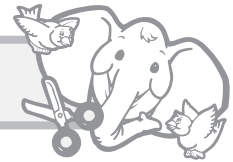




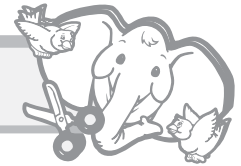
Table of Contents



Introduction	4	Craft: Quail Verse Reminder	40
God’s Wonderful Creation	5	Ark of the Covenant Comes Home	41
Bible Story: Genesis 1	5	Bible Story: 1 Samuel 4–6	41
Discussion	6	Discussion	42
Bible Verse	6	Bible Verse	42
Puppet Skit	6	Puppet Skit	42
Crafts: Bookmark, Finger Puppet, Plant Pick, Handy Clip, and Paper Gift Bag	8	Craft: Paper Bag Cow Puppet	43
Craft: Animal Door Hanging	12	Craft: Moving Picture	44
Craft: Butterfly Growth Wheel	13	Craft: Movable Cow	46
A Snake in the Garden	15	Solomon’s Riches	47
Bible Story: Genesis 3	15	Bible Story: 1 Kings 10	47
Discussion	16	Discussion	47
Bible Verse	16	Bible Verse	48
Puppet Skit	16	Puppet Skit	48
Craft: Snake Puppet	17	Craft: Horse Stick Puppets	49
Craft: Doorknob Snake	18	Craft: 3-D Horse Picture	50
Craft: Spiral Snake Hanger	19	Craft: Horseshoes	52
Noah and the Ark	20	Solomon Talks About Hard Work	53
Bible Story: Genesis 6–8	20	Bible Story: Proverbs 6:6–11; 30:24–25	53
Discussion	21	Discussion	54
Bible Verse	21	Bible Verse	54
Puppet Skit	21	Puppet Skit	54
Craft: Animal Stick Puppets	21	Craft: Ant Magnet Puppets	55
Craft: Noah’s Ark Mobile	23	Craft: Ants Plaque	56
Craft: Animal Pencil Holder	25	Craft: Picnic Picture	57
Craft: Napkin Ring Holders	26	Elijah and the Ravens	59
Craft: Bookmark	27	Bible Story: 1 Kings 17:1–6	59
Plagues in Egypt	28	Discussion	60
Bible Story: Exodus 7–12	28	Bible Verse	60
Discussion	29	Puppet Skit	60
Bible Verse	29	Craft: Raven Puppet	61
Puppet Skit	29	Craft: Bible Verse Raven	62
Craft: Glove Puppets	30	Craft: Flying Raven	64
Craft: Hopping Frog	31	Balaam and His Donkey	66
Craft: Moving Picture	32	Bible Story: Numbers 22	66
Craft: Locust Model	34	Discussion	67
Food for God’s People	36	Bible Verse	67
Bible Story: Exodus 16	36	Puppet Skit	67
Discussion	36	Craft: Donkey Paper Plate Puppet	68
Bible Verse	36	Craft: Donkey Wall Hanging	69
Puppet Skit	37	Craft: Donkey Bible Verse Reminder	70
Craft: Flying Quail Puppet	37	God Talks to Job	72
Craft: Quail Fan	39	Bible Story: Job 39:13–18	72
		Discussion	73



