

KINGDOM BUILDERS HOLIDAY CLUB



LEADERS' GUIDE

Welcome to Roots **Kingdom Builders** holiday club! You and the children are in for a fun-filled three days together learning about God's kingdom and how we can all be Kingdom Builders. This is a flexible holiday club experience – the three sessions can be used over three consecutive days, across three weeks, or you could pick out a stand-alone day. We have planned three 90-minute sessions, with plenty of room for adaptation, and we have included take-home activities called **Level-up challenges**.

The sessions reference three popular games as a hook to help children to engage with the Bible. Leaders may find it helpful to research some of the games which are referenced: **Minecraft™**, **Lego™** and **Roblox™**.

These short videos give a brief overview if you've never played them:

Minecraft™ – <https://bit.ly/4hGEN9W>

Roblox™ – <https://bit.ly/3D7fcl8>

You can also hear how some churches have adopted a 'Minecraft™ Church' session as a means to engage with their communities, as they share faith and fellowship:

<https://bit.ly/4hJcrMf>

<https://bit.ly/3QssNNe>

As you reference the games as platforms to create and inspire activities, it is important to highlight the need for online safety and emphasise that children should access these games under adult supervision. Minecraft™ is intended for children aged 7+ and Roblox™ for children aged 9+.

The holiday club encourages face to face conversation, crafts and games, and the children won't be gaming during the sessions. The games provide a cultural reference point for children to engage with the Bible. Roots wants to encourage online safety. For more information see our **Safer online gaming** page (see pp.23-24) which can be shared with parents and carers.



PLAN YOUR SESSIONS

Don't forget to check in with your safeguarding officer, complete risk assessments, and recruit appropriate volunteers. Consider how you would like your registration process to go, whether you will charge for this event and what, if any, refreshments you'll be providing. You may want to ask children to bring their own water bottle or packed lunch.

This is a flexible resource so remember to have fun, make memories, and enjoy building the kingdom together!

There are customisable posters and postcard-size invites included in this resource pack, see pp.3-4. How could you advertise the holiday club in your community?

Setting up the space

Decorate the space based on the theme. Hang posters of the games (Minecraft™, Lego™ and Roblox™), images of characters, and create a backdrop for the front-led sections of the sessions. You could play background gaming music as the children arrive, to help set the scene. An example playlist is here: <https://bit.ly/4hK8WVY>

During the sessions, consider providing a chill-out (quiet) space. This could be a small area with sensory toys and fidgets, other building-related toys such as magnetic blocks and Jenga™, larger building blocks for younger children or a role play dress-up area.

Structure

- **Welcome activity** At the start of each session there is an activity to help the children settle in, as they may not all arrive at the same time. Ideally each table will have a leader to help guide them through the activity and welcome them.
- **Get ready to build** A physical activity or game to get the group working together.
- **Kingdom Builders song** We suggest you use the same song each session (lyrics can be printed from this resource pack, see p.25), so the children learn it by heart.
- **Kingdom prayer** The prayer, entitled 'Building a people of power', has actions, and can be repeated each session so the children remember it (words can be printed from this resource pack, see p.26).
- **GOD'S WORD** Encourage everyone to view God's Word as a tool to build God's kingdom. In games like Minecraft™ a sword is used to destroy, but God uses sword imagery in the Bible to remind us that the Word of God is powerful. We can use the Bible as a tool to help build God's kingdom.

Each child needs a Bible. Encourage the children to open a Bible and find **Ephesians 6** (you can tell them the page number). As the leader calls out the verses, encourage the children to respond with actions (print the verses and action prompts, as shown below, from p.27).

You will repeat this routine each time you open God's Word during the holiday club, so help the children to memorise the words and actions.

Ephesians 6

Wear the full armour of God. (Ephesians 6:1)

stand in a strong, power pose

Stand strong, with the belt of truth tied around your waist.

(Ephesians 6:14)

pretend to tie a belt around your waist and flex muscles

Use the shield of faith. (Ephesians 6:16)

arms out in front to create a shield shape

Take the sword of the Spirit – that sword is the teaching of God. (Ephesians 6:17)

pretend to take out a sword and stand in an 'on guard' fighting position



- **Share the Word** Discover the illustrated Bible passage for each session, including time for discussion.
- **Explore & respond activities** Offer a range of activities linked to the Bible passage, as time allows, including the **Prayer bricks** activity. Encourage the children to choose their favourite and challenge themselves to try something new each day. With large groups, you could offer activities on rotation. If you have longer than 90 minutes, you could use several activities during your session.
- **IRL (In real life)** Regroup to share what has been created, and how we can take what has been learnt out into the world.
- **Level-up challenge!** Further activities on the theme that the children could do at home (see pp.39-41).


Participation and rewards

Teams As the children arrive, invite them to select a table or team they would like to join. Suggested team names: 'Master builders', 'Villagers', 'Ender Dragons', 'Dressed to impress' – the children can suggest some relevant ones.



Kingdom coins Kingdom coin points are to be awarded each day for engagement in tasks or winning games (for Kingdom coins template, see p.21). Keep a tally (for tally sheet, see p.22), and if a different leader runs one of the three sessions, make sure they have access to the tally sheet to update.

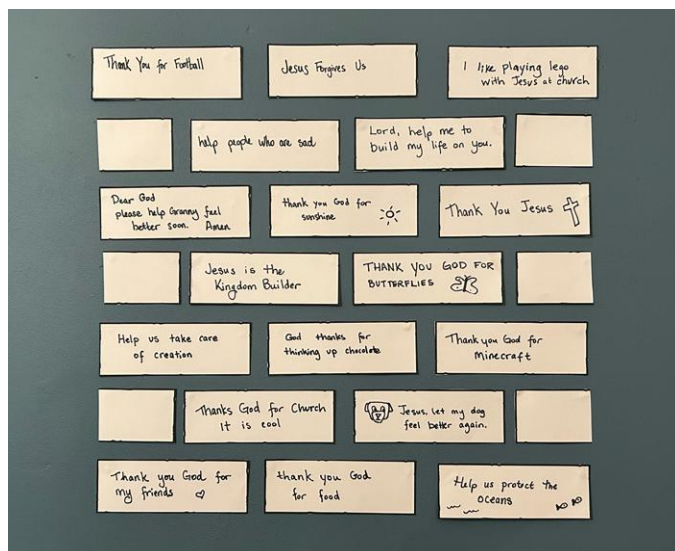
With large numbers, split the children into teams to compete for  Kingdom coins for each activity completed. If you have small numbers, work in smaller teams, or compete for  Kingdom coins individually (as a created avatar, see **Session 1's Welcome activity**).

Keep a running tally of  Kingdom coin points but only share totals with the children at the end of each session, with the overall winners announced at the **Kingdom completed!** closing service.

Prayer bricks

Each session encourages children to build the kingdom with their prayers. We have provided brick shapes for you to print and cut out (see p.28). Each team could build up a prayer wall together.

Below is an example image of how the wall could look like once it has been completed.



'Kingdom completed!' closing service/family celebration

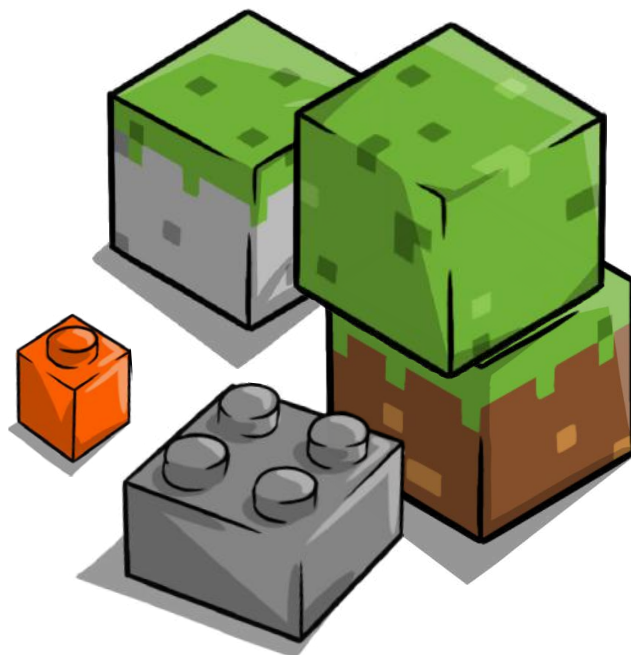
Make the most of the opportunity to invite families and the community into church for a celebration at the end of the holiday club. This could be planned for the Sunday service immediately after the last holiday club session. Alternatively, invite parents and carers to a celebration for the final 20 minutes of your last session. Make sure you invite guests to your next suitable church service/event.

During this celebration, the children can share their **Kingdom Builders song** and **prayer**, or even the **Adam and Eve drama** from **Session 1**. You can also display crafts and award prizes. Hold off from disclosing the team with the most **Kingdom coins** until this celebration, to encourage the children to come. You may want to award a master builder prize to a child who has been very engaged, either in sessions or with the **Level-up challenges**.

Of course, if we are building the kingdom of God then all are winners. We may be doing it in our own way and style, and they are all important – therefore present all participants with a small prize such as a certificate, rosette or medal.



We hope you have plenty of fun exploring more about God's kingdom together!





HOLIDAY CLUB



Explore building God's kingdom with blocks and games



Venue:

Dates:

Time:

To register:



HOLIDAY CLUB

Explore building
God's kingdom with
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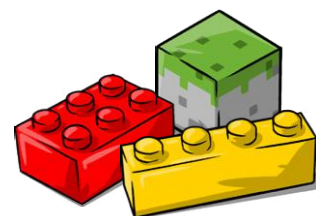


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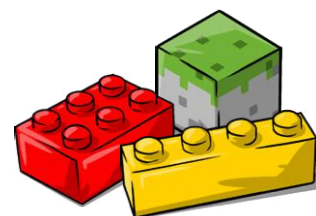


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SESSION 1 IN THE BEGINNING

PREPARE

Today we are looking at God being the Kingdom Builder. We'll explore Genesis 1, focusing on verses 26-28. We are made in God's image and have a duty to look after the world that was so wonderfully and lovingly created for us. God wants us to be Kingdom Builders, working to make the world a better place.

To delve deeper into the passage we recommend you watch this video: <https://bit.ly/3ED6bHu>

What excites and amazes you about God's kingdom? Have you shared this joy lately with God/others? How can we help to protect what God has lovingly made for us?

Pray for the children who will be attending that they will know God made them, and they have a special role to play in God's kingdom.

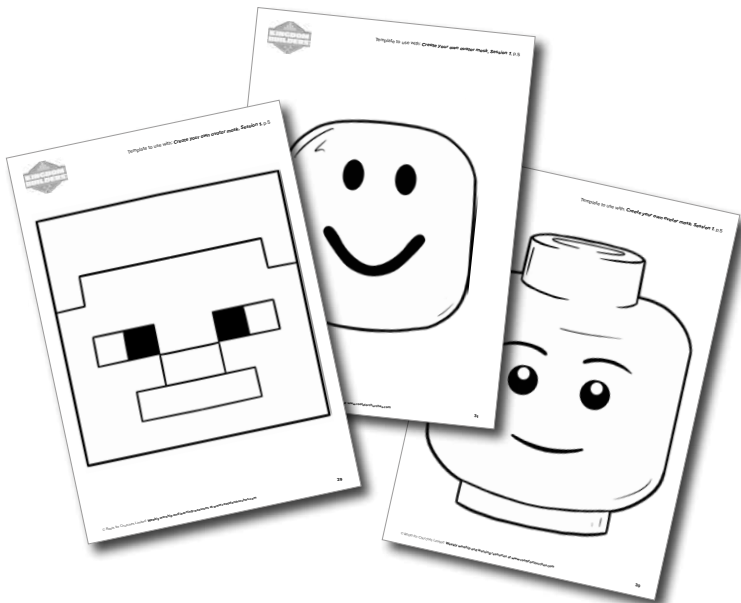
WELCOME ACTIVITY

10 mins

A pre-session activity for children as they arrive and gather

Create your own avatar mask

You will need: templates of avatar heads (see pp.29-31), scissors, glue, felt tips, tissue paper, wool/string/elastic to tie mask.



