Preschool–Grade 5

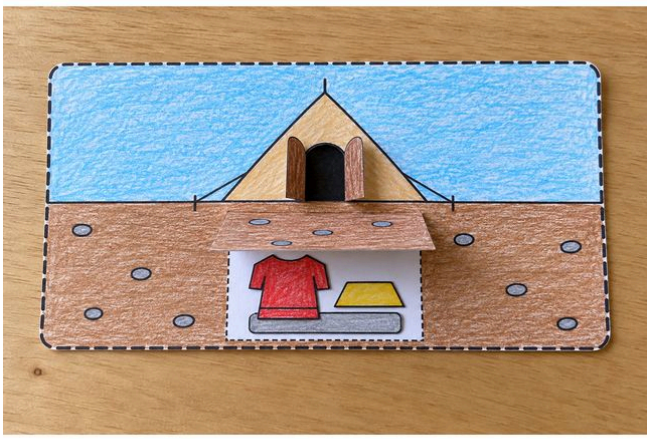
Achan's Sin Craft

Hid in the earth in the midst of my tent · Joshua 7:1–26 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



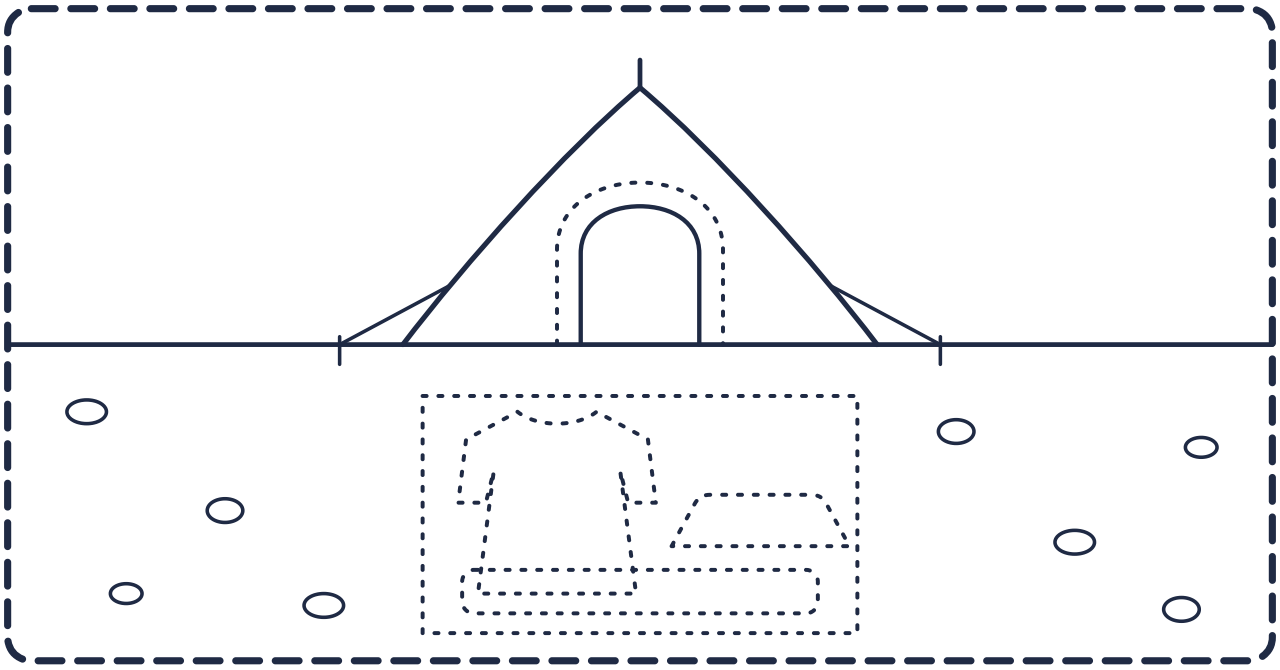
Harder

Both levels are a card with a light blue sky and a tan tent with a black doorway standing on brown earth with gray pebbles. Under the tent, a brown earth flap lifts up to show what Achan hid "in the earth in the midst of my tent" (Joshua 7:21): a red garment, a yellow wedge of gold, and the gray silver "under it". Medium (left): the card. Harder (right): the same with two brown tent doors over the doorway, folded open (7:22).