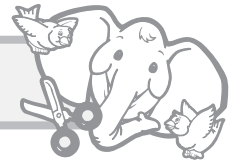
Table of Contents



Bible Verse	73	Craft: Bible Story Picture Pack	109
Puppet Skit	73	Craft: Paper Plate Pig	112
Craft: Walking Ostrich Puppet	74	Jesus Talks About Sparrows 114	
Craft: Paper Plate Ostrich	75	Bible Story: Matthew 10:28–31	114
Craft: Ostrich Booklet	77	Discussion	114
Daniel and the Lions 79		Bible Verse	115
Bible Story: Daniel 6	79	Puppet Skit	115
Discussion	80	Craft: Sparrow Head Band	116
Bible Verse	80	Craft: “Jesus Cares” Banner	117
Puppet Skit	80	Craft: 3-D Tissue Paper Picture	119
Craft: Lion Mask	81	The Good Shepherd 121	
Craft: Lion Refrigerator Magnet	82	Bible Story: John 10:1–15; Psalm 23	121
Craft: Stand-Up Lion	83	Discussion	121
Jonah and the Great Fish 85		Bible Verse	122
Bible Story: Jonah 1–2	85	Puppet Skit	122
Discussion	86	Craft: Sheep Sock Puppet	123
Bible Verse	86	Craft: Lamb Picture Frame	124
Puppet Skit	86	Craft: Torn-Paper Sheep Picture	126
Craft: Great Fish Hand Puppet	87	Peter Pays His Taxes 127	
Craft: Switch Plate Cover	88	Bible Story: Matthew 17:24–27	127
Craft: Jonah Mobile	89	Discussion	127
Baby Jesus and Animals 92		Bible Verse	128
Bible Story: Luke 2:1–20; Matthew 2:1–12	92	Puppet Skit	128
Discussion	92	Craft: Pipe Cleaner Fish	129
Bible Verse	93	Craft: Fish Picture	130
Puppet Skit	93	Craft: Fish Foil Art	132
Craft: Animal Glove Puppets	94	Jesus Rides into Jerusalem 133	
Craft: Fingerprint Animals	95	Bible Story: Luke 19:29–40	133
Craft: Camel Pop-Up Card	96	Discussion	133
Jesus Is Baptized 99		Bible Verse	134
Bible Story: Matthew 3:13–17;		Puppet Skit	134
John 1:29–34	99	Craft: Donkey Ears Headband	135
Discussion	100	Craft: Donkey Prayer Bag	136
Bible Verse	100	Craft: Service Card Box	137
Puppet Skit	100	Peter Denies Jesus 139	
Craft: Dove Puppet	101	Bible Story: Mark 14:30–31, 66–72	139
Craft: Baptism Picture	102	Discussion	139
Craft: Dove Mobile	104	Bible Verse	140
Jesus Deals with Demons 106		Puppet Skit	140
Bible Story: Mark 5:1–20	106	Craft: Rooster Stick Puppet	141
Discussion	107	Craft: Rooster Magnet	142
Bible Verse	107	Craft: Rooster Clock	143
Puppet Skit	107		
Craft: Pig Paper Bag Puppet	108		



Balaam and His Donkey



Bible Story: Numbers 22

Act out the story as you tell it to make it come alive for your students.

The Israelites were camped in Moab (on their way out of Egypt to the Promised Land). The king of Moab had heard what success the Israelites had in battle, so he joined forces with the Midianites to fight them. He was not sure what to do next, so he sent a message to Balaam (*point far away*).

Balaam was a prophet. He did not follow God, but he recognized that his special powers came from God. He was more concerned about himself than about pleasing God. When the messengers arrived at Balaam's house, they told him King Balak wanted him to come and put a curse on the Israelites so they could be defeated (*point to yourself and look surprised*). Balaam asked them to spend the night to give him time to decide what to do.

Balaam wanted to accept the money the king had sent for cursing the Israelites, but he knew a little about God, and putting a curse on God's chosen people did not sound like a wise thing to do. God spoke to Balaam that night: "Do not go with them. You must not put a curse on those people, because they are blessed." The next morning Balaam sent the messengers away without him (*wave goodbye*).

When the messengers returned to the king and gave him Balaam's answer, he decided Balaam needed more persuasion. He sent more messengers to tell him, "Do not let anything keep you from coming to me, because I will reward you handsomely and do whatever you say."

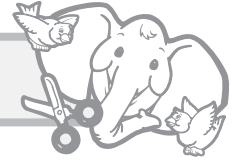
Balaam invited the messengers to stay at his house overnight while he waited to see what God would tell him. That night God spoke to Balaam again. "Since these men have come to summon you," God said, "go with them, but do only what I tell you." Balaam saddled his donkey the next morning and headed out (*walk around slowly as if riding a donkey*). God was angry with Balaam for being so greedy. He knew the prophet did not care about pleasing God; he just wanted his reward from the king. The angel of the Lord stood in the road to stop Balaam. He did not see Him, but his donkey did. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord with a drawn sword in His hand, she turned off the road and went into a field. Balaam cruelly beat the donkey to get her back on the road (*smack leg*). As Balaam rode between two walled vineyards, the angel of the Lord stood in the narrow path. The donkey pressed close to the wall to avoid Him and Balaam's foot was crushed. (*howl in pain and smack leg twice*) He beat the donkey again. The angel of the Lord moved ahead and stood in the middle of the road in a place where the donkey could not go around Him. When the donkey saw Him again, she lay down and would not get up. Balaam was so angry he beat the donkey with his staff (*smack leg three times angrily*).