- Provide mask templates (see pp.29-31) and ask the children to use craft materials to create their own avatar mask and give their avatar a name. (As they create, talk with the children about online safety. See **Safer online gaming** information on pp.23-24.


GET READY TO BUILD

10 mins

A physical warm-up to help children settle into the session
Gather everyone together.



God is a Kingdom Builder

You will need: a beach ball/inflatable globe, pumps (optional), modelling balloons (you may want to pre-inflate some).

- In Minecraft™, Lego™ and Roblox™, we create our own worlds to play in.
- Explain to the group that the first 'kingdom' God built for us was the world. Right at the beginning of the Bible, God created everything that is.
- Invite a child to blow up the beach ball/inflatable globe and talk about how they are putting something of themselves, energy, effort and breath into it, just like when God created the world.
- Offer the children the modelling balloons and have them create some animals – from worms/snakes, to fish to dogs and giraffes. For tutorials, see: <https://bit.ly/3Xb40kP>
- Award  Kingdom coin points for creativity.

Kingdom Builders

You will need: art materials, paper, play dough.

- Explain to the children that they have all been called to be Kingdom Builders. God invites us to build his kingdom with him. We are creative just like God, made in God's image.
- They must work in their teams (or individually as their avatar) to earn  Kingdom coins. Their first task is to warm up!
- Invite everyone to find a space where they can move and stretch. Call a series of commands to which they must copy your actions;  Kingdom coins are awarded to children for engagement.

Foundation: lay on the ground

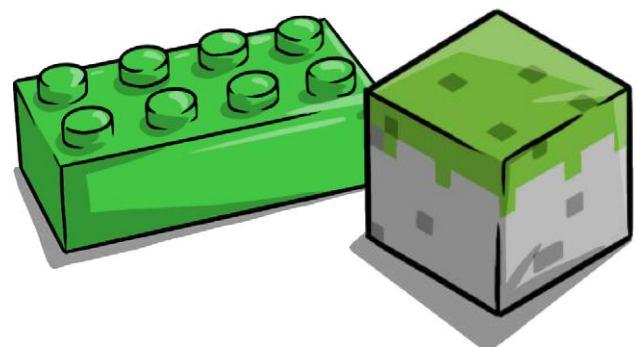
Tools: pretend to hammer

Building: find a partner and make a block shape with your bodies

Teamwork: 'high five' as many people as possible

Defend: strike a defensive stance, like a shield

Kingdom: strike a royal pose, how do they think a good king/queen would act?



KINGDOM BUILDERS SONG

5 mins

Sing together to the tune: *Bob the Builder*, see lyrics on p.25.

Tune: <https://bit.ly/4hPb8eg>

Backing track: <https://bit.ly/4hyJwdQ>

You will repeat this song during all three sessions.

Alternative song suggestions:

- 'Build Your Kingdom Here', Rend Collective, *Homemade Worship by Handmade People*
<https://bit.ly/4hW6qLS>
- 'Firm Foundation (He Won't)', Cody Carnes
<https://bit.ly/4hLxDRG>
- 'The wise man built his house upon the rock'
<https://bit.ly/4hxRS5l>
- 'Build my life', Pat Barrett and Housefires'
<https://bit.ly/40YUPou>



Award Kingdom coin points to a few children for joining in/loud singing/good dance moves!

KINGDOM PRAYER

10 mins

Teach the children the words of 'Building a people of power,' to be said as a prayer with actions, print from p.26. If you would prefer to sing it, the tune is here: <https://bit.ly/4k6BN8C>.

You will repeat this prayer during all three sessions.



10 mins

Help children to view God's Word as a tool to build God's kingdom

You will need: some child-friendly Bibles, printed copies of the Ephesians 6 verses and actions from p.27 to share.

Although in games like Minecraft™ a sword is used to destroy, God uses sword imagery in the Bible to remind us that the Word of God is powerful. We can use the Bible as a tool to help build God's kingdom.

Encourage the children to open a Bible and find **Ephesians 6**, you can tell them the page number. Give everyone a copy of the printed verses and actions and, as the leader calls out the verses, encourage everyone to respond with actions.

SHARE THE WORD

Discover what the Bible has to say about God's kingdom

(Genesis 1, focusing on 1:26-28)

Explain to the children how in the beginning we were created in God's image.

At the beginning of our session, we created our own avatars to look like us, to bear our image. In many of our games we use avatars and characters to protect and build our kingdoms. In the same way, God created us to be like him and bear his image, which means to be like God and protect the world. God also gave us the task to help build the kingdom, bringing God's rule and reign, and love and care from heaven to earth.

THE KINGDOM BUILDER'S PERFECT CREATION

(Genesis 1, focusing on 1:26-28)

A long time ago, before anything existed, God – who is the Kingdom Builder – had a wonderful idea. God wanted to create a beautiful kingdom, a perfect place full of life and love. So, with powerful words, God built everything step by step.

First, God made the light and the dark. God separated the sky and the sea, shaped the land, and filled it with plants, flowers, and trees. God built the sun to shine by day, the moon and stars for the night, and he smiled because it was good. Then, God made animals – birds to fly in the sky, fish to swim in the water, and creatures of all kinds to walk the land.

Finally, God did something very special. God said, 'Let us make people in our image, like us.' So, God created humans to be a part of his kingdom. God gave them special gifts, talents, and abilities to care for everything God had made. God told them, 'Take care of the earth. Look after the animals, plants, and all of creation. You are my stewards, my helpers.'

God's kingdom was a perfect place where everything worked together in harmony. And because humans were made in God's image, they were like little builders, too. God gave everyone talents to help one another, build friendships, and take care of the world.

Even today, we are all invited to be part of God's kingdom. God loves us and wants us to help make the world a better place, just like it was in the beginning. By caring for others, using our talents, and looking after creation, we become part of the Kingdom Builder's amazing plan.

You may also want to watch a Lego™ video of the Scripture: <https://bit.ly/3QeNlmZ>



Talk together and talk to God

In Minecraft™, a gamer can use different modes to play. These modes are:

■ Survival

Collect resources and build structures while surviving in an already generated world.

■ Creative

Build whatever you want to without fear of enemies attacking. And you can easily knock bricks down and rebuild.

■ Adventure

Gamers craft a unique experience for guests who visit their world. Incoming players can't break or place blocks unless they hold special items that allow them to.

■ Spectator

This lets you observe a world without having any interaction with it. You can view other people's worlds without being able to change or break anything.

For more information on what a Minecraft™ mode is, see: <https://bit.ly/3CNPatm>

- Which Minecraft™ mode describes what God intended for our world?
- If you were creating the Garden of Eden, what mode would you choose and why?
- Do you think God is continually involved in creating the world?

Award 🏆 Kingdom coins for great thinking.

EXPLORE & RESPOND ACTIVITIES 20 mins

Offer a number of activities linked to the Bible passage. Encourage the children to choose their favourite and to challenge themselves to try something new each day.

With large groups, you could offer all seven activities on rotation. If you have longer than 90 minutes, you could use all seven throughout your session.

Creative cube

You will need: cube templates, see p.32 (cut out for younger children), scissors, sticky tape, felt tip pens or pencils.

- Inspired by the pixelated style of Minecraft™, the purpose of this activity is to create a building block to represent all of creation.
- Ask the children:
If you could build your own world, what six things would you include? For example: ice-cream volcanoes, rollerskating penguins, a self-cleaning ocean, trampoline clouds, sandcastles you could live in, flying cars...
- Remind the children that God created different aspects of the world in six days and then he rested. Give out the cube templates. Ask them to decorate the six sides of their cube with what they would create each day, and share their ideas with each other.

- Once completed, show the children how to cut out, fold and assemble their cube box, and challenge them to stack the cubes together like a tower or wall, and to imagine how the different ideas could work together. Emphasise how we all share one world and are all working to build God's kingdom together.

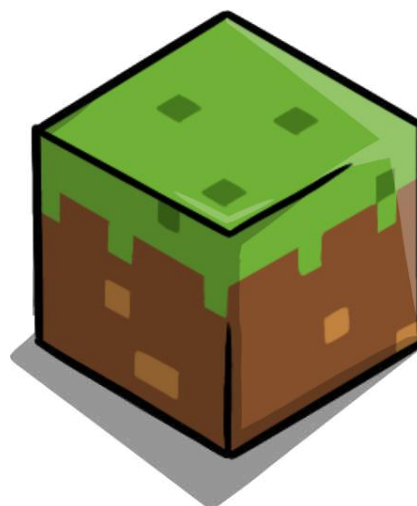
Keepers of the kingdom

Lead the children in these active games

Creative mode	<i>mime building a world using giant blocks</i>
Survival mode	<i>crawl across the floor in an army crawl style</i>
Spectator mode	<i>put their like goggles on your eyes and move slowly around the space looking</i>
Adventure mode	<i>find a partner and find a way to travel around the room together</i>
Adopt me	<i>freeze as your favourite pet and make the animal noise to match</i>
Dress to impress	<i>walk around the space as though on a catwalk</i>

Keeper of the keys

- Ask the children to sit in a long line with hands behind their backs.
- Select one child to either leave the room, supervised by an adult, or close their eyes as you select one other child to be the 'Keeper of the keys', and hand them a set of keys or something which rattles when it is shaken.
- The first child who left the room returns and will guess who has the keys. All children in the line must pretend to shake their keys behind their backs. The keys can be passed along from child to child, keeping them hidden from the guesser.
- Once the keys have been found, start again.
- Ask the children: Who is the keeper of God's kingdom? Do they think they have responsibility to look after God's kingdom? Do they think God's kingdom is locked or open for all?



Adam and Eve drama

Ask the children if they know the names of the humans that God created. Share the following drama script, which can be printed out from p.33.

Ask children to work in groups of five to rehearse the drama and perform it at the end of the session.

God: What day are we on...? Let me see, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ah yes, day 6!

Angels: Have you finished, God?

God: No, not yet... something is missing from my kingdom.

Angels: An ice-cream machine?

God: No...

Angels: Oh, I know, a bubble machine!

God: No that's not it...

Angels: What then?

God: It needs someone to take care of it. Someone like me, to represent me on earth. We need people!

God claps his hands and Adam appears

Adam: I'm Adam.

All: Hello Adam!

Adam: I'm lonely!

God: Ah yes, you will need a friend... Oh, Eve!

Eve appears

Eve: I'm Eve.

All: Hello Eve!

God: Now, you two. I have created this kingdom for you to enjoy. But you must look after it.

Adam: Will you stay with us?

God: Yes. I will walk with you in my kingdom, in my Garden of Eden.

Eve: We will protect it, God!

