

Daniel in the Lions' Den Craft

Paper plate lion with its mouth shut · Daniel 6 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium

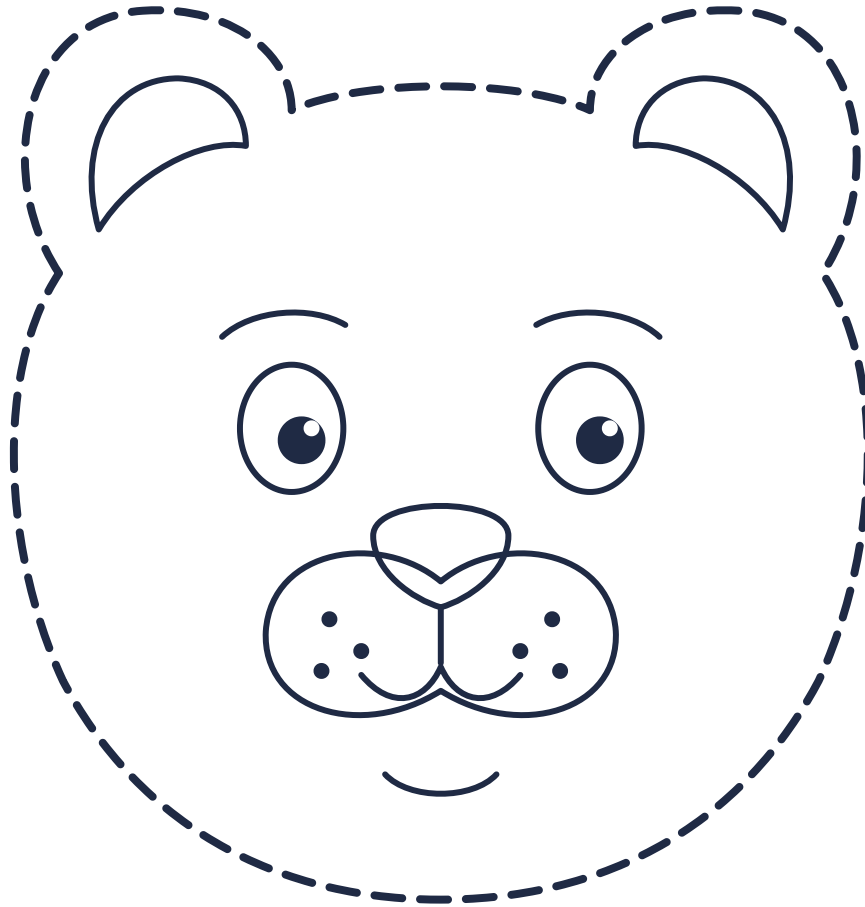


Harder

Both are a paper plate lion with an orange and yellow snipped mane and a lion face with its mouth shut, because God shut the lions' mouths. For the harder level, kids also cut the 16 mane strips from page 3, curl them and glue them around the edge.

Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



Lion face: color it, cut it out and glue it in the middle of the plate.

"My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt."

Daniel 6:22 (KJV)

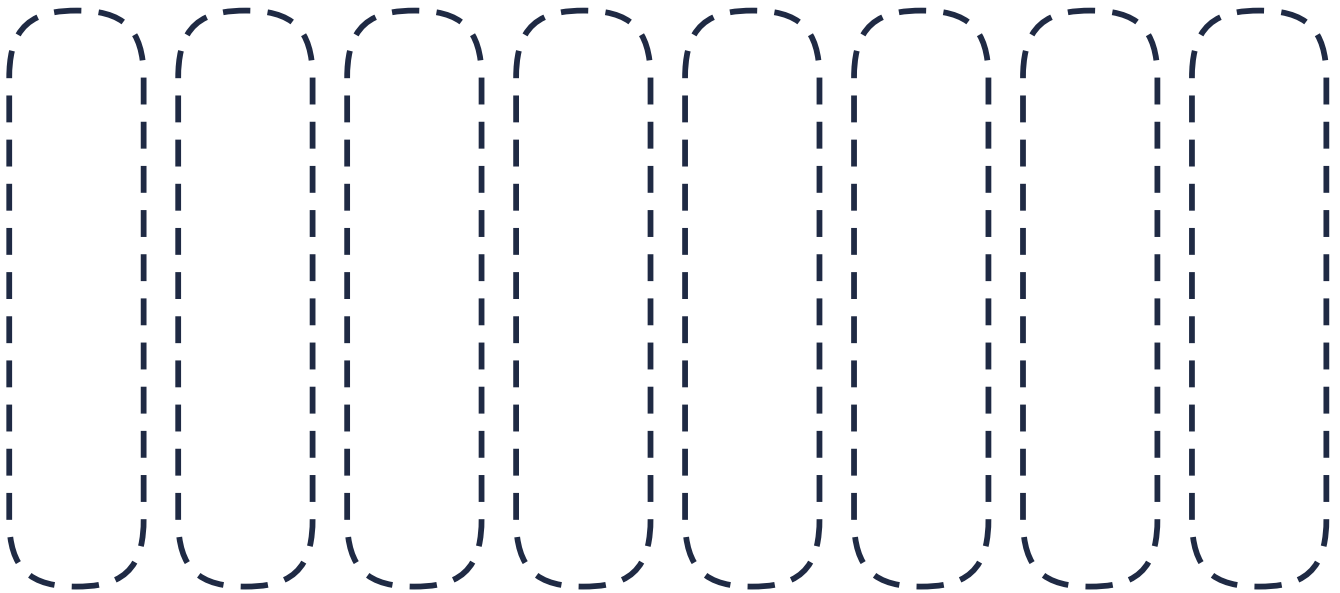
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

