

The Fruit of the Spirit Craft

Paper plate fruit tree · Galatians 5:22–23 · 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 green paper plate tree with a paper trunk and nine pieces of fruit, one for each part of the fruit of the Spirit, with the verse strip on the back. Medium (left): kids glue on the nine fruit circles from page 2. Harder (right): kids use the fruit flaps on page 3, which lift up to show each word and the way they will show it.

Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



love



joy



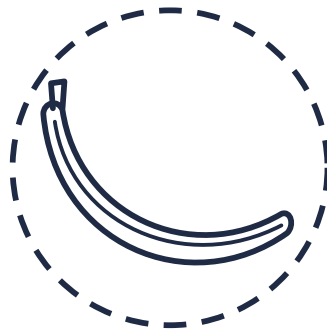
peace



longsuffering



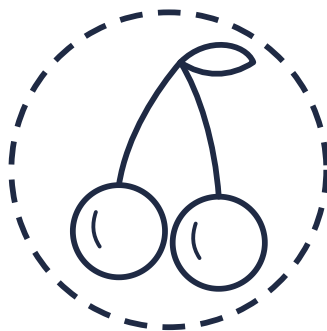
gentleness



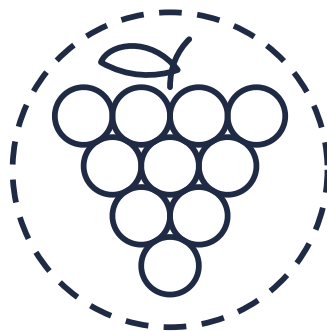
goodness



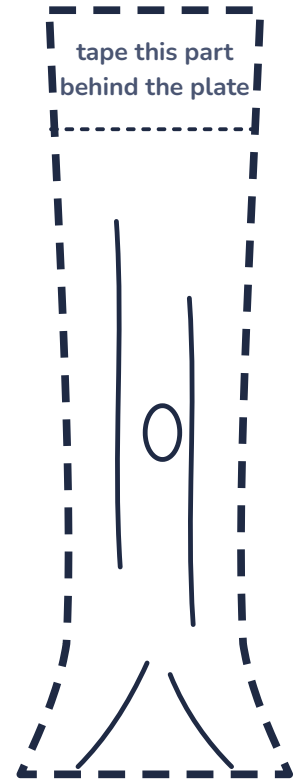
faith



meekness



temperance



trunk

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV)

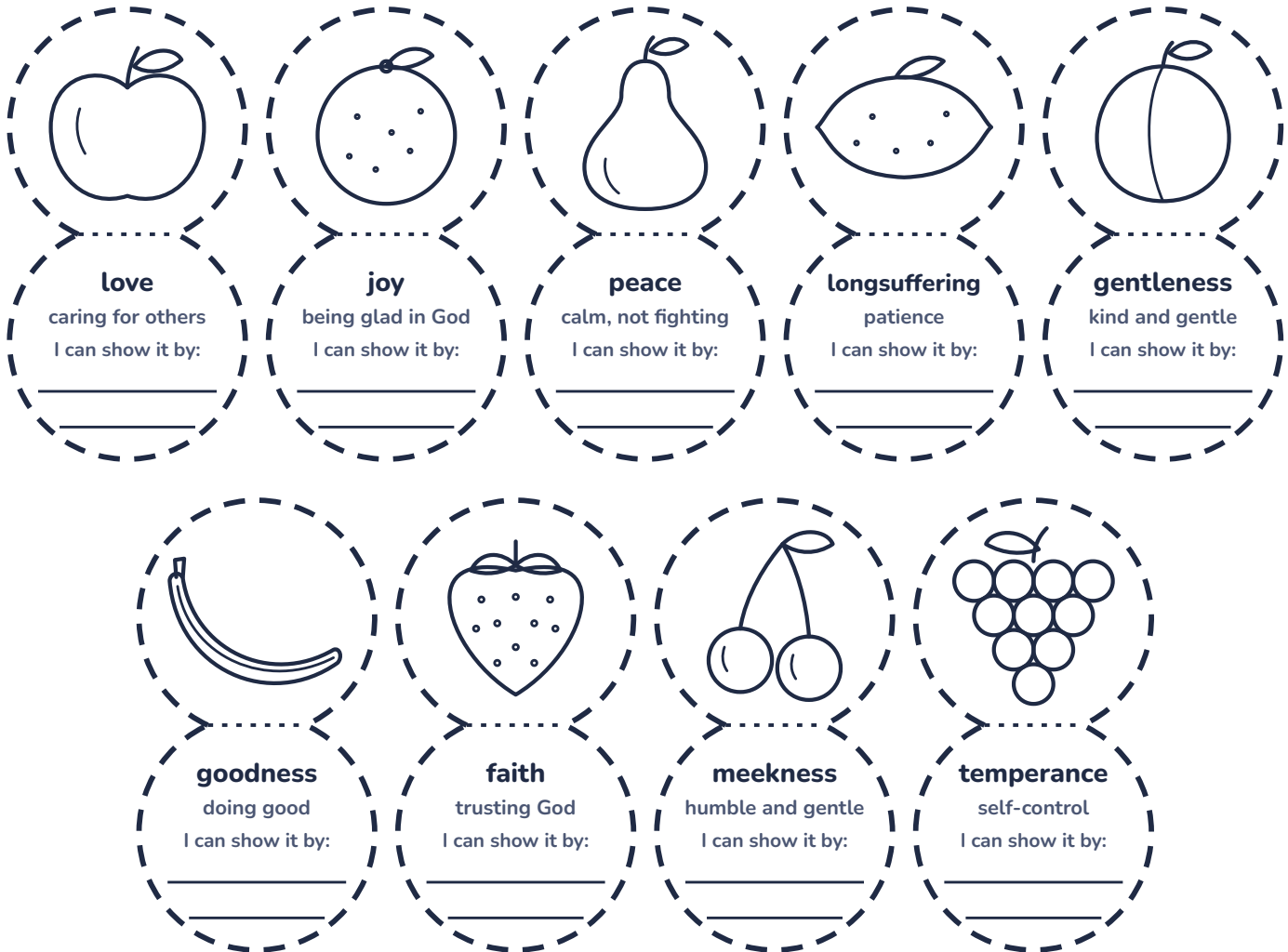
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

