Preschool–Grade 5

Abigail Craft

A soft answer turneth away wrath · 1 Samuel 25:2–42 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



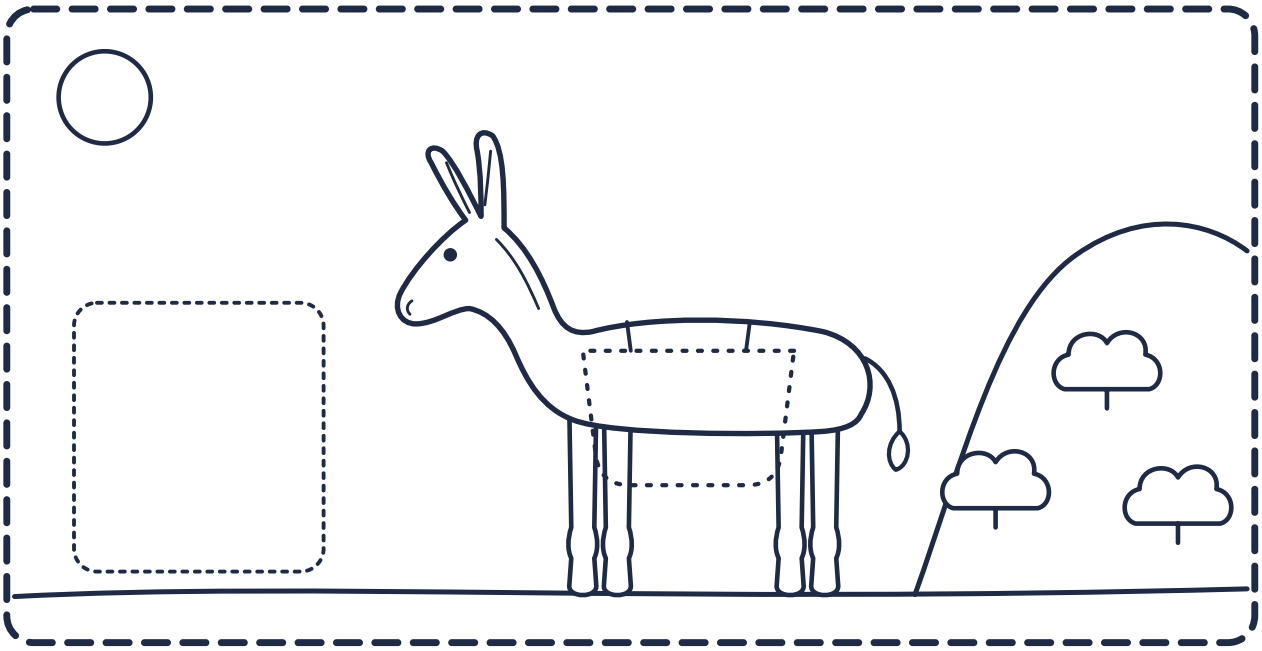
Harder

Both levels are a wide card: a light blue sky with a yellow sun, a green hill with green bushes on the right, brown ground, and a gray donkey walking left, down from the hill. On the donkey's side is a brown basket pocket loaded with three food cards: a brown loaf, purple raisins and a red fig cake, because Abigail "took two hundred loaves... and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses" (1 Samuel 25:18). Medium (left): the donkey card. Harder (right): the same card with a window on the left where kids draw Abigail bowing before David (25:23), and a yellow sack of parched corn in the basket too.

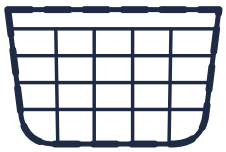
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Name: _____

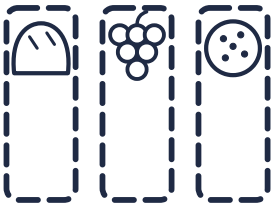
✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, sun yellow, hill and bushes green, ground brown, donkey gray



basket: brown. Glue only its sides and bottom on the dotted shape, so it is a pocket.



food cards: loaf brown, raisins purple, fig cake red. Slide them into the pocket.

A soft answer turneth away wrath:
but grievous words stir up anger.