The Lord gave the donkey the power of speech and she said, "What have I done to you to make you beat me these three times." Balaam told the donkey that if he had had a sword he would kill her!" He was so angry, he did not even think about how strange a talking donkey was! (*Threaten angrily with a fist.*) Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes and he saw the angel of the Lord in the road. Frightened, Balaam bowed in the road with his face down (*bow down*). The angel of the Lord pointed out that the donkey had saved Balaam's life. If the donkey had turned away, the angel would have killed him! He ordered Balaam to go ahead, but to speak only what God told him.

Balaam was only able to speak blessings on the Israelites, not curses (*cover mouth with hand*). It was not what King Balak wanted to hear, but God was controlling what Balaam said and the king could do nothing about it.



Balaam and His Donkey



Discussion

- What does this story teach us about God?
- If God can use a donkey to do His will, He can certainly use you and me. How do you think He wants to use you? Are you willing for Him to use you?

Bible Verse

“My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.”
(Psalm 145:21)

How can you speak in praise of the Lord everyday, no matter where you are?

Puppet Skit

Follow the directions on page 68 to make paper plate puppets. Let children hold them up as they act out the skit. Choose one to be Balaam while the others are donkeys and you read the angel's part. The children can make clip-clop sounds with their tongues or feet when the donkey is traveling.

Balaam: Time to saddle my donkey and be off. I can hardly wait to see King Balak and get the money he promised me. I know God said He does not want me to curse His people, but maybe I can figure out a way around it. Come on, donkey, let's go.

Donkey: Hee-Haw! Hee-Haw! (*clip-clop sounds*)

Balaam: Why are you getting off the road? Whoa! Stop! I do not want to go into this field. Take that, you stupid donkey! (*slap hands together*)

Donkey: Hee-Haw! Hee-Haw! (*as if in pain*)

Balaam: That's better. Now just stay on this road and do what you are supposed to do. Wait a minute! Not so close to the wall! Ow! You crushed my foot, you dumb beast! Take that and that! (*slap hands together twice*) What is wrong with you today? You almost broke my foot!

Donkey: (*clip-clop sounds*)

Balaam: Now what? Why are you lying down? Get up! Get up! (*slap hands together*)

Donkey: Why do you keep beating me? I haven't done anything wrong.

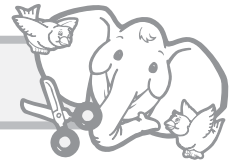
Balaam: You stupid animal, if I had a sword I would kill you!

Angel: Balaam, your donkey saved your life! If she hadn't stopped, I would have struck you down.

Balaam: (*bowing down*) Oh no! Have mercy on me!



