child a turkey and six different colored feathers. Help the child to glue the feathers onto the back of the turkey, as shown in Figure C.
3. Give each child six different pictures. Help the children to glue their pictures to the front of their turkey's feathers.
4. Have the children color in their turkeys and their pictures.
5. Write the children's names on their finished crafts.

#### Conclusion

Sing, "I Am Thankful" from the Unit 15 Song Sheet. Substitute the words in italics with items from the pictures.

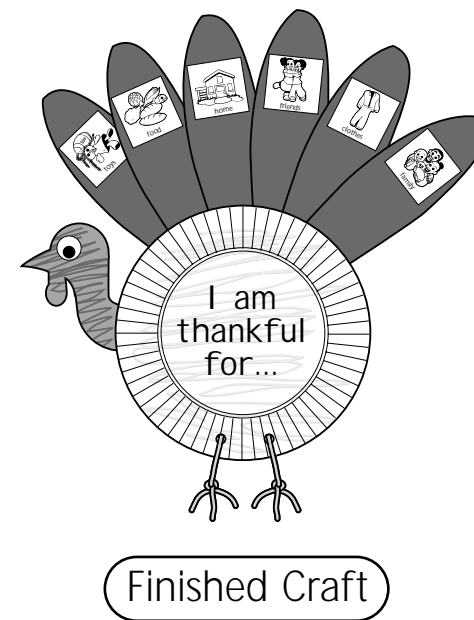
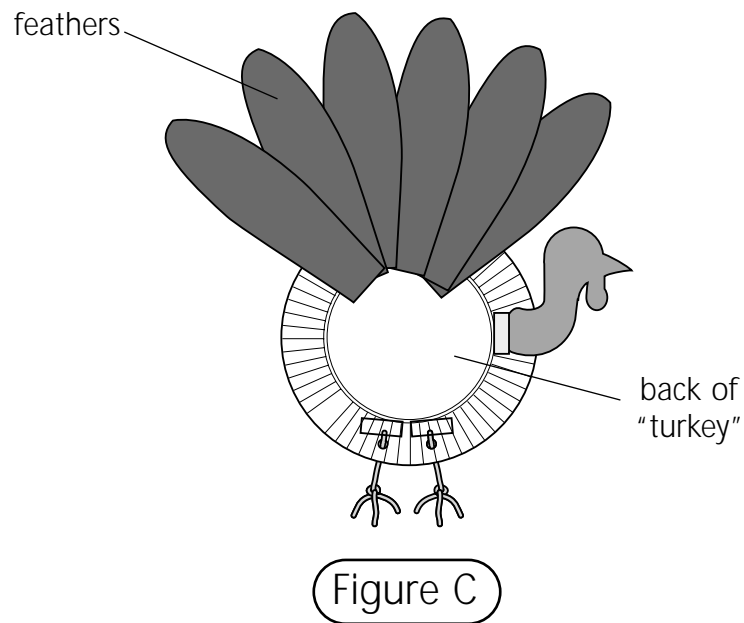
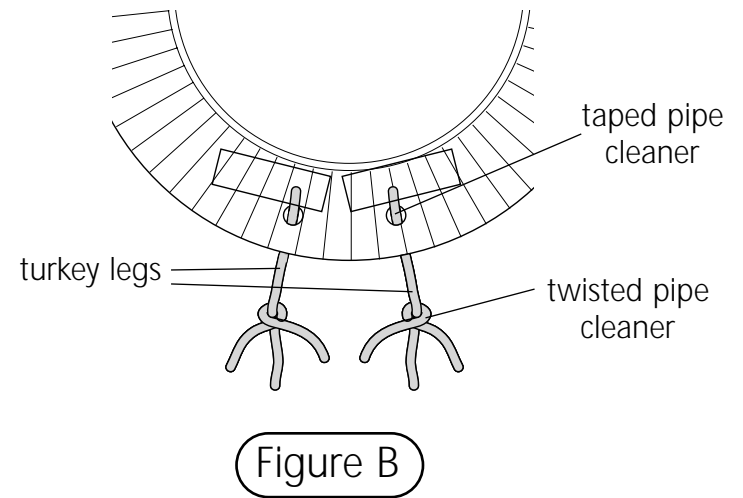
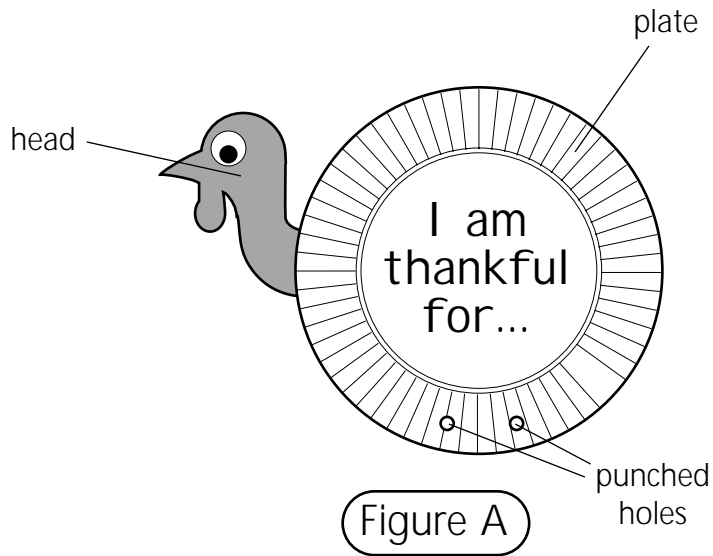
*Let's remember what Tom is thankful for today!* Pick a child and then ask the child to tell you the color of one of the feathers and to describe what is in that picture.