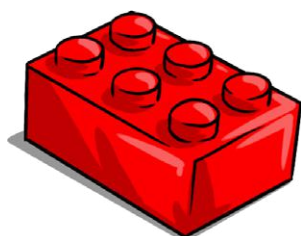
Angel: God? Are you sure this is a good idea? They could mess up your world.

God: I want to share my world, and if something goes wrong, I've got a plan to fix it.

Model garden

You will need: paper plates, play dough, plastic tools, Lego™ figures (two per child).

Invite the children to create a garden for Adam and Eve out of play dough, and encourage them to include as many features as possible, including two trees, plants and flowers, a river and animals. As they model, talk to the children about how it feels to create something beautiful and how God wants us to look after creation.



Lego™ printing

You will need: a range of paints for children to dip Lego™ and Duplo™ bricks into and stamp onto an outline of a garden (see The Garden of Eden template on p.34), or ask them to draw their own garden shape to print onto.

- Encourage the children to have fun creating the Garden of Eden using the garden outline template and bricks.



IRL (in real life)

5 mins

Reflect together about what has been learnt during the session

Share back what the children have completed in their groups, including presenting the **Adam and Eve drama**. Ask the children what they have learnt, enjoyed, experienced today. Award any 🏆 Kingdom coin points for their efforts during the activities.

Ask them what they are going to remember from the session and set the **Level-up challenge!** to try at home (see p.39).

PRAYER BRICKS

10 mins

Close the session in prayer

Give each child a cut-out brick shape (see template, p.28) to write/draw their own prayers on, based on today's themes of looking after God's kingdom; with a focus on how we view our planet Earth.

Encourage the children to write prayers asking God to protect the planet, asking God for strength to protect it ourselves, and for forgiveness when we have not done all we can for our planet.

Invite children to put the bricks onto their team's brick wall.

Read out some of the prayers together.

Creator God,
thank you for making such a beautiful world.
Help us to look after it and care for it together.
Help us to use our creativity to help others.
We want to build the kingdom with you.
Amen.

LEVEL-UP CHALLENGE!

5 mins

Activities for children to try at home, see p.39

Challenge the children to carry on building at home by taking part in the **Level-up challenges** (see template on p.39). Award 🏆 Kingdom coins for participation.

Ask parents/carers to email pictures or bring in printouts of their children's creations.

SESSION 2 BUILD A TEMPLE

PREPARE

Today we're looking at Solomon building the Temple in Jerusalem in 1 Kings 6:11-13 and 1 Kings 8:10-13. Although no building could hold the presence of God, the Temple was God's way of showing closeness to us, his people, by living among us. Reflecting on the construction of the Temple helps us to think about God's presence, teamwork and showing God's love and presence to those around us.

To prepare, watch this short video about the Temple, and how it's linked to the Garden of Eden:
<https://bit.ly/4i2UXLf>

Pray for the children who will be attending, that they will know that God wants to be close to them, and that they will encounter God's presence today.

KINGDOM BUILDERS SONG

5 mins

Sing together to the tune: *Bob the Builder*, see lyrics on p.25.

Tune: <https://bit.ly/4hPb8eg>

Backing track: <https://bit.ly/4hyJwdQ>

Alternative song suggestions:

- 'Build Your Kingdom Here', Rend Collective, *Homemade Worship by Handmade People*.
<https://bit.ly/4hW6qLS>
- 'Firm Foundation (He Won't)', Cody Carnes
<https://bit.ly/4hLxDRG>
- 'The wise man built his house upon the rock'
<https://bit.ly/4hxRS5I>
- 'Build my life', Pat Barrett and Housefires
<https://bit.ly/40YUPou>


WELCOME ACTIVITY

10 mins

A pre-session activity for children as they arrive and gather

Build a temple

You will need: junk model materials such as plastic bottles, cardboard, sticky tape and glue, images of churches and temples.

- Display images of different churches/temples. Explain to the children that a temple is a building that helps people worship God. God wanted to be close to the people in the Old Testament, just like now. God chose to inhabit the Temple. It was a way for people to experience the kingdom of God.
- Challenge the children to create junk model temples using recyclable materials.
- Gather everyone together and award the best temple with a  Kingdom coin for their team.



Award Kingdom coin points to a few children for joining in/loud singing/good dance moves!

KINGDOM PRAYER

10 mins

Say together the prayer, see pp.26 and <https://bit.ly/4k6BN8C>

GET READY TO BUILD

10 mins


A physical warm-up to help children settle into the session

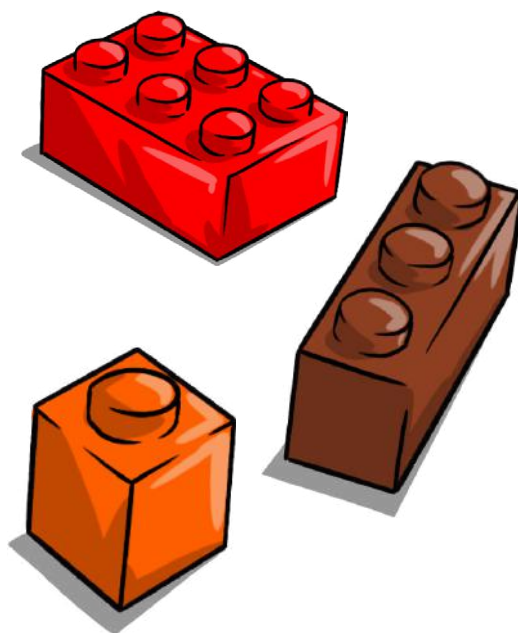
Team builders

You will need: training cones.

- Scatter training cones around the room, with half of the cones facing down and the other half facing up.
- In two teams – 'face down' team and 'face up' team – ask the children to protect their cones while turning their opponents' cones to face in the opposite direction. In other words, if you are on the 'face down' team, you want to be turning all the cones to face down.
- Do this game for a set amount of time and count the winning side at the end.
- As you play, explain how today's passage is about building the Temple – which involved working as a team and being patient with setbacks, as it took seven years to build!

Invite the children who completed **Session 1's Level-up challenge!** to share what they did and give out more

 Kingdom coins for completed tasks.



GOD'S WORD

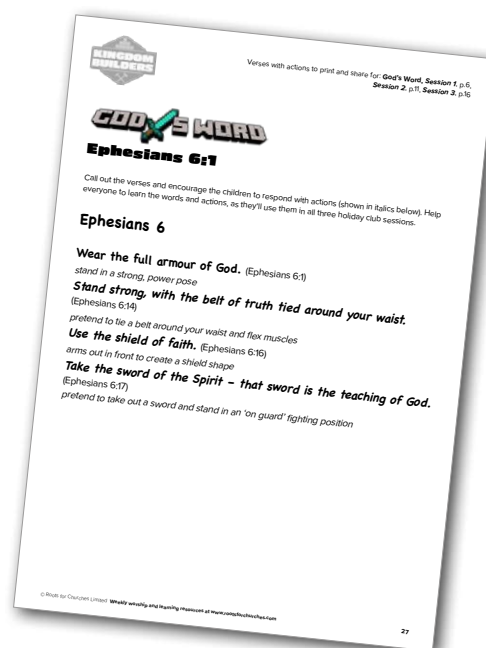
10 mins

Help children to view God's Word as a tool to build God's kingdom

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Encourage the children to open a Bible and find **Ephesians 6**, you can tell them the page number. Give everyone a copy of the printed verses and actions and, as the leader calls out the verses, encourage everyone to respond with actions.



SHARE THE WORD

Discover what the Bible has to say about God's kingdom

(1 Kings 6:11-13 and 1 Kings 8:10-13)

Ask: What do you like to build/design when you're playing with Lego™, Minecraft™ or similar? Is there a design that you're especially proud of? Explain that today's Bible story is from the Old Testament and comes quite a bit later than the beginning of the world (**Session 1**).

God, the Kingdom Builder has appointed earthly kings to rule over the earthly kingdoms, while he rules the heavenly kingdom and keeps an eye on the human rulers, who often make mistakes. This story is about King Solomon (the son of King David – who fought Goliath and wrote the Psalms) and the building of the first Temple of God over 3,000 years ago.



SOLOMON BUILDS GOD'S TEMPLE

(1 Kings 6:11-13 and 1 Kings 8:10-13)

A long time ago, King Solomon, the son of King David, had a big and exciting job. God, the Kingdom Builder, wanted a special house – called a Temple – right in the middle of the city. Why? Because God wanted to be close to the people. God loved them and wanted a place where his presence could be with them.

So, Solomon and his builders worked hard. They used the best materials – beautiful stone, gold, and wood. It took seven years to build, and when it was done, it was incredible! The Temple was like a little piece of heaven on earth, a place where people could come close to God. It reminded everyone that God was the true King, the one who built the world and invited them to be part of his kingdom.

One day, after the Temple was finished, something amazing happened. When the priests brought the special chest, called the Ark of the Covenant, into the Temple, a bright cloud filled the whole room. This cloud showed that God's presence was there! The people couldn't even stand because the cloud was so powerful and holy.

Then Solomon said, 'God promised to live with us. Now this Temple is God's home on earth!' The people were so happy because they knew that God wanted to be with them – right in the middle of their lives.

Even though God is so big, he loves being close to us. Today, we don't need a Temple to be with God. Through Jesus, God's presence is with us all the time. Just like in Solomon's day, God still wants to live in our hearts and lives, making us part of God's kingdom.

We are invited to be his Kingdom Builders, working together to make the world a better place!

You can also play a Lego™ Bible video [WEB](#) to display how the Temple was built – stopping at 3 mins 9 seconds:



Talk together and talk to God

- Why do you think the people needed a place to gather to meet with God?
- Have you ever thought of church as a place to meet God?
- What places or activities help you to feel close to God?

EXPLORE & RESPOND ACTIVITIES 20 mins

Offer a number of activities linked to the Bible passage

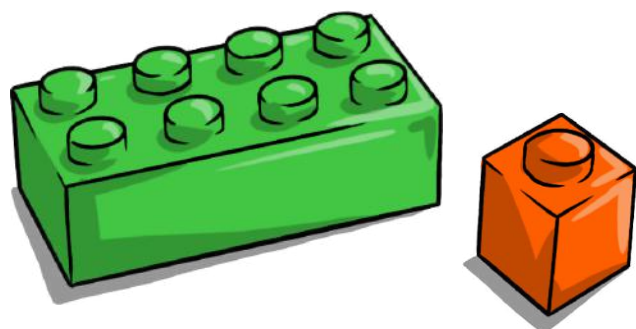
Kingdom Builders!

You will need: play dough, magnetic blocks, Lego™.

