Preschool–Grade 5

Abraham and Sarah Craft

Tent under the stars · Genesis 12–15 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



Harder

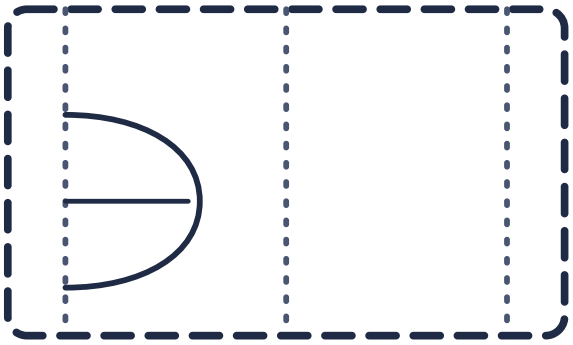
Both levels are a scene card folded like an L: a dark blue sky full of yellow stars standing up behind, light brown ground lying flat, and a brown tent standing on the ground, because God brought Abram outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars" (Genesis 15:5). Medium (left): the 17 printed stars. Harder (right): four lift-up promise stars from page 3 glued over the four big stars.

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Name: _____ ✂ Cut on the dashed lines · fold on the dotted lines



Scene card: 17 stars yellow · sky dark blue · ground light brown



Tent: brown, door dark brown

Fold all 3 dotted lines. Glue the 2 end tabs down.

And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Genesis 15:6 (KJV)

Verse card

Glue it on the back of the sky.

Color the 17 stars yellow, then the sky dark blue around them. Color the ground light brown, the tent brown and its door dark brown. Cut out the three pieces. Fold the scene card on its dotted line and the tent on its three dotted lines.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Promise stars (harder level)

God made Abram these four promises in Genesis. Cut on the dashed lines.

Words stars: leave them white. Glue each one flat over a big star in the sky.



Cover stars: color them yellow. Glue each one by its top point only, over a words star.



Use the scene card, tent and verse card from page 2.

How to make the promise stars

1. Make the scene card, tent and verse card from page 2 first.
2. Leave the four words stars white. Color the four cover stars yellow.
3. Cut out all eight stars on the dashed lines.
4. Glue each words star flat over one of the four big stars in the sky, so the big star is covered.
5. Put a dot of glue on the back of a cover star's top point only. Press it over a words star. Do the same with the other three.
6. Lift each cover star and read God's promise: "I will make of thee a great nation" (Genesis 12:2), "Unto thy seed will I give this land" (12:7), "I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth" (13:16) and "So shall thy seed be" (15:5). **Seed** means Abram's children and all the family after them.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/abraham-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 on cardstock (so the sky stands up), dark blue, yellow, light brown, brown and dark brown 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 scene card, tent and verse card and fold them ahead of time.
The names: Genesis 12–15 calls them Abram and Sarai. God gave them the names Abraham and Sarah later (Genesis 17:5, 17:15).

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's scene card, tent and verse card, and fold the scene card and the tent. Kids color the stars yellow, the sky dark blue, the ground light brown and the tent brown. Then you help them glue the tent on the ground and the verse card on the back. Count the stars together.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, count the stars, cut out the pieces, fold the scene card and the tent, and glue the tent on the ground. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the medium craft, then add the four promise stars from page 3: glue a words star flat over each big star in the sky, and glue a yellow cover star over it by its top point only, so it lifts up to show God's promise. Kids say Genesis 15:6 from memory before they take the craft home.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the stars:** color the 17 stars on the scene card yellow. Count them as you go.
2. **Color the rest:** color the sky around the stars dark blue and the ground light brown. Color the tent brown and its door dark brown.
3. **Cut:** cut out the scene card, the tent and the verse card on the dashed lines.
4. **Fold the card:** fold the scene card on the dotted line, so the sky stands up and the ground lies flat like an L.
5. **Fold the tent:** fold the tent on its middle dotted line, so it makes a point at the top with the door on the outside. Fold the two end tabs out flat.
6. **Tent:** put glue on the bottom of both tabs and press the tent in the middle of the ground, with the door facing the front.
7. **Verse:** glue the verse card on the back of the sky and read it together.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- God told Abram to leave his country and go "unto a land that I will shew thee" (Genesis 12:1). Did God tell him where he was going? What did Abram do? *(No. He departed, as the LORD had spoken, 12:4)*
- Point to your tent. Abram lived in a tent and built an altar to the LORD (12:7–8). Why do you think Abram worshiped God in the new land?
- God brought Abram outside and said, "tell the stars, if thou be able to number them" (15:5). You counted 17 stars. Could Abram count all the stars in the sky? What did God promise him? *("So shall thy seed be," 15:5)*
- Abram was old and had no children (12:4, 15:2). What did he do when God made the promise? *(He believed in the LORD, 15:6)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** tell = count; number them = count them; seed = children and all the family after them; believed in the LORD = trusted God to do what He said; counted it to him for righteousness = God took Abram's believing as being right with Him.
- **What the Bible says:** Genesis 15:5 doesn't give a number of stars. The 17 stars on the card are just for counting practice; the point is that Abram could never count them all. Genesis 12–15 says Abram had sheep, oxen and camels (12:16), lived in a tent (12:8) and had no children yet (15:2–3). God changed his name to Abraham later (17:5).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut and pre-fold everything, and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished craft so they can see the goal.
- **A sky that stands up:** print on cardstock and crease the fold hard. If the sky leans, stand the card against a wall or a book.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Abraham and Sarah Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/abraham.

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