Balaam and His Donkey



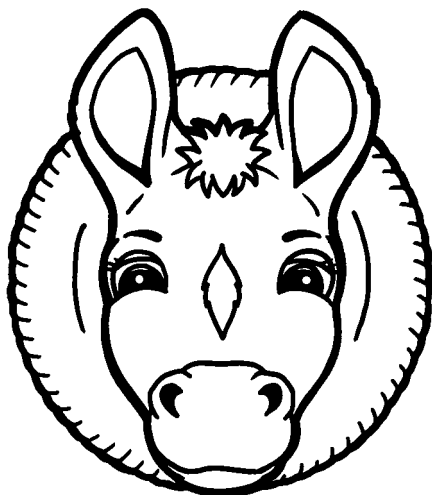
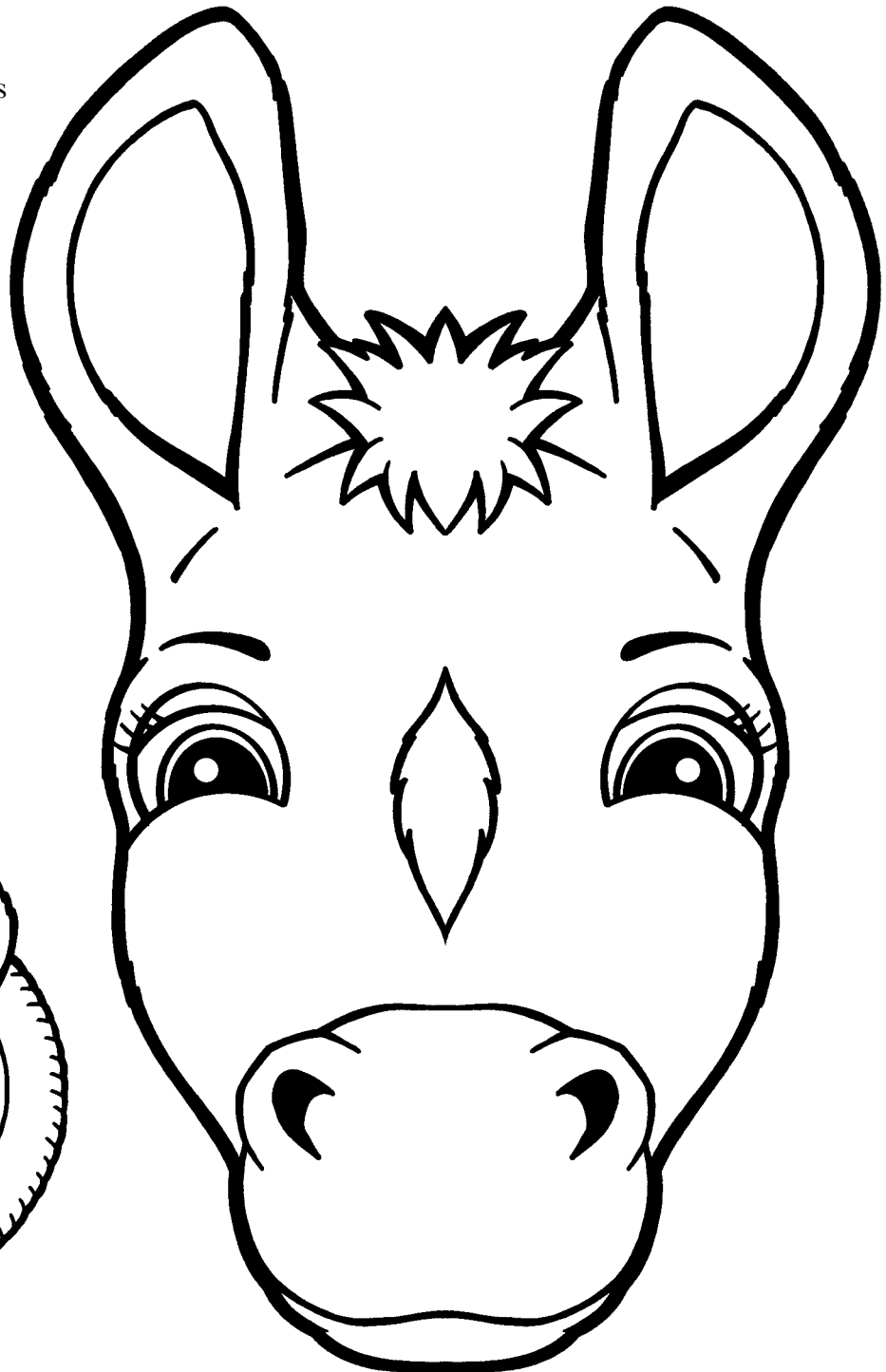
Craft: Donkey Paper Plate Puppet

Materials

- pattern below
- paper plate
- white paper
- scissors
- crayons or colored markers
- glue

Directions

1. Copy the donkey pattern onto white paper for children to color.
2. Cut out the pattern and glue it to a paper plate.
3. Hold the donkey face in front of your face.



Finished Product