Fruit flaps (harder level)

Color each fruit. On the lines, write one way you can show that fruit this week.

Cut on the dashed lines, fold back on the dotted line and glue the two halves together.



Glue each flap on the tree with a dot of glue at the top edge only, so it lifts up. Lift a flap to read the word under it. Use the trunk and verse strip from page 2.

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/fruit-of-the-spirit-craft

Time: 15 to 35 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 (cardstock is sturdiest), crayons in green, brown, red, orange, yellow and purple, scissors, a glue stick and clear tape. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, and a pencil.

Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the nine fruit circles, the trunk and the verse strip 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 nine fruit circles, trunk and verse strip. Kids color the bottom of the upside-down plate green, color the fruit and glue the fruit on the green treetop. You tape the trunk behind the plate and glue the verse strip on the back. Read the verse together, or just "love, joy, peace."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color the plate and the pieces, cut out the fruit circles, trunk and verse strip, tape on the trunk, glue the fruit on the tree and glue the verse on the back. This is the craft in the left photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 35 minutes:** kids make the medium tree, but instead of the nine fruit circles on page 2 they use the nine fruit flaps on page 3 (they still cut the trunk and verse strip from page 2). They color each fruit, read the word and its meaning under it, and write one way they can show that fruit this week on the lines. Then they cut out each flap, fold the word half back on the dotted line so the blank sides touch, and glue the two halves together. They glue each flap on the treetop with a dot of glue at the top edge only, so it lifts up to show the word. Then they say Galatians 5:22–23 from memory. This is the craft in the right photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Treetop:** turn the paper plate upside down. Color the whole bottom of the plate green, the rim too.
2. **Color:** color the trunk brown. Color each of the nine fruits its real color.
3. **Cut:** cut out the nine fruit circles, the trunk and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Trunk:** tape the top of the trunk (the part above the dotted line) to the back of the plate at the bottom, so the trunk hangs down below the green treetop.
5. **Fruit:** glue the nine fruits on the green treetop. Say each fruit's word as you glue it: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance (Galatians 5:22–23).
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the plate and read it together.

Questions to ask while kids work

- Paul wrote, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace" (Galatians 5:22). Who grows this fruit? (*God's Spirit, the Holy Ghost, God's own Spirit living in us.*)
- Jesus said, "every tree is known by his own fruit" (Luke 6:44). If people watched you this week, which fruit would you want them to see?
- Which fruit is hardest for you right now? Longsuffering (patience)? Temperance (self-control)? Ask God to help you with it.
- Paul said, "by love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13). Who could you serve with love this week?
- **Harder level:** read the plan you wrote under one of your flaps to a friend.

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** longsuffering = patience, meekness = humble and gentle, temperance = self-control, faith = trusting God and being faithful, against such there is no law = no rule is against these good things.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished tree so they can see the goal.
- **Fast coloring:** kids can color the plate with the side of a peeled green crayon. It covers the plate quickly.
- **Hang it up:** tape a loop of yarn to the back of the plate at the top, and the tree can hang on a wall or door at home.
- **Teach the passage first:** this craft goes with the free Fruit of the Spirit Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/fruit-of-the-spirit.