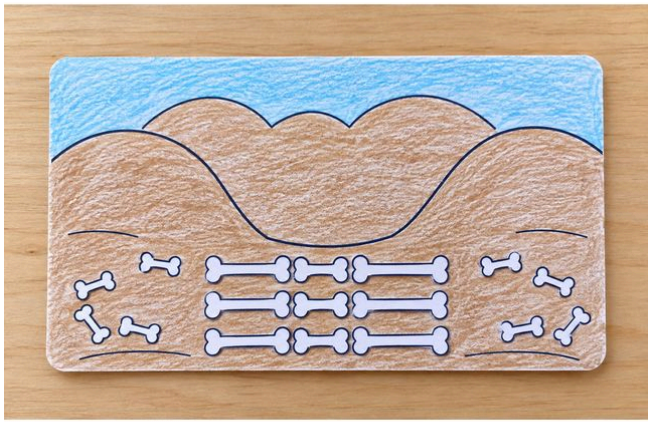
Preschool–Grade 5

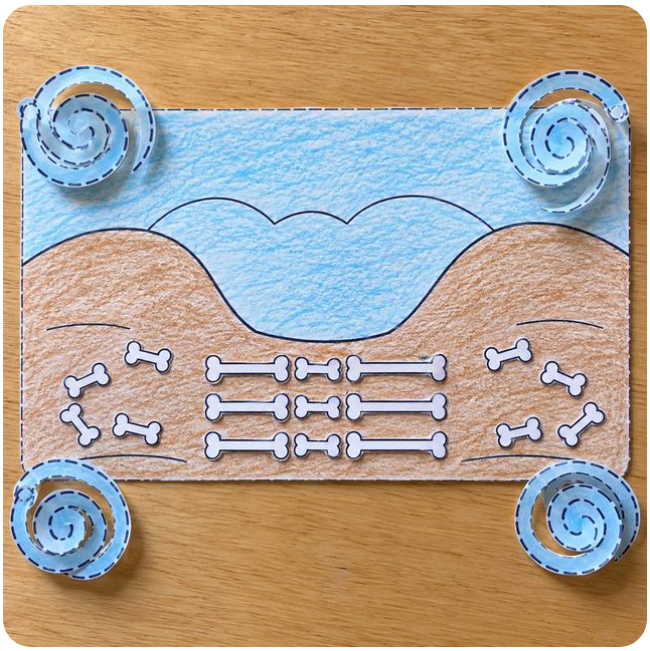
Valley of Dry Bones Craft

Bone to his bone · Ezekiel 37:1–14 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