#### Teacher Tips

- Place glue on the plates to make it easier for the children to glue the feathers in place.
- Use tape to reinforce the glued turkey feathers in place.



# I Am Thankful







## Lesson Objectives

- The children will name something for which they are thankful.
- The children will say "David" when asked who sang thankful songs to God.
- The children will thank God in prayer.

## Bible Story Text

Psalm 100

## Bible Truth

Sing to the Lord.  
(Psalm 96:1)

## Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a pre-class center. Have no more than six children at each center.

### Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.



# I Am Thankful

## Worshiping God Lesson 5

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: What Am I Thankful For?

Bible Story: We Are Thankful

Craft: 'Thankful' Turkey

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

### Preparation

1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.
2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

### Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.

### Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.

## What Am I Thankful For?

The children will play a matching game to remind them that they have much to be thankful for.

### Bible Truth

Sing to the Lord.  
(Psalm 96:1)

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- Bible
- construction paper in 6 different colors, no brown or black
- brown construction paper
- scissors
- glue stick
- markers
- tape or Velcro
- 1 large paper plate

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 2 copies for the teacher
- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

NOTE: Refer to Reproducible page D for a finished drawing.

1. Cut out the turkey head and feather stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
2. Prepare a "turkey" as follows:
  - A. Trace and cut out one turkey head from the brown construction paper.
  - B. Using a thin marker, add an eye to the turkey's face.
  - C. Write "I am thankful for..." in the center of the paper plate.
  - D. Tape the turkey head onto the plate.
3. To make the feathers:
  - A. Choose six different colors of construction paper.
  - B. Trace and cut out two feathers of each color.
  - C. Cut out and color the pictures from Reproducible Page C.  
NOTE: Be sure to color similar pictures identically.
  - D. Glue each picture onto a feather. NOTE: Be sure that similar pictures are on the same color feather. For instance, the pictures of toys are each on a blue feather.