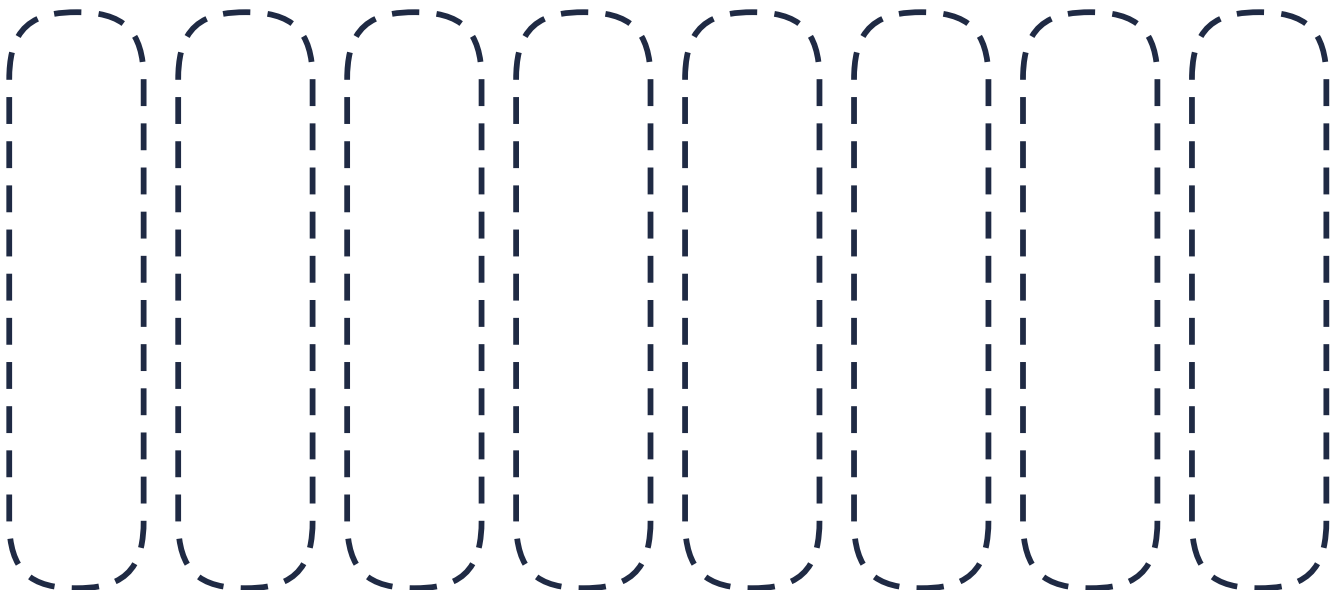
Mane curls (harder level)

Color the top row orange and the bottom row yellow,
or use one strip as a pattern on orange and yellow paper.

Top row: orange



Bottom row: yellow



Roll each strip tightly around a pencil, then slide the pencil out.
Glue one end of each curl behind the plate's edge, all the way around.

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/daniel-and-the-lions-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: one 9-inch white paper plate per child, page 2 printed once per child, crayons or markers (orange, yellow, brown and black), scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a pencil for curling.

Before class: with a pencil, draw a circle on the bottom of each plate where the flat middle meets the rim, so kids know where to stop snipping. For preschoolers, cut out the lion faces and verse strips 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 lion face and verse strip. Kids turn the plate upside down, color the rim orange and yellow for the mane, color the lion face and glue it in the middle. Glue the verse strip on the back for them and read it together.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps on the next page. Kids color the mane on the rim and snip it into a fringe, color and cut out the lion face, glue it in the middle and glue the verse strip on the back. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** do every medium step, then cut out the 16 mane strips on page 3. Color the top row orange and the bottom row yellow (or trace a strip onto orange and yellow paper and cut those out). Roll each strip tightly around a pencil and slide it off to make a curl. Turn the plate over and glue one end of each curl behind the edge, all the way around, orange and yellow taking turns, so the curls stick out past the snipped fringe. Then glue the verse strip on the back and say the verse from memory. This is the craft in the second photo.
- **Paper for the harder curls:** if you have orange and yellow paper, cut one strip from page 3 to use as a pattern and trace 8 strips on each color (you can trace them before class). If you don't, kids color the printed strips, then cut them out.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Mane color:** turn the paper plate upside down. Color the rim (the outer ring) with orange and yellow crayons.
2. **Mane snips:** snip short cuts from the edge in toward the middle, about one finger-width apart, all the way around. Stop at the pencil circle.
3. **Face:** color the lion face on page 2. Make the face yellow, the ears and nose brown, and leave the muzzle white or color it light yellow.
4. **Cut:** cut out the lion face and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
5. **Glue the face** in the middle of the plate. The lion's mouth is shut, just like the lions God shut for Daniel (Daniel 6:22).
6. **Verse:** turn the plate over, glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.

Questions to ask while kids work

- The new law said no one could pray to anyone but the king for thirty days (Daniel 6:7). But Daniel prayed three times a day, just as he always had (Daniel 6:10). When can you pray every day?
- When Daniel was put in the den, the king said, "Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee" (Daniel 6:16). **Continually** means all the time, and **deliver** means rescue. Did God rescue Daniel?
- God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths (Daniel 6:22). Daniel was not hurt at all, because he believed in his God (Daniel 6:23). Look at your lion's shut mouth and tell someone at home what God did!

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** hath = has, forasmuch as = because, innocency = being innocent, doing no wrong, thee = you.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished lion so they can see the goal.
- **Snipping:** show kids how to make one short snip and stop at the pencil circle. If a snip goes too far, a little tape on the back fixes it.
- **Curls (harder level):** roll the strip tight, hold it for a slow count of five, then slide the pencil out. Glue the curls on before the verse strip so the strip covers the glued ends.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Daniel in the Lions' Den Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/daniel-and-the-lions.