- Encourage the children to use play dough, magnetic blocks or Lego™ to build something like Solomon's Temple. How can the children design a space fit for a king – God? How can they use the following aspects to make a fitting place for worship?
- Size
- Lighting
- Building materials (use colour to symbolise)
- Use of nature, plants, water – inside and out
- Ceiling, walls, flooring
- Windows, doors, steps, and other access
- Seating
- Decoration
- Holy spaces and places for quiet prayer/reflection
- Places for religious objects to be seen and looked after.
- For an artist's 3D impression of what the Temple looked like, see:
<https://bit.ly/4gEtVlo>
Or images here:
<https://bit.ly/3QHxECV>

Rice Krispie™ building blocks

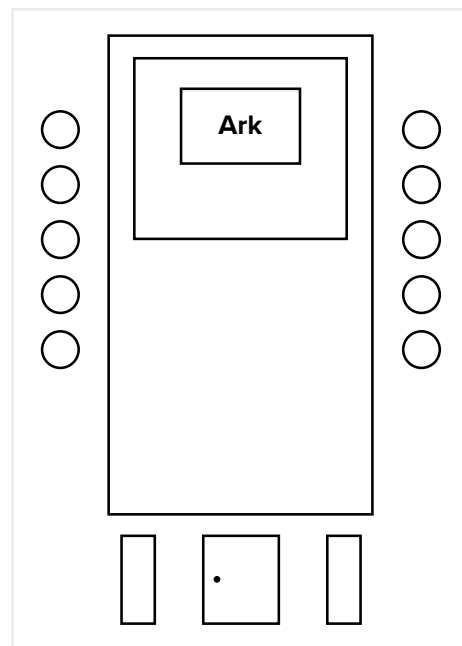
- Children can make simple, Minecraft™ inspired Rice Krispie building blocks. You could even challenge them to use the completed blocks to build a temple!
<https://bit.ly/3EKkZnK>




Temple Drive

You will need: dice, paper, pencils.

- Inspired by the game Beetle Drive (see video <https://bit.ly/4gHMETn>), play a game of 'Temple Drive' in small groups.
- Give everyone a plain piece of paper, and a pen. In small teams, ask the children to take it in turns to roll a die, with each number representing a different aspect of the Temple. With each number, the children must draw symbols to represent a floor plan of the Temple (e.g. see image below, also template on p.35).



- The first child to complete their temple is the winner, award  Kingdom coin points.

RULES for Temple Drive (print from p.36 and share):

Children must roll a six to begin with and must draw the Ark of the Covenant first.



Ark of the Covenant – *small rectangular box*



5 x bronze water basins (10 to collect) – *small circles, 5 on each side of the paper*



Holy place – *large rectangle to represent the outer wall*



Holy of Holies – *small inner walled rectangle to house the Ark of the Covenant*



bronze pillars – *2 large pillar shapes*



Temple door – *1 large door shape.*

It could also be useful for leaders to watch the following video explaining the features of the Temple:
<https://bit.ly/42WoxwX>

Solomon's Temple

You will need: image of Solomon's Temple, jigsaw craft or white card, felt tips, scissors.

- Invite the children to draw and colour a picture of Solomon's Temple, you could share some reference images to help them: <https://bit.ly/411r8mS>
<https://bit.ly/40ZytTX>
- Cut each child's picture into jigsaw shapes and then encourage them to swap their creations with a friend who can help build the Temple again.

Example of premade jigsaw pieces to buy:
<https://bit.ly/3EBUUXG>

Minecraft™ Temple drawing challenge

- Use squared paper to invite the children to create King Solomon in the style of a Minecraft™ avatar and also the Temple.

Examples of how to create the Minecraft™ look:
<https://bit.ly/41AfeSg>

Drama challenge

- In small teams, create a news report scene of the Temple finally being completed. Encourage the children to include interviews with King Solomon, and the people worshipping there.

Fit for the King?

- During Solomon's reign as king, he built a Temple for God's kingdom, according to God's instructions. Use the **Church explorer** templates on pp.37-38 to go on a scavenger hunt around your church building, to find what makes up the physical features of the church.
- Once the children have found the key items in the church, you could invite a member of the church who communicates well with children to come in and talk briefly about why these items are there, and the theology behind the key features. For more ideas, see p.5 of this CMN school visit resource: <https://bit.ly/4hGTgmm>
- Ask the children which they think is the most important aspect and why.

IRL (in real life)

5 mins

Reflect together about what has been learnt during the session

Share back what the children have completed in their groups, including presenting the drama activity if used. Award



Kingdom coins for effort during the activities.

Ask the children what they have learnt, enjoyed and experienced today.

PRAYER BRICKS

10 mins

Close the session in prayer

Give each child a cut-out brick shape (see template on p.28) to write/draw their own prayers on based on today's themes.

Encourage the children to write a prayer thanking God for wanting to be close to us. Invite them to think about ways they could notice or invite God to be more present in their home, school, or places they visit.

Invite children to put the prayers onto their team's brick wall. Read out some of the prayers together.

Amazing God, who is King of everything:
thank you for wanting to be close to us.
Help us to put you at the centre of our lives,
so that we can build something really good:
something that lasts for ever.


Amen.

LEVEL-UP CHALLENGE!

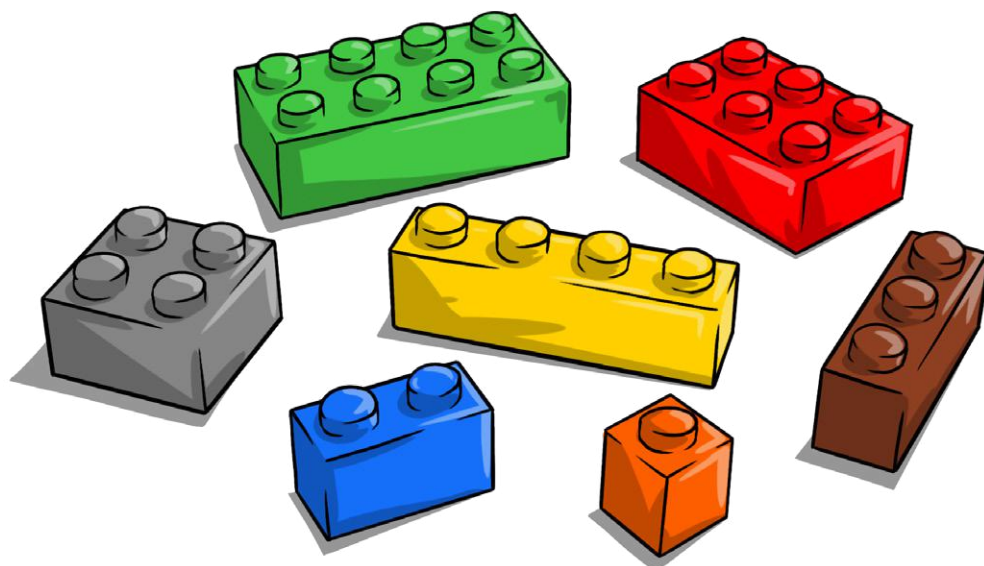
5 mins

Activities for children to try at home, see p.40

Challenge the children to carry on building at home by taking part in the **Level-up challenges** (see template on p.40).

Award  Kingdom coins for participation.

Ask parents/carers to email pictures or bring in printouts of their children's creations.



SESSION 3 HOW TO BUILD

PREPARE

Today we explore Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders which appears in both Matthew and Luke's Gospels (Matthew 7:24-27 and Luke 6:46-49). Jesus wants us to build our lives on a strong and sure foundation – him and his teachings. There are many ideas, #life hacks and philosophies of how to live a good life, but will they ultimately bring joy, hope, and peace, and weather the storms of life?

How have Jesus' teachings been a firm foundation for you? What storms have you weathered with Jesus?

To prepare, watch this short video: <https://bit.ly/41j2O0V>

Pray for the children to choose to put their trust in Jesus, building their life on him and following his teachings.

WELCOME ACTIVITY

10 mins

A pre-session activity for children as they arrive and gather

Marshmallow challenge

You will need: marshmallows, dried spaghetti, water sprays.

- Ask the children to work in teams to create a building using spaghetti and marshmallows.
- After they have all finished (warn the children this will happen), have a leader spray the structures with water to act as a rainstorm. Will the buildings stand firm in the storm?


GET READY TO BUILD


10 mins

A physical warm-up to help children settle into the session

Bean bag game

You will need: different coloured bean bags (or use small balls), hula-hoops, timer.

- Split the group into teams and give each team a base, using a hula-hoop. Spread an array of bean bags across the space.
- Explain that the winning team will be the one with the most bags or balls in their base after an allotted time.
- Challenge the children to go out into the space for a set amount of time to collect as many bean bags as possible, to then put inside their own hula-hoop.
- The team players can choose to collect bean bags from the central space or steal from other teams' bases. Encourage each team to consider how to defend their own base while also building it.
- You could also assign points depending on which colour bean bag is collected. The winning team is the one with the most bags in their base after an allotted time. Don't forget to award  Kingdom coins.

Invite the children who completed **Session 2's Level-up challenge!** to share what they did and give out  Kingdom coin points for completed tasks.

KINGDOM BUILDERS SONG

5 mins

Sing together to the tune: *Bob the Builder*, see lyrics on p.25.

Tune: <https://bit.ly/4hPb8eg>

Backing track: <https://bit.ly/4hyJwdQ>

Alternative song suggestions:

- 'Build Your Kingdom Here', Rend Collective, *Homemade Worship by Handmade People*.
<https://bit.ly/4hW6qLS>
- 'Firm Foundation (He Won't)', Cody Carnes
<https://bit.ly/4hLxDRG>
- 'The wise man built his house upon the rock'
<https://bit.ly/4hxRS5I>
- 'Build my life', Pat Barrett and Housefires
<https://bit.ly/40YUPou>

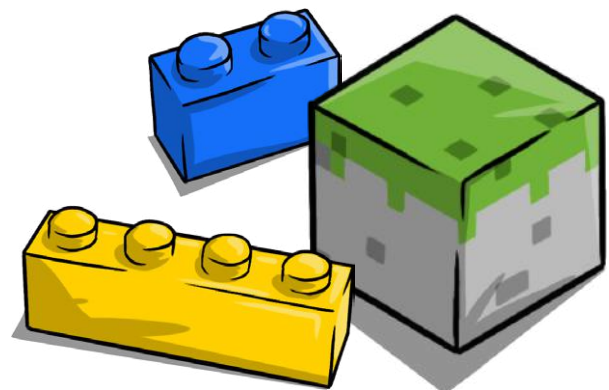


Award Kingdom coin points to a few children for joining in/loud singing/good dance moves!

KINGDOM PRAYER

10 mins

Say together the prayer, see p.26 and <https://bit.ly/4k6BN8C>



GOD'S WORD

10 mins

Help children to view God's Word as a tool to build God's kingdom

You will need: some child-friendly Bibles, printed copies of the Ephesians 6 verses and actions from p.27 to share.

Although in games like Minecraft™ a sword is used to destroy, God uses sword imagery in the Bible to remind us that the Word of God is powerful. We can use the Bible as a tool to help build God's kingdom.

Encourage the children to open a Bible and find **Ephesians 6**, you can tell them the page number. Give everyone a copy of the printed verses and actions and, as the leader calls out the verses, encourage everyone to respond with actions.

SHARE THE WORD

Discover what the Bible has to say about God's kingdom

(Luke 6:46-49)

- Ask if anyone has built/decorated a house in Minecraft™ or Roblox™. Wonder together about what the most important part of a building might be.

Explain to the children:

Our Bible reading today is from the New Testament, where we find out about the life and teaching of Jesus. Two thousand years ago, the Kingdom Builder (God) sent his Son (Jesus) to earth to share the good news of the kingdom with the people, helping them to understand that everyone can be a Kingdom Builder, making a better world by loving God and each other.

Sandcastle experiment

You will need: a bucket and enough play sand to build a castle, trays, table, large brick or concrete slab, building blocks or Lego™, water spray bottle or cup of water, clean-up equipment.