# I Am Thankful

4. Tape one of each color feather on the back of the plate so that it sticks up over the edge.

### Instructions

1. Show the children the turkey and read the words to them. *Our friend, Tom Turkey, is a very thankful turkey. Do you know what "thankful" means? It means that Tom always says, "Thank you." Let's see what Tom says "thank you" for!*
2. Talk with the children about each feather on Tom. Let them tell you what color each feather is and, by looking at the picture, what Tom is thankful for.
3. Show the children the other six feathers. *I have more feathers here. Let's see what you are thankful for today.* Let each child choose a feather. Have the children tell what color the feather is and what the picture is.
4. *Tom is going to share his feathers with you! I am going to let each of you choose a feather from Tom that matches the one you are holding.* Help each child to choose and remove a feather from Tom that matches the one they are holding.
5. As a child chooses a feather, have the child tell the color of the feather and what picture it describes.
6. When you have finished, let each child put one of their feathers back on Tom. The children will then each be left holding one feather.
7. If time allows play again, letting each child choose a different color feather with a different picture.

### Bible Truth Activity

*One way we can show God how thankful we are is to sing to him. Open the Bible. The Bible says, "Sing to the Lord." Let's all say that together. "Sing to the Lord." Let's sing a song to the Lord right now!*  
 Sing "We Are Thankful" from the Unit 15 Song Sheet. Substitute the words in italics with items from the pictures.

### Conclusion

*Let's talk to God now and be thankful as David was in the Bible story. Dear God, thank you for our family, for our friends and for good food. Please help us to be thankful to you every day.*

## We Are Thankful

The children will hear that we have many things to be thankful for.

### Bible Story Text

Psalm 100

### Materials

For each child:

- 1 small paper plate

For the teacher:

- Bible
- diorama from the Unit 15 Lesson 1, Bible Story
- David figure from the Unit 15 Lesson 1, Bible Story
- food magazines
- scissors
- 1 piece of construction paper
- glue stick

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out and color the picture from Reproducible Page A.
2. Glue the picture onto the piece of construction paper.
3. Cut out 4 pictures of food from the magazines for each child and glue them to the plates.

### We Are Thankful

Open the Bible. *The Bible says that David was a young man who really loved God. He spent lots of time outside taking care of his father's sheep. Show the children the box without the David figure. Point to the sheep inside the shoebox. What sound does a sheep make? Make sheep sounds with the children. Add the David figure through the slit in the box.*

*David liked to think about God while he took care of the sheep. When he looked at the sky and saw all the beautiful clouds that God made and when he saw the trees and the beautiful hills of grass, he thought about how incredible God is!*

*Do you know what David did to show how much he loved God? He sang songs to God, and he danced for God! That is called worshipping God. Let's say that together: "worshipping." Do you think people who are worshipping God are happy or sad? Yes, happy!*

# I Am Thankful

## Worshipping God Lesson 5

*Do you think God wants us to be happy or sad? Yes, he wants us to be happy! Well, when David saw all that God had made and thought about how much God loved him, it made him so happy that he danced and sang to God.*

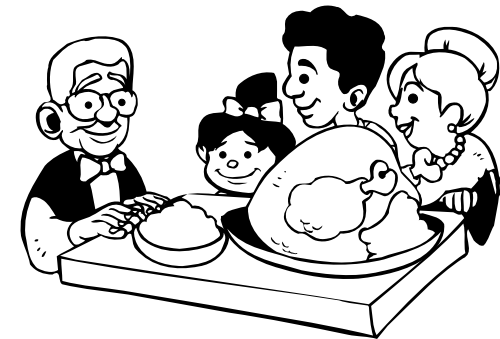
Show the picture of the family at the dinner table. *Look at this family. They are getting ready to eat their Thanksgiving dinner. Before they eat, each person is going to pray and tell what they are thankful for. Name something that each person is thankful for. Keep it short and simple! This is Grandma. Grandma, what are you thankful for? I am thankful for my beautiful grandchildren. This is Daddy. Daddy, what are you thankful for? I am thankful to be a disciple and to be here with my family.*