Harder

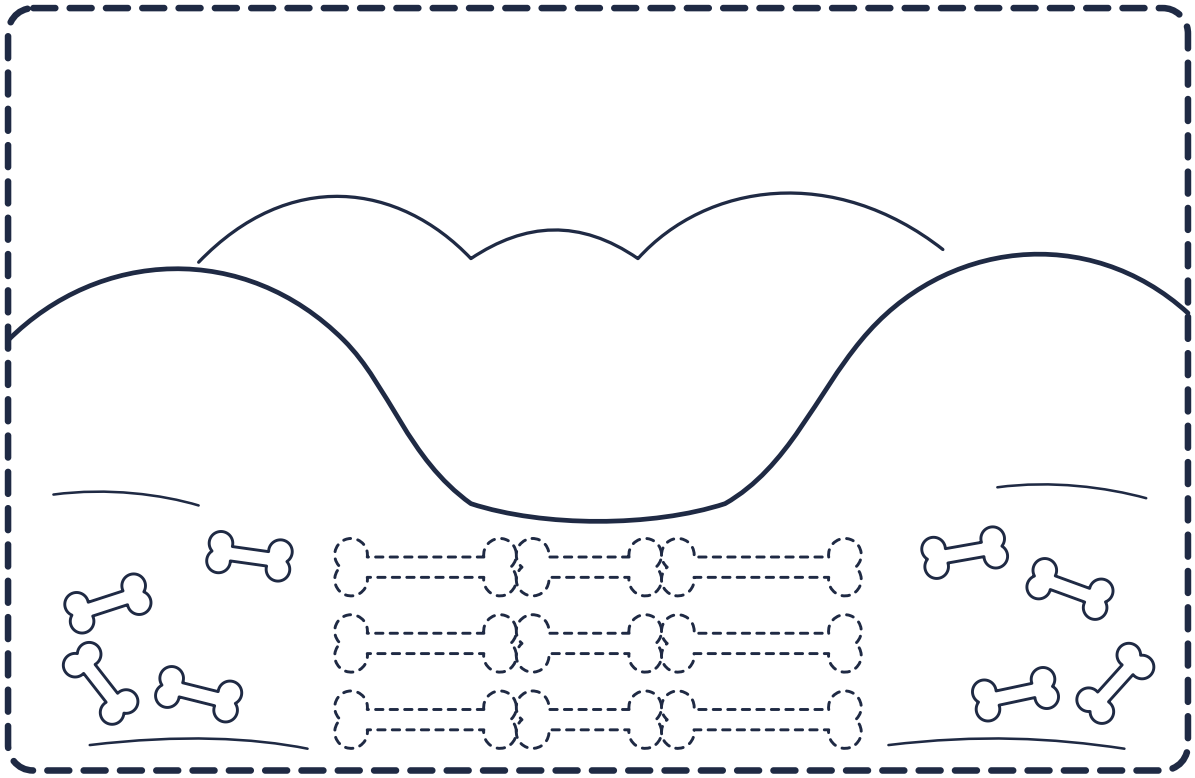
Both levels are a paper valley card: a light blue sky over light brown hills and a valley, with very dry white bones scattered in it (Ezekiel 37:2) and nine white bones glued end to end in three rows: "the bones came together, bone to his bone" (37:7). Medium (left): the valley card. Harder (right): the same card with four light blue wind spirals coming in from its four corners, "Come from the four winds, O breath" (37:9).

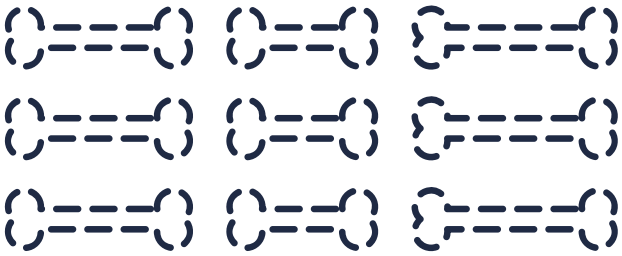
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

The valley card: color the sky light blue and the hills and the valley light brown. Leave every bone white.





nine bones: leave them white (very dry)

Again he said unto me,
Prophesy upon these bones, and
say unto them, O ye dry bones,
hear the word of the LORD.

Ezekiel 37:4 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

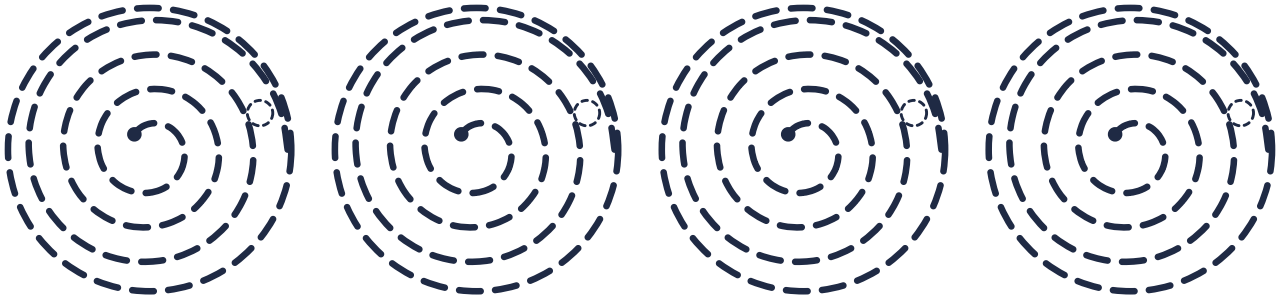
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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

The four winds (harder level)

Come from the four winds, O breath (Ezekiel 37:9)



four winds: color them light blue. Cut out each circle, then cut along the dashed spiral line to the dot in the middle. Glue the outer end (the small dotted circle) on one corner of the valley card.