Proverbs 15:1 (KJV)

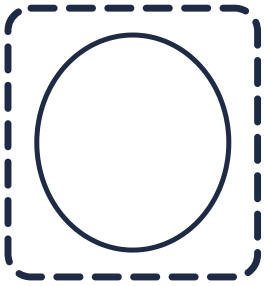
verse strip: glue it on the back of the card
(the dotted box on the left is for the harder level)

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the basket, the three food cards and the verse strip. Glue the basket pocket on the donkey and load it with the food.

Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Window and corn sack (harder level)



window: frame brown. In the oval, draw Abigail bowing before David (1 Samuel 25:23)



corn sack card: sack yellow. Slide it into the pocket too.

How to add the window and the corn sack

1. Make the donkey card from page 2 first, with the basket pocket loaded and the verse strip on the back of the card.
2. Color the window frame brown. In the oval, draw Abigail bowing down before David, the moment she met him "by the covert of the hill" (1 Samuel 25:20, 25:23). Draw Abigail with long hair and a long dress, and David standing.
3. Cut out the window on the dashed line. Glue it on the dotted box on the left of the card, in front of the donkey.
4. Color the sack on the corn sack card yellow. Cut it out and slide it into the basket pocket with the other food.
5. Tell it: Abigail took "five measures of parched corn" too (25:18). **Parched corn** is roasted grain. She bowed before David and spoke kind, wise words, and David said, "blessed be thy advice" (25:33).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/abigail-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), light blue, yellow, green, brown, gray, purple and red crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the basket, the food cards and the verse strip, and glue each basket pocket on its donkey.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and glue the basket pocket on the donkey. Kids color the pieces and slide the food into the basket. Glue the verse strip on the back for them.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out and glue the pieces themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the donkey card like the medium level. Then add the window from page 3, where kids draw Abigail bowing before David (1 Samuel 25:23), and load the sack of parched corn (25:18). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the sun yellow, the hill and the bushes green, the ground brown and the donkey gray.
2. **Color the food:** the basket brown, the loaf brown, the raisins purple and the fig cake red.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the basket, the three food cards and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Pocket:** put glue only along the two sides and the bottom of the basket's back. Press it on the dotted shape on the donkey's side. Leave the top open.
5. **Load it:** slide the loaf, raisin and fig cake cards into the pocket so the food peeks out.
6. **Verse:** turn the card over. Glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.
7. **Tell it:** Abigail "made haste" and laid her present "on asses" (1 Samuel 25:18). Walk the card down the hill to meet David. Her soft answer turned away his anger, and David said, "Go up in peace to thine house" (25:35).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- What did Nabal say when David's young men asked for food? *("Who is David?" He would not share, 1 Samuel 25:10–11)*
- What did David tell his men to do? *("Gird ye on every man his sword," 25:13)*
- Who hurried to stop the fight? *(Abigail, "a woman of good understanding," 25:3, 25:18)*
- Point to the basket. What did Abigail bring? *(Loaves, raisins, cakes of figs, parched corn and more, 25:18)*
- What did Abigail ride on? *(An ass, a donkey, 25:20)*
- What did Abigail do when she saw David? *(She got off the ass and bowed before him with her face to the ground, 25:23)*
- Who did David say had sent Abigail to meet him? *("The LORD God of Israel," 25:32)*
- What did David bless? *(Her advice, 25:33)*
- What did David say at the end? *("Go up in peace to thine house," 25:35)*
- What does a soft answer do? *(It "turneth away wrath," Proverbs 15:1)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: churlish** means rude and harsh; **gird** means put on; **made haste** means hurried; an **ass** is a donkey; **parched corn** is roasted grain; the **covert of the hill** is a hidden place by the hill; a **soft answer** is a gentle, kind answer; **wrath** means anger; **grievous words** are harsh, hurtful words.
- **What the Bible says:** 1 Samuel 25 says Abigail laid the present "on asses," but not how many, and it does not describe the baskets or say what color anything was. The donkey, the basket, the hill, the bushes, the sun and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story. The food cards show three of the foods in 25:18.
- **No one is drawn on the template.** At the harder level kids draw Abigail and David themselves in the window.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the pocket on ahead of time. Let every child load the basket and "walk" the donkey to meet David.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Abigail lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/abigail.

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