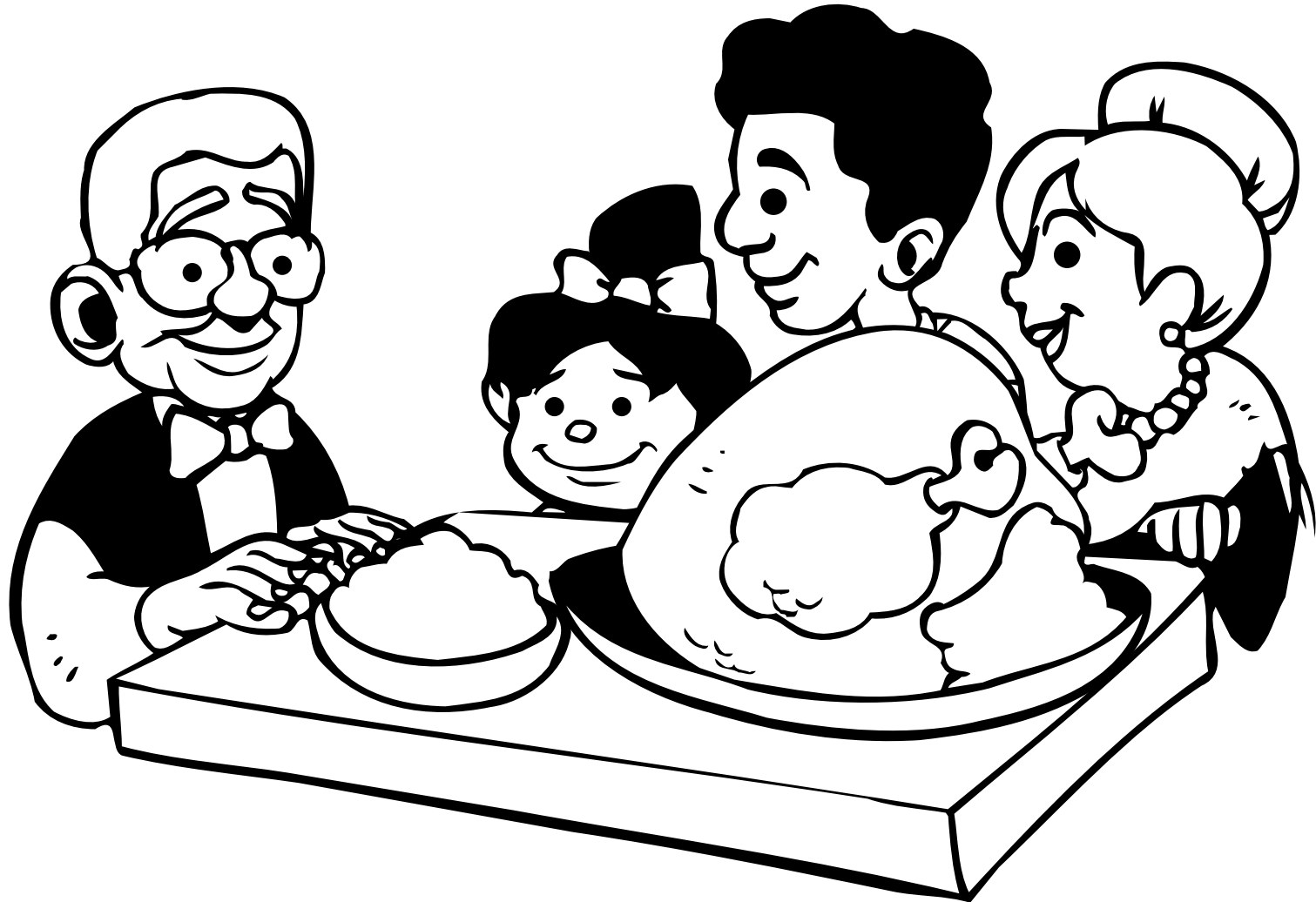
### Conclusion

*Who in our Bible story sang thankful songs to God? Yes, David did.*

*We are going to sing a song about being thankful for the food that God gives us. Give each child a paper plate with pictures of food on it. Sing "We Are Thankful" from the Unit 15 Song Sheet, substituting the food names on the paper plates*