- Prepare the trays on a table. One should have a brick/slab in it and make a sandcastle in the other. Invite two volunteers to use the Lego™ blocks to build a small house each, to be placed on top of the two different surfaces. You could use some pre-prepared Lego™ houses or invite the volunteers to just build a simple house each for this experiment.
- Once the houses have been built and carefully placed on the different surfaces, ask the group what they think would happen if a storm approached and covered both houses? Which of the structures would stand firm?
- Then invite a third volunteer to spray water or pour water over both houses and watch as the sand collapses.

Example experiment: <https://bit.ly/4i0Oj6>



THE WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS

(Luke 6:46-49)

One day, Jesus told a story to teach people an important lesson about how to live their lives. He said, 'Imagine two people who want to build a house. The first person is very wise. They look for a strong, solid rock to build on. It takes more time and hard work, but they know the house will be safe.'

'The wise builder worked carefully and built the house on the rock. When the rains came, the rivers rose, and the wind blew hard against the house, it didn't fall! The strong foundation held it up.'

Then Jesus said, 'The second person is foolish. They don't think about the foundation and build their house on soft, sandy ground. It's quick and easy, but not very strong.'

'When the rains came, the rivers rose, and the wind blew hard against that house, it fell down with a great crash! The sand wasn't strong enough to keep the house safe.'

Jesus explained, 'When you listen to my words and follow my teachings, you are like the wise builder. You are building your life on a strong foundation, just like the rock. Even when hard times come, you will stand strong because you are living God's way.'



Jesus is building God's kingdom, and he teaches us how to live well. When we follow him – by being kind, forgiving, and loving others – we help build a better world. God wants us to live like wise builders, making good choices and trusting him.

So, which builder do you want to be? When we build our lives on Jesus' words, we stay strong, we help others, and we live the way God, the Kingdom Builder, intended.

What is God's kingdom? It's anywhere that God is in charge and people are living like Jesus taught us. Remind children (Session 1), that God wanted to build a good world close to people, but sadly people keep messing it up and hurting others. God wanted to live close to his people in the Temple (Session 2) and help them live lives that showed his goodness to the world.

But people still couldn't do it. Jesus came into the world to be even closer to us, showing what love looks like in action. Jesus' life was an example to us of how to care for others and forgive. Though his death and resurrection, Jesus makes us new and invites us to be part of his heavenly kingdom. God's Spirit lives in us and helps us to act like Jesus, so it's just like he's still here on earth, and this helps us be Kingdom Builders, building a little bit of heaven on earth.

Remember our building experiment earlier, with the sand and the rock. The rock foundation represents those who build their lives on Jesus, and the foolish builder is the one who builds their lives on sand, upon things which change and are unreliable, e.g. fame, wealth, other people's opinions.

Talk together and talk to God

- What do you think it means to build your life on Jesus?
- What might building the kingdom – heaven on earth – look like?
- If Jesus is our master builder (think the *Lego™ Movie*), what do we have to do to build his kingdom on earth?

EXPLORE & RESPOND ACTIVITIES 20 mins

Offer a number of activities linked to the Bible passage

Create an 'obby'

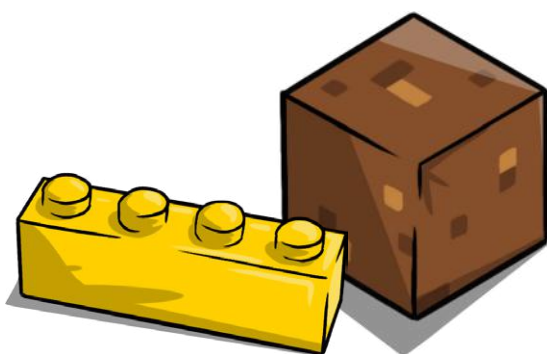
You will need: junk materials, sport equipment, other sturdy objects, timers. Outdoor space (optional). If you are limited for space, consider using marble runs or dominoes.

- Invite the children to work in groups to create an obstacle course. They should work to make it as safe and fun as possible. Have an adult check it before any children try it out. Use timers to see who can complete it the fastest. 'Obby' games are popular on Roblox™ and other platforms and are a way of winning prizes, so award 🏆 Kingdom coin points.
- Ask the children about what obstacles they expect to encounter in life:
What things might be hard, but rewarding? Is an 'obby' fun if it's too easy? And life?
How do they feel when they complete an 'obby'?
- In 'obby games if you fail, the game puts you back at the starting block to try again. Explain that for Christians, Jesus is the starting block on whom we can keep coming back to, even when we fail.

Rock painting

You will need: selection of medium to large pebbles or rocks, paints or felt tips.

- Invite the children to paint a rock. They should decorate it with their own name. Build up a collection and encourage the children to start to see how they are already part of the kingdom of God.



Make rock cakes

You will need: Rock cake ingredients (see below), baking equipment.

- Make rock cakes together, as a reminder that the kingdom of God is built upon our rock, Jesus.

<https://bit.ly/4i2LWky>



Ingredients

Makes 12 cakes

225g/8oz self-raising flour
75g/2½oz caster sugar
1 tsp baking powder
125g/4½oz unsalted butter, cut into cubes
150g/5½oz dried fruit (raisins, sultanas or currants)
1 egg
1 tbsp milk
2 tsp vanilla extract

Method

- Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas 4 and line a baking tray with baking parchment.
- Mix the flour, sugar and baking powder in a bowl and rub in the cubed butter until the mixture looks like breadcrumbs, then mix in the dried fruit.
- In a clean bowl, beat the egg and milk together with the vanilla extract.
- Add the egg mixture to the dry ingredients and stir with a spoon until the mixture just comes together as a thick, lumpy dough. Add a teaspoon more milk if you need it to make the mixture stick together.
- Place spoonfuls of the mixture onto the prepared baking tray. Leave space between them as they will flatten and spread out to double their size during baking.
- Bake for 15-20 minutes, until golden brown. Allow to cool in the baking tray for a couple of minutes, then turn the rock cakes out onto a wire rack.

Dress to impress

You will need: dressing-up items including: a hard hat, tool belt, a crown, royal robe, jewellery, wigs, silly glasses, work boots/wellies, sandals, tea towel, dressing gown, etc.

- Inspired by the popular Roblox™ game, challenge the children to create an outfit for 'Jesus the Kingdom Builder'. What would Jesus wear to build his kingdom? Help the children to think about the symbolism of the components of any outfit they create.
- Talk about who Jesus was: a carpenter from Nazareth, a teacher, a servant king, a healer, who put other people first and died and rose again. Encourage the children to consider how Jesus's kingship is different from earthly powers or those that you could create using platforms such as Minecraft™ (<https://bit.ly/4gQmNsy>). Do not dismiss their ideas. Allow joy and creativity to flow.
- Have the children work in teams and have a leader or child that is dressed up, walk a catwalk or strike some silly poses, once fully dressed. You may want to take photos (clear parent/carer permission in advance) and have music for a fashion show.

Sand art

You will need: card, coloured sand, pen, spoons, PVA glue.

- Encourage the children to create sand art images of the story by first drawing a picture of the two houses, then applying PVA glue to the area they would like to colour in with sand. Sprinkle coloured sand onto the glued area and shake off the excess sand. Repeat on all areas of the picture until complete.

For step-by-step images, see:
<https://bit.ly/3EVAGbq>

And for coloured sand, see:
<https://bit.ly/43286zb>

Build Duplo™ prayers

You will need: large Duplo™ bricks (at least 4 per child), masking tape and pens.

Jesus taught us to pray for our Father in heaven. His prayer, called the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13), has a structure that helps us to build our prayers.

- Ask the children to draw or write something for each of these areas on a piece of masking tape and stick it to a Duplo™ brick.
 - Amaze – something that amazes you about God
 - Thanks – something you're thankful for
 - Sorry – something you're sorry for/need help with
 - Please – something you want to ask for yourself/others

Encourage the children to build their prayers individually, saying them out loud if they wish, and then try to link them up with others from the group.

IRL (in real life)

5 mins

Reflect together about what has been learnt during the session

Share back what the children have completed in their groups.

Ask the children what they have learnt, enjoyed and experienced today.

Award any 🪙 Kingdom coin points for efforts during the activities.

PRAYER BRICKS

10 mins

Close the session in prayer

Give each child a cut-out brick shape (see template on p.28) to write/draw their own prayers on, based on today's themes of how Jesus is our king and our solid rock.

Is there something that they need Jesus' help with?

Can they pray for more understanding of God's Word?

Can they pray for others who may be building their house on sand?

Invite children to put them onto their team's brick wall.

Read out some of the prayers together.

Loving Jesus,
thank you for helping us to understand how
we can be Kingdom Builders like you.
Help us to build our lives on your firm foundation.
May we follow your words and actions, living our lives
according to your blueprint, so that others can know
about the joy, peace and love that comes from
knowing you.
Amen.

LEVEL-UP CHALLENGE!

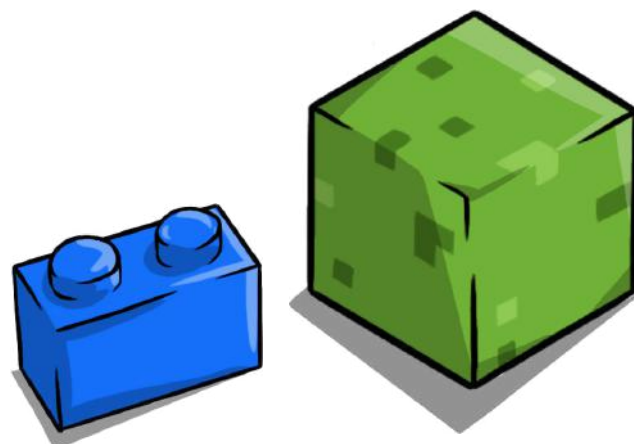
5 mins

Activities for children to try at home, see p.41

Challenge the children to carry on building at home by taking part in the **Level-up challenges** (see template on p.41).

Award 🪙 Kingdom coins for participation.

Ask parents/carers to email pictures or bring in printouts of their creations.




KINGDOM COMPLETED!

A closing session for families

Invite parents and carers of the children to a closing service of the holiday club. This could happen at a Sunday service, thereby inviting families to your regular worship or, alternatively, invite them to the closing section of your holiday club week.

This closing event could be a chance to share:

- The Kingdom Builders song
- The Kingdom prayer
- Each team's prayer wall
- Display and collect any crafts created during the sessions
- Share a slideshow of highlights
- Children sharing stories of what they have enjoyed throughout their time
- The Adam and Eve drama from Session 1
- Announcement of the team who collected the most  Kingdom coin points, and therefore the winners*.

*However, of course, if we are building the kingdom of God then we are all winners. We all may be doing in our own way and style, but no way is better than others – therefore present everyone with a winning prize such as certificate, rosette or medal.

This could then be followed by a short talk summarising the theme and what it truly means to be a Kingdom Builder.

Talk based on 1 Peter 2:4-5 and referencing Genesis 1:26-28, 1 Kings 6:11-13 and 1 Kings 8:10-13, and Luke 6:46-49

You will need: a plant to symbolise the garden, a dark cloth, a throne: a chair with a gold or purple cloth over it, pieces of gold cloth/ribbon cut up (optional).

The Bible tells the stories of many people, but together, it tells one story, the story of God. The story of our God who, throughout the history of the world has chosen to draw people closer to himself.