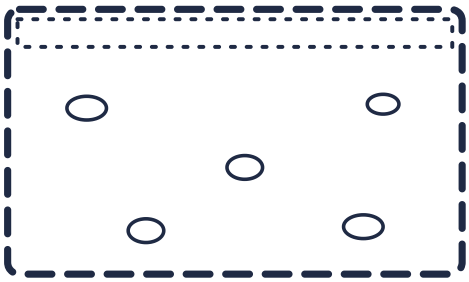
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, tent tan, doorway black, earth brown, pebbles gray.
Leave the dotted spot white. The dotted line around the doorway is only for the harder level.



earth flap: color it brown, pebbles gray; glue only the dotted strip at the top



garment: red



wedge of gold: yellow



silver: gray

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper:
but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them
shall have mercy.
Proverbs 28:13 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the earth flap, the garment, the wedge of gold, the silver and the verse strip. Glue the silver, then the garment over it, then the gold on their dotted outlines in the white spot. Glue the flap above the spot by its dotted strip.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level



2 tent doors: color them brown; cut on every dashed line, also the middle one

How to add the tent doors

1. Make the card from page 2 first.
2. Color the doors brown. Cut out the door shape on the dashed lines, and cut it in two on the dashed middle line. Now you have two doors.
3. Fold each door on its dotted line. The narrow strip outside the fold is the glue strip.
4. Put glue only on the glue strips. Press the doors over the doorway on the dotted line around it: the left door on the left side and the right door on the right side, so the doors meet in the middle and the tent is shut.
5. Tell it: the things were hid in his tent (Joshua 7:22). The messengers ran to the tent: open the doors, then lift the earth flap. "Behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it" (7:22). They took them out of the midst of the tent and laid them out before the LORD (7:23).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/achan-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), crayons or markers in light blue, tan, black, brown, gray, red and yellow, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out all the pieces and glue the earth flap on each card ahead of time.

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 earth flaps on. Kids color, glue the silver, the garment and the gold in the white spot, close the flap and lift it. Help them glue the verse strip on the back.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, hide the things and glue the flap. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card, then cut out the two tent doors from page 3 and glue them over the doorway so the tent shuts (Joshua 7:22). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the tent tan, the doorway black, the earth brown and the pebbles gray. Leave the dotted spot under the tent white.
2. **Color the pieces:** the garment red, the wedge of gold yellow, the silver gray, and the earth flap brown with gray pebbles.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the earth flap, the garment, the wedge of gold, the silver and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Hide the things:** glue the silver on its dotted outline at the bottom of the white spot. Glue the garment on its outline so its bottom edge lies over the silver, "and the silver under it" (Joshua 7:21). Glue the wedge of gold on its outline.
5. **Glue the flap:** put glue only on the dotted strip at the top of the earth flap. Press it on the earth just above the white spot, so the flap hangs down and covers the hiding place.
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, and read it together.
7. **Tell it:** Achan hid the things "in the earth in the midst of my tent" (7:21): close the flap. Joshua said, "hide it not from me" (7:19). The messengers ran to the tent (7:22): lift the flap, and there it all is, "and the silver under it."

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Questions to ask while kids work

- What did God say about the silver and gold of Jericho? *(They were consecrated unto the LORD and would come into the treasury of the LORD, Joshua 6:19)*
- Who took of the accursed thing, and what tribe was he from? *(Achan, of the tribe of Judah, 7:1)*
- What happened when Israel went up against Ai? *(About three thousand men went, and they fled before the men of Ai, 7:4)*
- What did the LORD tell Joshua? *("Israel hath sinned," 7:11)*
- Point to each piece. What did Achan take? *(A goodly Babylonish garment, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, 7:21)*
- Lift the flap. Where did he hide them? *("In the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it," 7:21)*
- What did Joshua ask Achan to do? *(Give glory to God, make confession and "hide it not from me," 7:19)*
- How did the messengers go to the tent, and what did they find? *(They ran, and it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it, 7:22)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: accursed thing** means things given over to God that no one could take; **consecrated** means set apart for God; **treasury** means the place where God's treasures were kept; **goodly Babylonish garment** means a beautiful robe from Babylon; **shekel** means a weight (200 shekels of silver was about five pounds); **wedge of gold** means a bar of gold; **coveted** means wanted so badly that he took it; **make confession** means tell the truth about what you did wrong.
- **What the Bible says:** Achan hid the things "in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it" (Joshua 7:21). The Bible doesn't say what the tent looked like, what color the garment was, or what shape the silver and gold were. The tent, the doors, the flap and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** the craft shows only the tent and the things Achan hid.
- **Keep it gentle:** Joshua 7:24–26 tells how Achan died. Say only that his sin cost him his life (7:25), the way the lesson does, and spend the most time on "hide it not from me" (7:19) and on God's mercy for whoever confesses (Proverbs 28:13).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the earth flaps on ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child close the flap and be a messenger who lifts it.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Achan lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/achan.

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