*Say a short prayer with the children. Dear God, thank you for Thanksgiving and for all the food you give us. Thank you for our family and friends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*





## 'Thankful' Turkey

The children will make turkeys reminding them to be thankful for what God has given them.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 piece of construction paper
- an old shirt or smock
- glue stick (optional, see Teacher Tips)

*For the teacher:*

- newspaper
- plate
- brown, red or orange tempera paint; non-toxic, washable
- paper towels
- black and red markers
- craft stick (optional)
- construction paper (optional, see Teacher Tips)
- magazines (optional, see Teacher Tips)
- scissors (optional, see Teacher Tips)

### Preparation

1. Write "I am thankful." on the bottom of each piece of construction paper.
2. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

### Instructions

1. Set up a paint station before the children arrive.
  - A. Place newspaper on the work area.
  - B. Put a small amount of paint onto the plate, enough to cover the bottom.
2. Show the children your model of the craft. *Who can tell me what this is? Yes, it is a turkey. Today you are going to make a handprint turkey to take home to your family!*

# I Am Thankful

3. Have the children come to the paint station one at a time.
  - A. Put a smock on the child.
  - B. Ask the child, "What are you thankful for?" Write their response in a corner of the paper.
  - C. Place the child's hand, palm down, in the paint.
  - D. Place the child's hand on the paper to make an imprint.  
NOTE: Have the child separate their fingers before pressing down on the paper.
  - E. Wipe off the child's hand with a wet paper towel.
4. When the picture is dry, draw a head and feet on the turkey. See Figure A.
5. Write the children's name on their finished crafts.

### Conclusion

Sing "If You're Happy and You Know It" from the Unit 15 Song Sheet. Substitute the word "thankful" for "happy" as you sing the song.

### Teacher Tips

- Use a craft stick to spread and fill in the paint of the handprint if necessary.
- To keep the children busy while they are waiting to paint, have them create collages. Cut out magazine pictures of objects that children would be thankful for such as, people, food, toys or pets. Write "Things I Am Thankful For" on a piece of construction paper for each child. Have the children choose pictures and glue them onto their papers.