The children began this week by looking at the creation of the world. God created the Earth to be his kingdom, with humans made in God's image to care for and protect it (*set out the plant where everyone can see it*). But the humans were tempted and thought they knew better than God, and they chose not to trust God. And this brought sin and death into God's kingdom. What was meant to be good, was now broken and corrupted (*cover the plant with a dark cloth*).

But God hadn't given up on the kingdom, or on us. God kept working with humans, teaching them to love and trust him. The Bible tells the stories of Job, Abraham and Sarah, Moses and his sister Miriam. God wanted to have a good relationship with the people, and for them to live in love and peace, so he called the people Israel to build a special dwelling place, a way to show God is present among the people, a way to experience God's kingdom on earth (*set up the throne where everyone can see*). God was present first in the travelling Ark of the Covenant and then through the Temple of Solomon, which was our focus for **Session 2**.

As history progressed, the Temple was destroyed (*take the gold cloth off the chair*) and rebuilt (*put the cloth on the chair again, but only halfway*), but the people kept forgetting their God. God then sent Jesus, the king of the kingdom of God down to us (*wrap the God cloth around your shoulders*). In **Session 3** of our holiday club, we learnt how Jesus is the firm foundation on which we should be building our lives. If we build our lives on Jesus, we won't be shaken.

This is because Jesus, as the king of God's kingdom, has shown us how to not only draw near to the kingdom of God, but to bring the kingdom to earth; by the way we live out our lives and love the Lord.

In 1 Peter 2:4-5 we read that God chose Jesus, to build his kingdom, and that Jesus chooses us.

'As you come to him, the living Stone – rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him – you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.'

(The above was taken from New International Version.)

We are all called to be living stones of the kingdom of God, ready to build a spiritual home for God here on Earth (*take the gold cloth off your shoulders and offer it to everyone listening*). We are called to be part of the kingdom, to be Kingdom Builders, bringing God's love to the whole world. Building some of heaven here. You are to be a living stone, a stepping stone, living your life, like Jesus taught us, full of love and care, guiding everyone to be able to come to Jesus, to experience his love and forgiveness, healing and hope, and to join the kingdom.

As we close our time together this week, and reflect on all we have heard, and celebrate the invitation for all to be a Kingdom Builder. We are all invited to experience God's love and to live out his kingdom values, bringing heaven to earth.

If you have it available, you could offer a small piece of the gold cloth (or cut up ribbon to tie around their wrist) to everyone present, to remind them that they are part of God's kingdom.

FINAL ACTIVITY

You will need: stones and felt tips.

As you close, you could offer a final activity in which families can come forward and take a stone and a pen and write their names on the stone. This is to symbolise that they too have been called to become a living stone within the kingdom of God. They could take it with them to remember their calling, or leave it at church to show others how they are a part of the Kingdom Builders.





Kingdom coins to award throughout Kingdom Builders Holiday Club





Tally sheet to record Kingdom coin points

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Safer online gaming

Online gaming is a growing part of children's world of play and entertainment, with children aged 10-11 spending on average 2-3 hours a day playing games like Fortnite™, Minecraft™ and Roblox™.

Your church could promote safer online gaming by engaging with parents before or after the Kingdom Builders holiday club and running an Internet Safety/ Online gaming workshop for parents. This would be a wonderful way to serve your community and build connections with families.

You do not need to be an expert as your church could use this free workshop from the NSPCC:

[Free online safety virtual workshop | NSPCC](#).

You could host a time to watch it together with parents, over coffee and cake. Parents could pool their tech skills to help update parental controls, and review games.

We have provided a factsheet, which you could share digitally or print (see p.24).



Safer online gaming factsheet



What are the risks?

We know online gaming can be lots of fun, but there are risks for children, including:

- Being exposed to inappropriate content.
- Being bullied.
- Trolling, griefing and scams.
- In-game purchases (overspending the parent's or child's money).
- Talking to people they don't know and risk of grooming.



What should parents/carers do?

We all want to keep gaming fun and safe for children, so we'd encourage parents and carers to review the games children are playing (updates to games or devices can change the settings).

- Review the age ratings of games.
- Review the communication settings.
- Talk to your child about what they are playing, both what they enjoy and the risks, including the importance of not sharing personal details or agreeing to meet up with anyone in person or on other platforms.
- Set boundaries about time limits for gaming.



How can I make the most of parental controls?

- **Log into your home router** and set up broadband parental controls to block inappropriate sites. You can block gambling and 18+ content.
- **Set controls on your search engine** – encourage your child to always use child-friendly search engines and activate and lock the safe search settings on the browsers and platforms they use.
- **Use privacy settings** on apps and devices; activate the safety measures offered by different sites. Social networking sites have privacy settings that will help prevent your child from sharing too much personal information or from seeing unsuitable advertising. Most social media sites have minimum ages to prevent children from joining but do check your child's devices to see if they have got around these blocks.
- **Block pop-ups** – children might see inappropriate content by accidentally clicking on adverts in pop-ups. Follow the advice from Tech Advisor on how to stop these.
- **Have regular conversations** with your child about online safety and reassure them that they can talk to you or a trusted adult whenever they need to. If they see something that scares, concerns or confuses them, they should tell a trusted adult straightaway. Talking to your child means you can point them to suitable websites and apps to use. Review these sites and settings as they get older.



Useful links

- [How to Ensure Your Children Stay Safe While Playing Online Games | NSPCC](#)
- [Gaming: what parents and carers need to know](#)
- [Using parental controls](#)
- [Ask About Games](#) is a site set up and funded by the video games industry. They have guides to the games and step-by-step guides to setting up parental controls on each platform.
- [Roblox - Ask About Games](#)



KINGDOM BUILDERS SONG

Lyrics

Sing together to the tune: *Bob the Builder*

Kingdom Builders! Can we build it?
Kingdom Builders! Yes, we can!

God made the world for me and you.
How do we protect it? What can we do?
Follow God's plan, it's so much fun:
Love one another to get the job done!

Kingdom Builders! Can we build it?
Kingdom Builders! Yes, we can!

Bring all your friends, they can help too.
Building together is what good friends do!
Kingdom Builders! Can we build it?
Kingdom Builders! Yes, we can!



KINGDOM PRAYER

Lyrics with actions

Building a people of power

For I'm building a people of power,

building blocks with fists on top of each other – and flex muscle pose

and I'm making a people of praise

slowly wave arms up into the air

that will move through this world by your Spirit

march on the spot

and will shout about your precious name.

hands on head to form a crown shape

Build your church, Lord. Make us strong, Lord.

flex one arm muscle, flex the other to join the first arm

Join our hearts, Lord, through your Son.

make a heart shape with fingers and then lift them to the sky

Make us one, Lord, in your body,

make a number 1 with pointing finger

in the Kingdom of your Son.

stretch arms open wide and then point to the sky to finish

Amen.



Ephesians 6:1

Call out the verses and encourage the children to respond with actions (shown in italics below). Help everyone to learn the words and actions, as they'll use them in all three holiday club sessions.

Ephesians 6

Wear the full armour of God. (Ephesians 6:1)

stand in a strong, power pose

Stand strong, with the belt of truth tied around your waist.

(Ephesians 6:14)

pretend to tie a belt around your waist and flex muscles

Use the shield of faith. (Ephesians 6:16)

arms out in front to create a shield shape

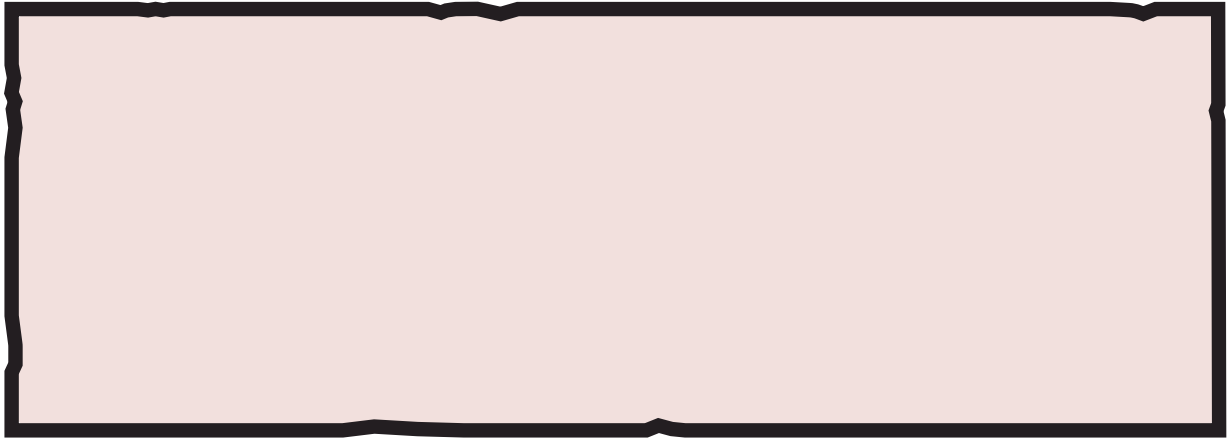
Take the sword of the Spirit – that sword is the teaching of God.

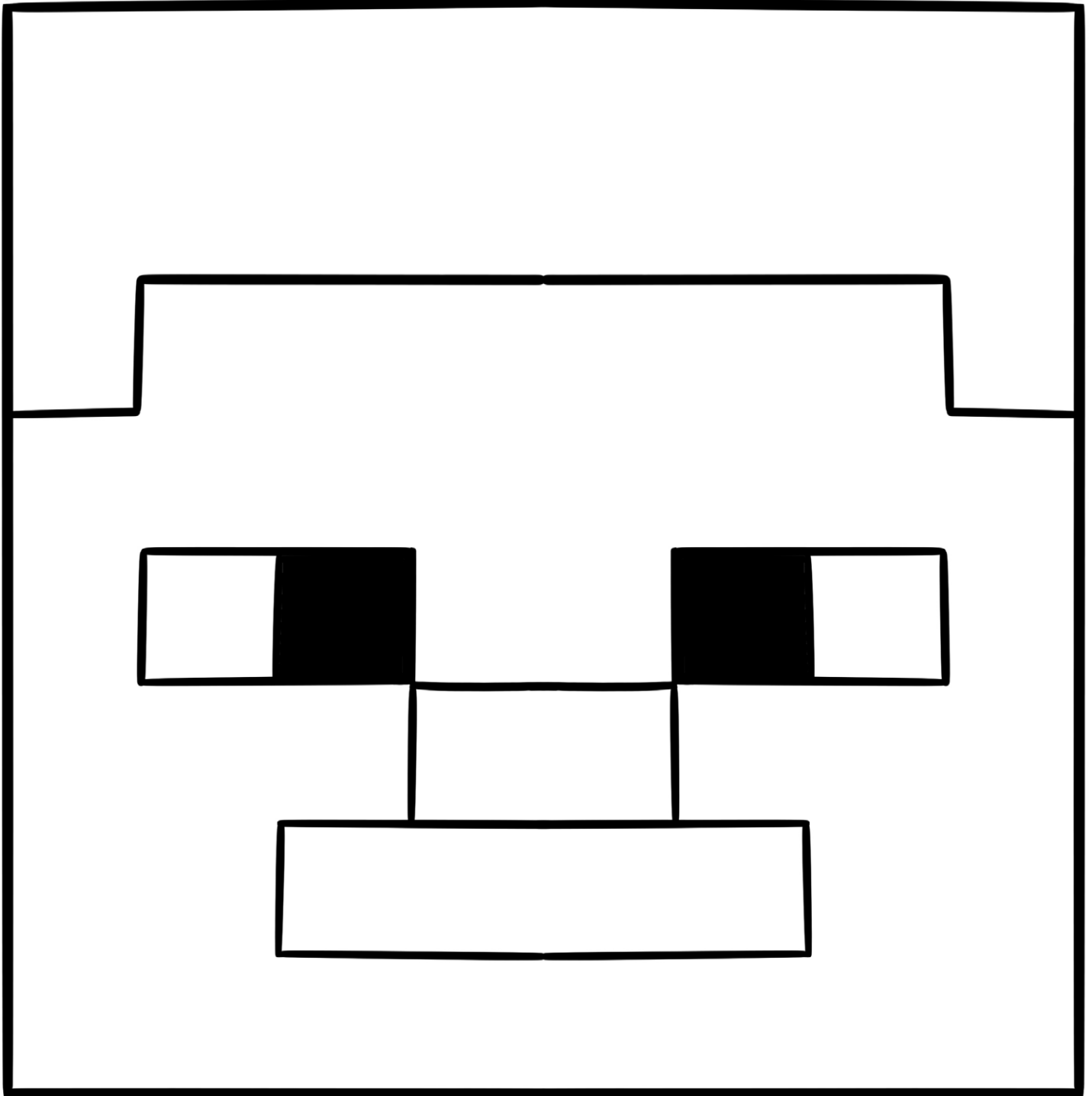
(Ephesians 6:17)