How to add the four winds

1. Make the valley card from page 2 first.
2. Color the four circles light blue.
3. Cut out each circle on the dashed line. Then cut along the dashed spiral line, round and round, until you reach the dot in the middle.
4. Glue the outer end of each spiral (the small dotted circle) on one corner of the valley card, so a wind comes in from every corner. Gently pull the middle of each spiral toward the bones.
5. Say what Ezekiel said to the wind: "Come from the four winds, O breath" (Ezekiel 37:9). "And the breath came into them, and they lived" (37:10).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/dry-bones-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 and light 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 valley card, the nine bones and the verse strip ahead of time, and glue the verse strip on the back of the card.

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 verse on the back. Kids color the sky and the hills, scatter the bones, then glue them on the dotted bones while everyone says, "bone to his bone."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut, scatter the bones and glue them together, bone to his bone. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the valley card like the medium level. Then cut four wind spirals from page 3 and glue them on the four corners, for the breath from the four winds (Ezekiel 37:9). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the sky light blue, and the hills and the valley light brown. Leave every bone white, because they were very dry.
2. **Cut:** cut out the valley card, the nine bones and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
3. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the valley card.
4. **Very dry:** the hand of the LORD set Ezekiel down in the midst of the valley, and it was full of bones (Ezekiel 37:1). Scatter your nine bones all over the valley: very many, and very dry (37:2).
5. **Bone to his bone:** say together, "O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD" (37:4). Then glue the bones on the dotted bones in the valley, end to end, three in each row: "the bones came together, bone to his bone" (37:7).
6. **They lived:** finish the story: sinews, flesh and skin came upon them, and when the breath came into them, "they lived, and stood up upon their feet" (37:8–10). Turn the card over and read the verse together.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Where did the hand of the LORD set Ezekiel down? *(In the midst of a valley full of bones, Ezekiel 37:1)*
- Leave the bones white. What were they like? *(Very many and very dry, 37:2)*
- What did God ask Ezekiel? *("Son of man, can these bones live?" 37:3)*
- What did Ezekiel answer? *("O Lord GOD, thou knowest," 37:3)*
- What did God tell Ezekiel to say to the bones? *("O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD," 37:4)*
- Glue them together. What happened when Ezekiel prophesied? *(A noise, a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone, 37:7)*
- What was still missing after the sinews, flesh and skin came? *(Breath, 37:8)*
- What happened when the breath came into them? *(They lived and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army, 37:10)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** a **valley** is a low place between hills; **Son of man** is what God called Ezekiel; **thou knowest** means You know; to **prophesy** is to speak God's words; **ye** means you; **sinews** are the strong cords that hold the body together; **exceeding great** means very, very great.
- **What the Bible says:** God showed Ezekiel the valley "in the spirit of the LORD" (Ezekiel 37:1), and God told him what it meant: "these bones are the whole house of Israel" (37:11). God promised, "shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live" (37:14).
- **Keep it gentle:** the bones are simple rounded shapes, with no skulls. The craft shows the bones coming together and, for older kids, the wind; tell the rest, the breath and the army standing up, from the story. With little ones, leave out "slain" (37:9) and the graves (37:12).
- **What the craft leaves out:** the Bible doesn't say how many bones there were, only "very many" (37:2), so nine is just the craft's number. No people are drawn, and never God.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let the kids shake their cards for the noise and the shaking (37:7) before they glue.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free valley of dry bones lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/dry-bones.

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