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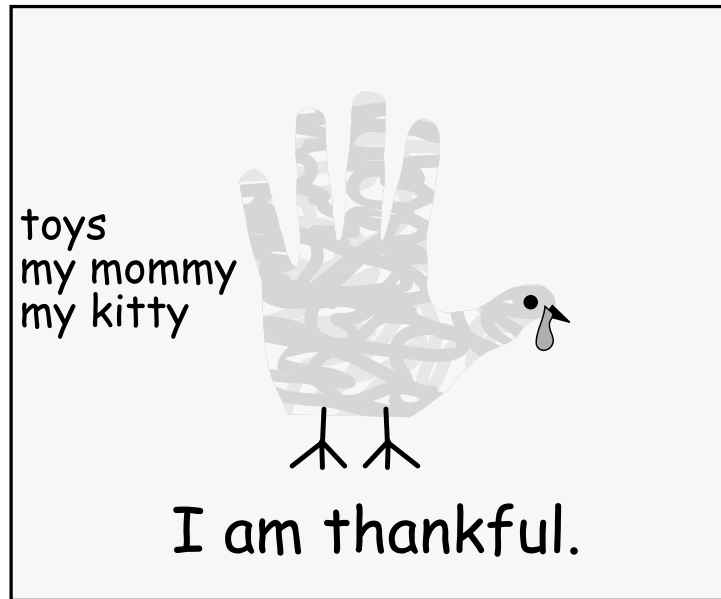
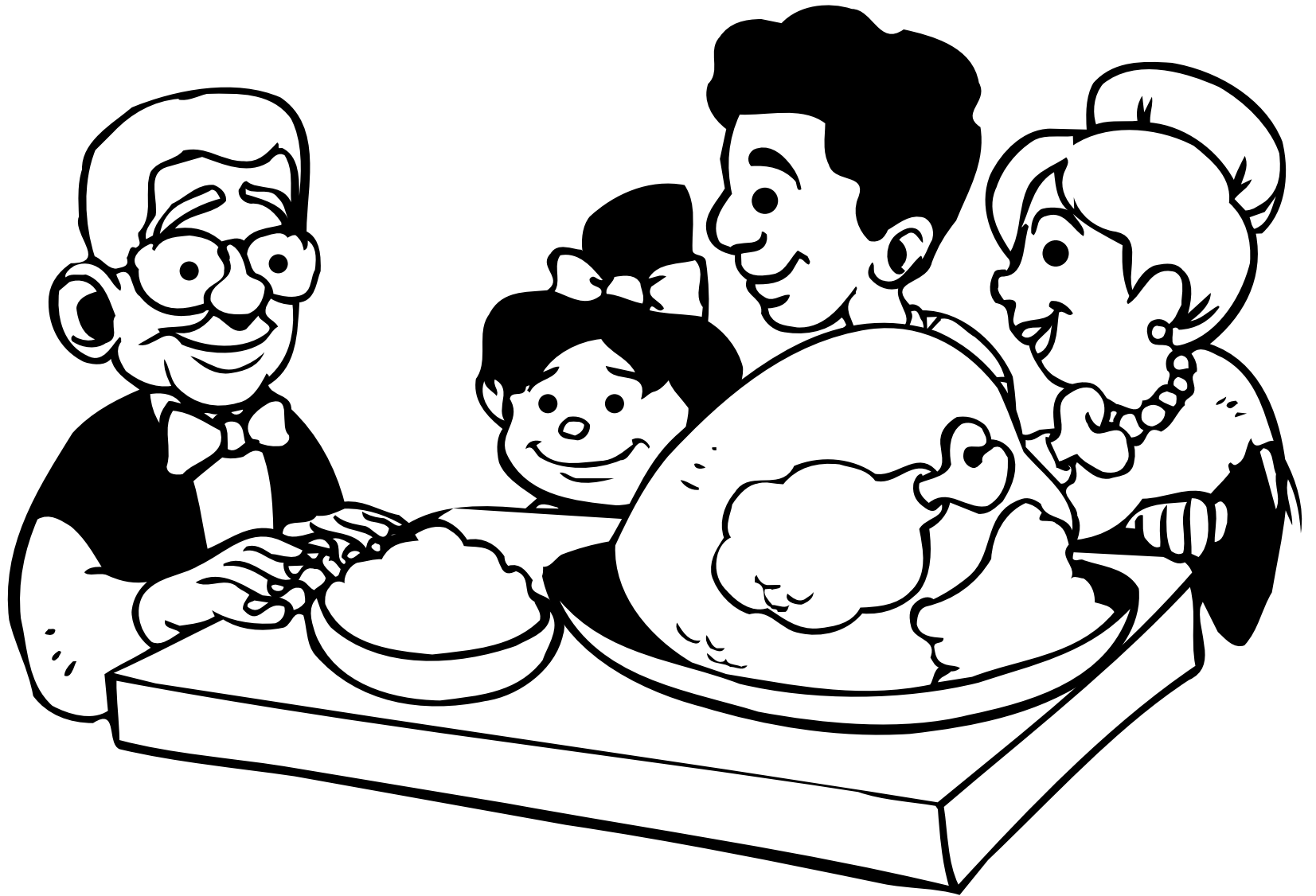