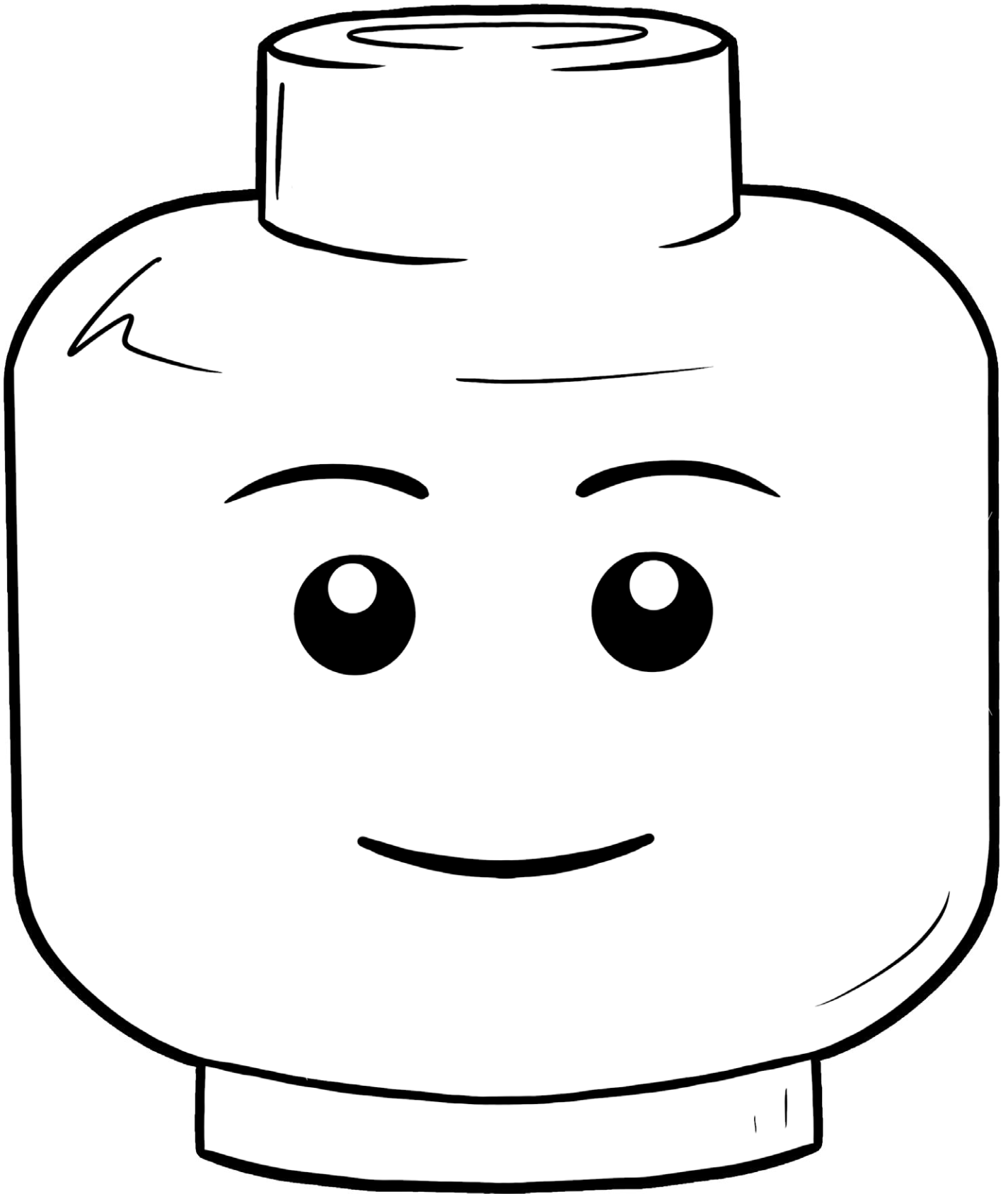
pretend to take out a sword and stand in an 'on guard' fighting position

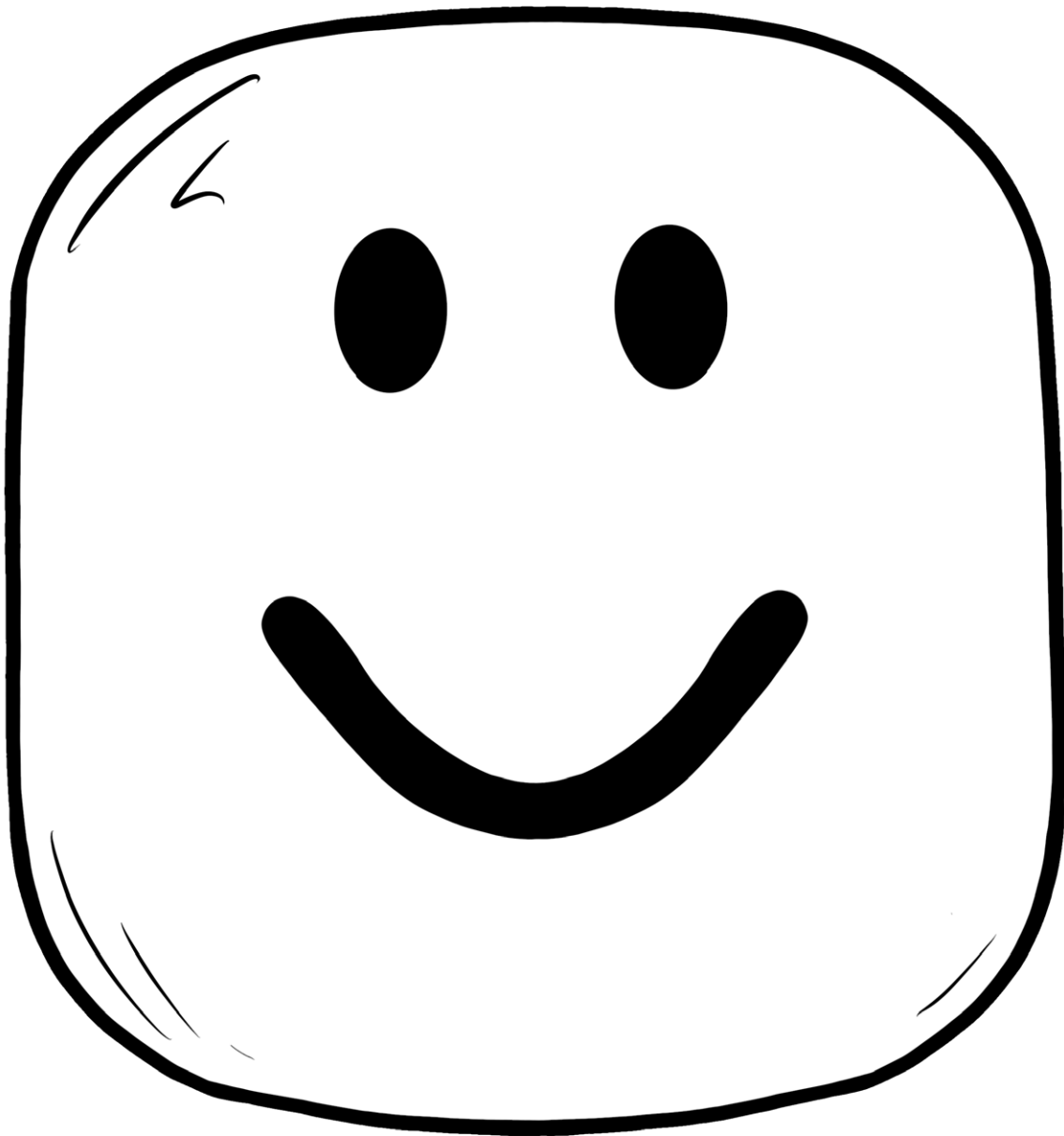


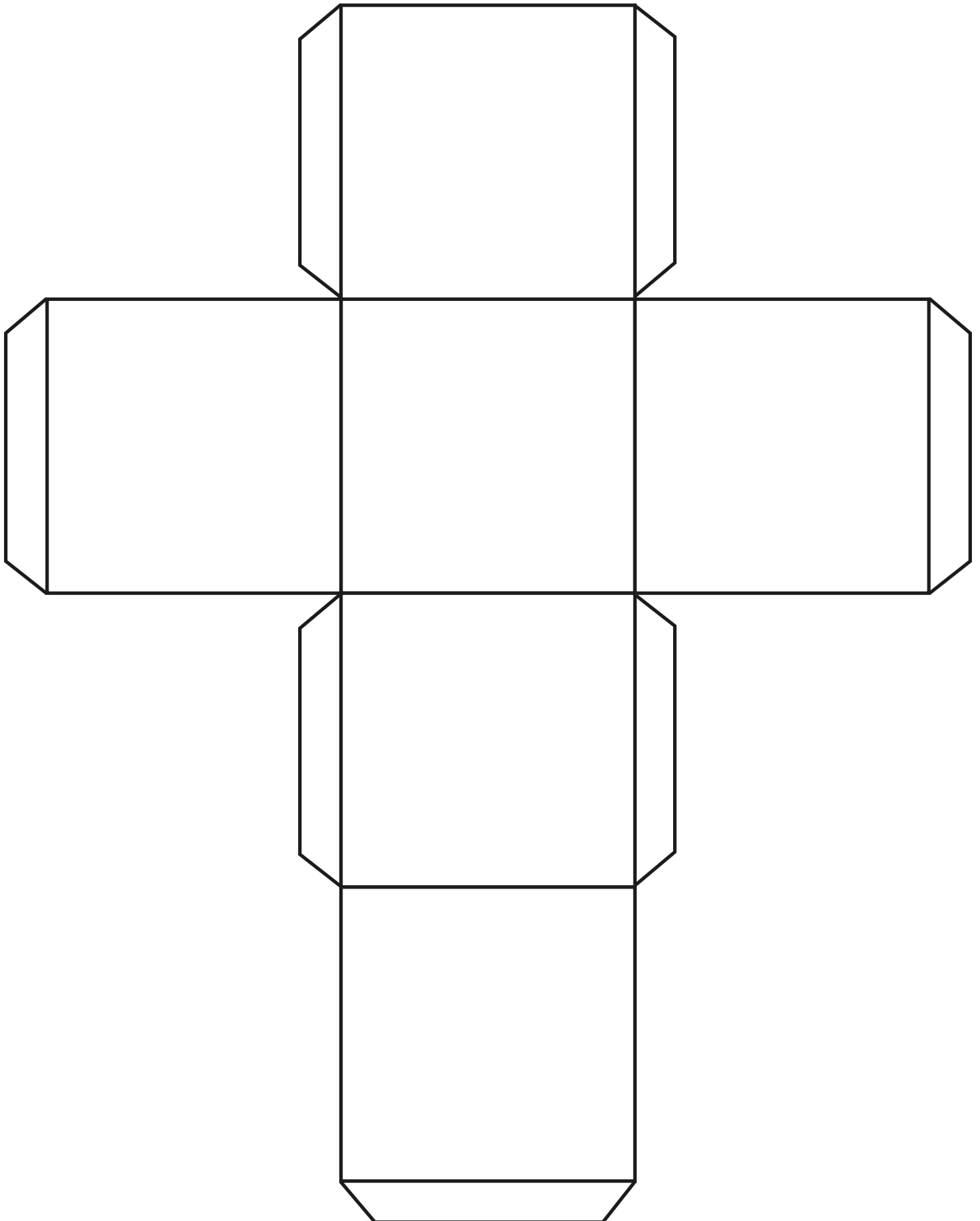
Template to use with: *Prayer bricks, Session 1*, p.9, *Session 2*, p.14, *Session 3*, p.19