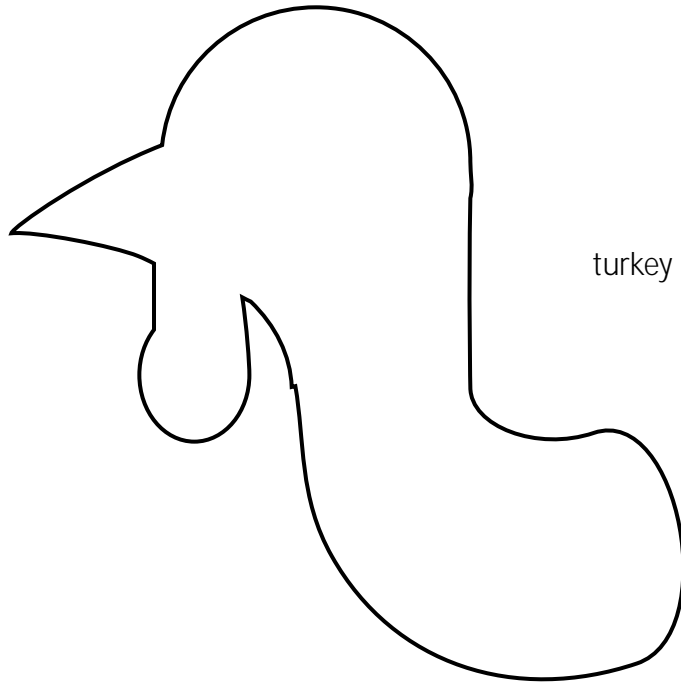
Figure A



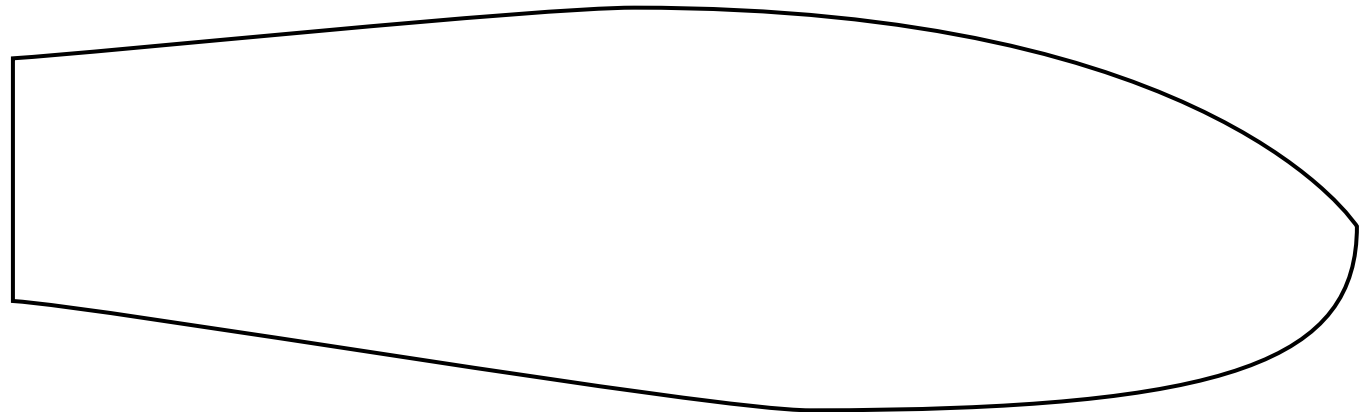


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turkey head stencil



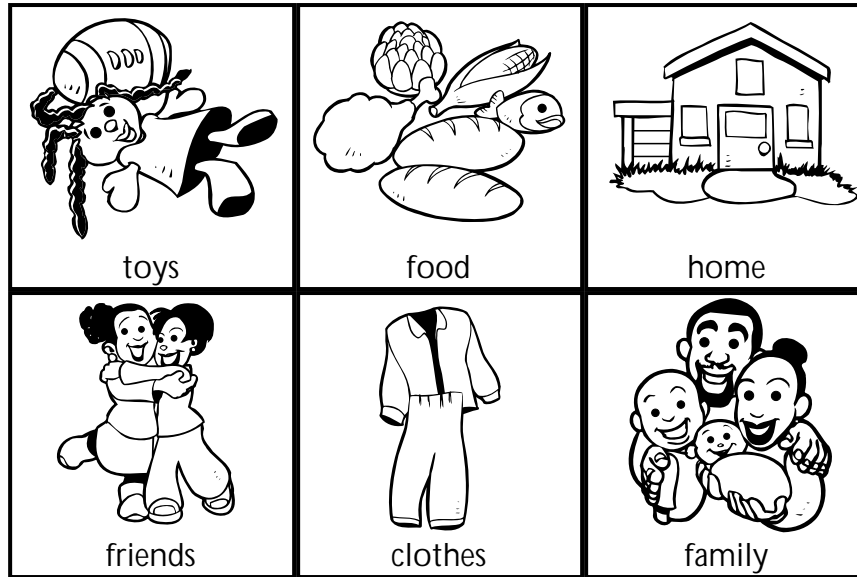
feather stencil





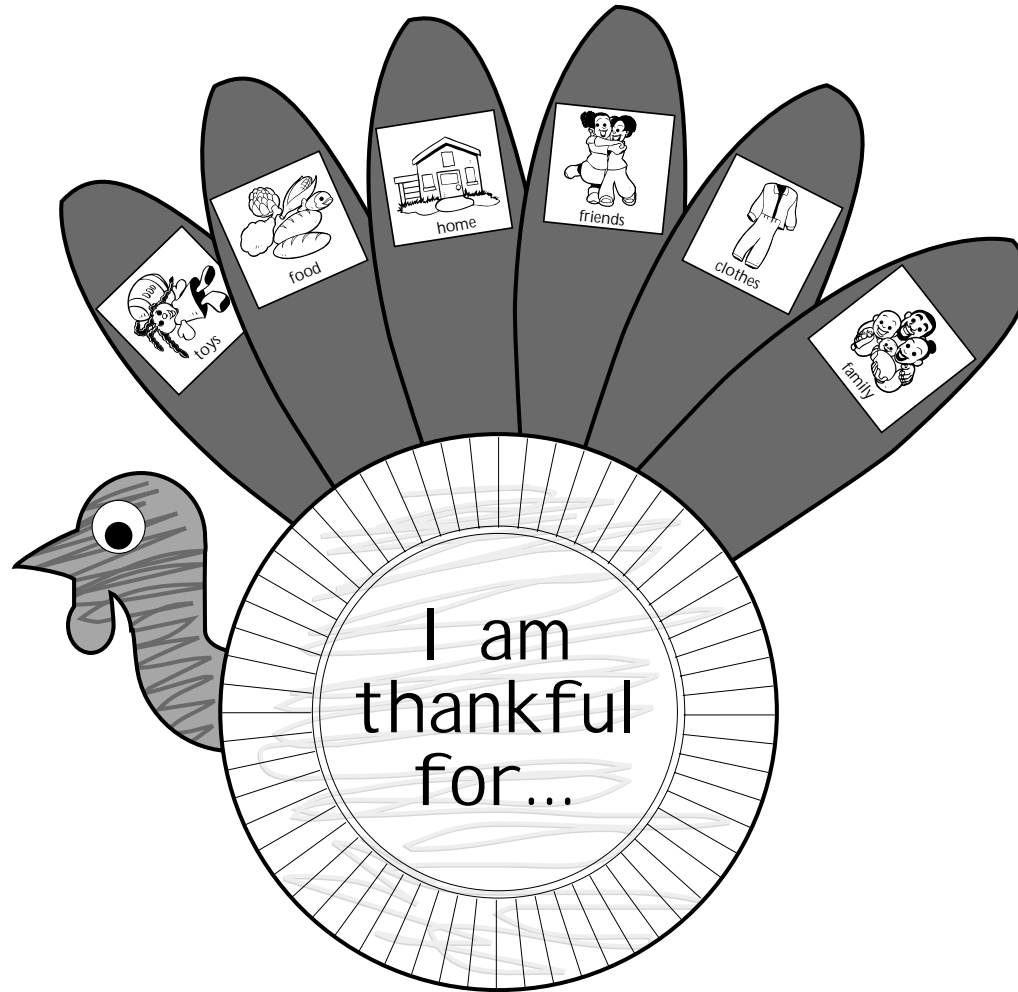


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"Tom Turkey"