Adam and Eve drama

Work in groups of five to rehearse the drama and perform it at the end of the session.

God: What day are we on...? Let me see, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ah yes, day 6!

Angels: Have you finished, God?

God: No, not yet... something is missing from my kingdom.

Angels: An ice-cream machine?

God: No...

Angels: Oh, I know, a bubble machine!

God: No that's not it...

Angels: What then?

God: It needs someone to take care of it.
Someone like me, to represent me on earth. We need people!

God claps his hands and Adam appears

Adam: I'm Adam.

All: Hello Adam!

Adam: I'm lonely!

God: Ah yes, you will need a friend... Oh, Eve!

Eve appears

Eve: I'm Eve.

All: Hello Eve!

God: Now, you two. I have created this kingdom
for you to enjoy. But you must look after it.

Adam: Will you stay with us?

God: Yes. I will walk with you in my kingdom, in my Garden of Eden.

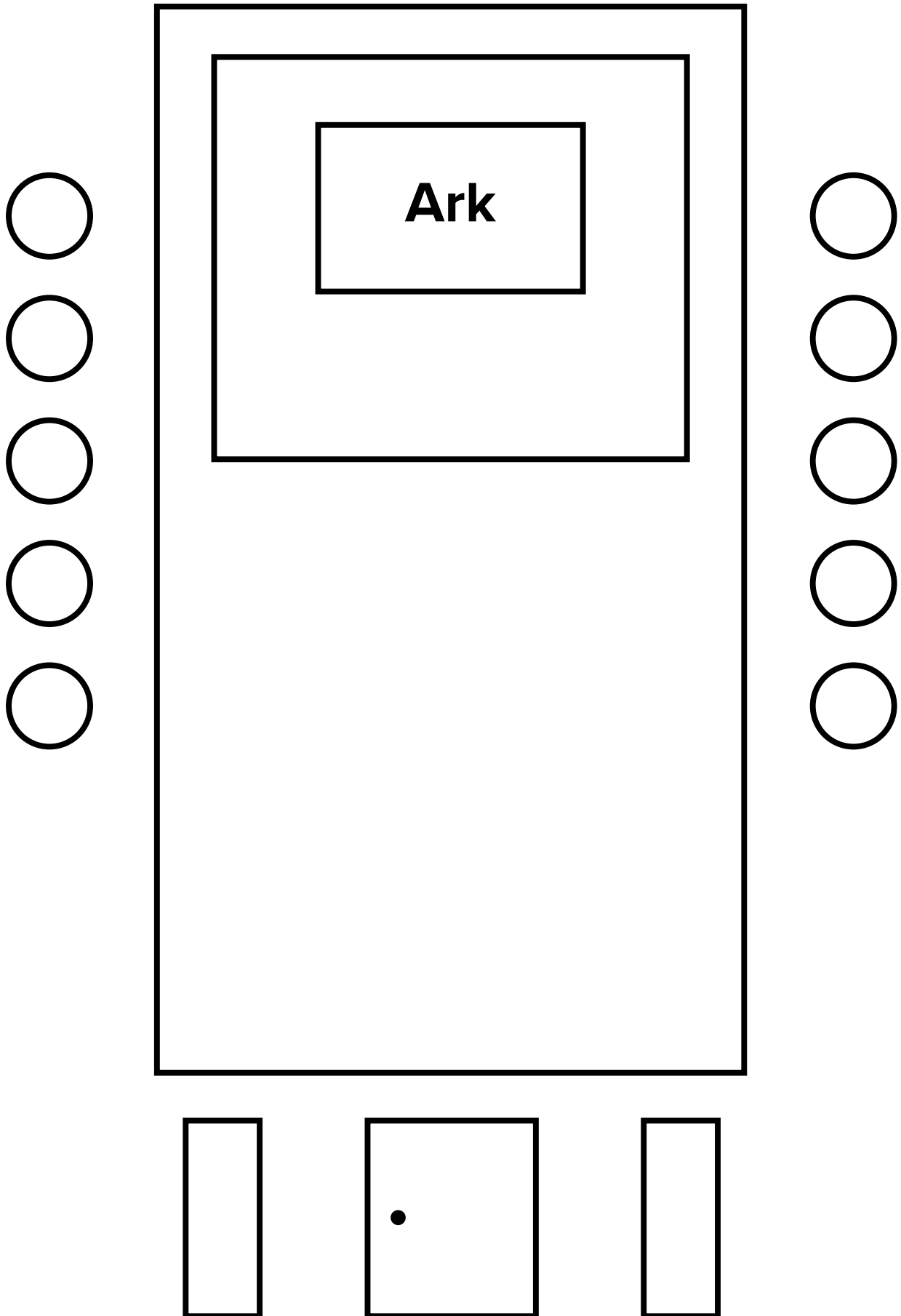
Eve: We will protect it, God!

Angel: God? Are you sure this is a good idea?
They could mess up your world.

God: I want to share my world, and if something goes wrong, I've got a
plan to fix it.

The Garden of Eden







RULES for Temple Drive game

Children must roll a six to begin with and must draw the Ark of the Covenant first.



Ark of the Covenant – *small rectangular box*



5 x bronze water basins (10 to collect) – *small circles, 5 on each side of the paper*



Holy place – *large rectangle to represent the outer wall*



Holy of Holies – *small inner walled rectangle to house the Ark of the Covenant*



bronze pillars – *2 large pillar shapes*

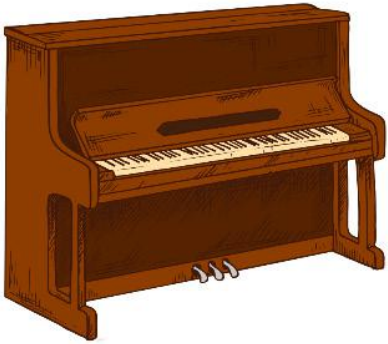

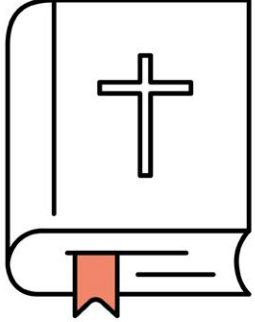


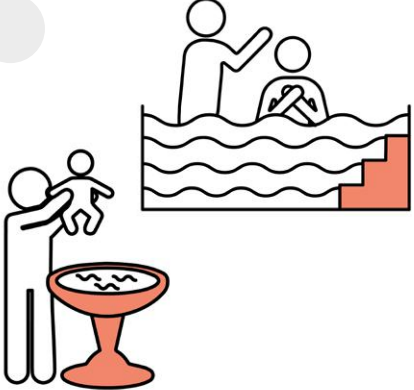

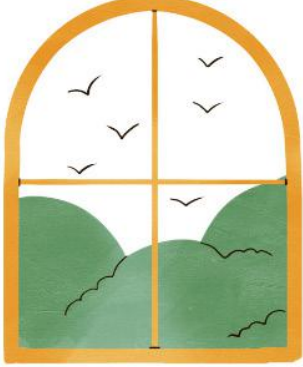



Temple door – *1 large door shape.*



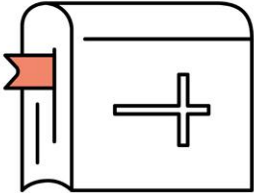


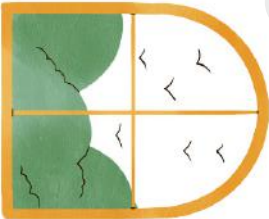
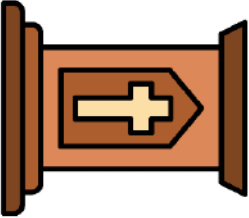
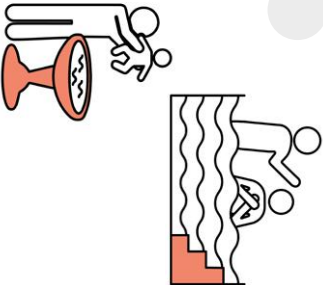

It could also be useful for leaders to watch the following video explaining the features of the Temple:

<https://bit.ly/42WoxwX>

Church explorer (for younger children)

 <p>Organ/Piano</p>	 <p>Candle</p>	 <p>Bible</p>
 <p>Cross</p>	 <p>Pulpit/Lectern</p>	 <p>Font/Pool</p>
 <p>Door</p>	 <p>Window</p>	 <p>Pew/Chairs</p>

Church explorer (for older children)

					
			<p>Somewhere the congregation can sit.</p>	<p>To light during special services.</p>	<p>To go through and welcome all.</p>
<p>Where you would find a church leader teaching.</p>	<p>Christian Holy Book.</p>	<p>Symbol of Christ.</p>	<p>To play worship music from.</p>	<p>To baptize others.</p>	<p>To create light and often made from stained glass.</p>



Photocopy this page, cut out the boxes and give a challenge to each child to take home.

SESSION 1 LEVEL-UP CHALLENGE!

Try the activities at home, for extra Kingdom coins

- If you have Minecraft™ at home, create the Garden of Eden and take screen shots of your creation. Or you could draw a picture or create the Garden of Eden from Lego™ or Duplo™.
- In Minecraft™, you can tame wild animals by feeding them certain items, or by repeatedly trying to ride a horse or donkey until they accept you. Today's story reminds us how we are to look after animals that God created for us.

Make your own Minecraft™ style animals out of Lego™, see <https://bit.ly/3XKb2Np>

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- If you have access to Minecraft™ at home, create Solomon's Temple and take images and screen shots of your creation.
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- Use Minecraft™ or recyclable materials to build either a sandcastle or a house.
- If you have access to Minecraft™, see if you can create a falling sand design. As well as this being a cool effect, it displays how sand can fall easily.

For a demonstration of how this works, see: <https://bit.ly/3CQ16uT>

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