Preschool–Grade 5

Gideon Craft

Pitcher, lamp and trumpet · Judges 7:16–22 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



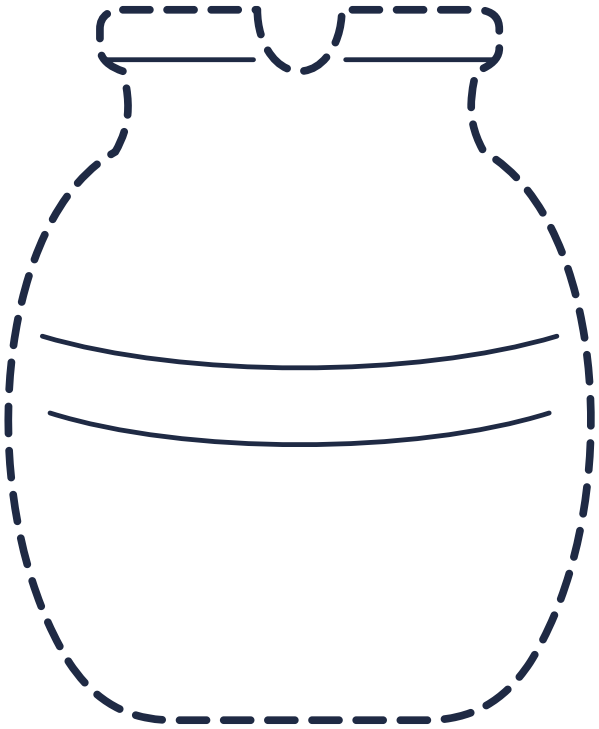
Harder

Both levels have a brown pitcher with a lamp hidden inside that slides up to shine, glued on dark blue paper for the night, because every man had "empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers" (Judges 7:16). Medium (left): a flat trumpet from page 2 glued on the right. Harder (right): a rolled trumpet from page 3 to hold in the right hand (7:20).

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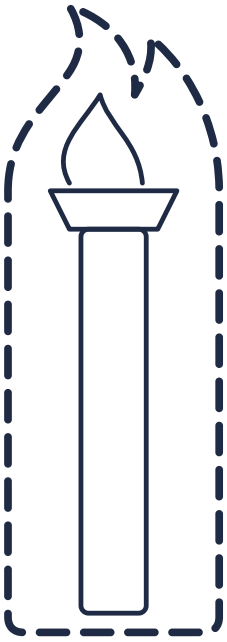
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



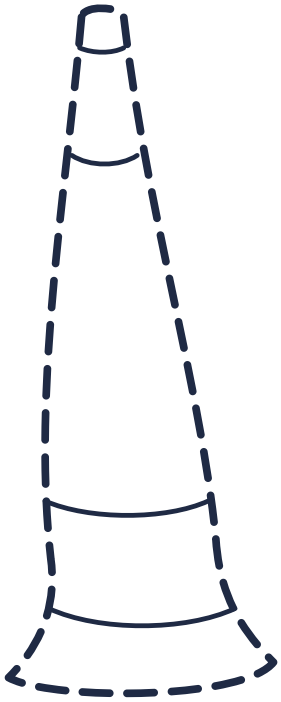
Pitcher: color it brown

Glue only its sides and bottom.
Leave the top open.



Lamp

flame: yellow and orange
holder, handle: light brown
It slides into the pitcher.



Trumpet

color it light brown

Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Zechariah 4:6 (KJV)

Color the pitcher brown, the flame yellow and orange, and the lamp's holder, handle and the trumpet light brown. Cut out every piece, and cut around the little dip at the top of the pitcher. Glue the pitcher on its sides and bottom only, so the lamp can slide in from the top.

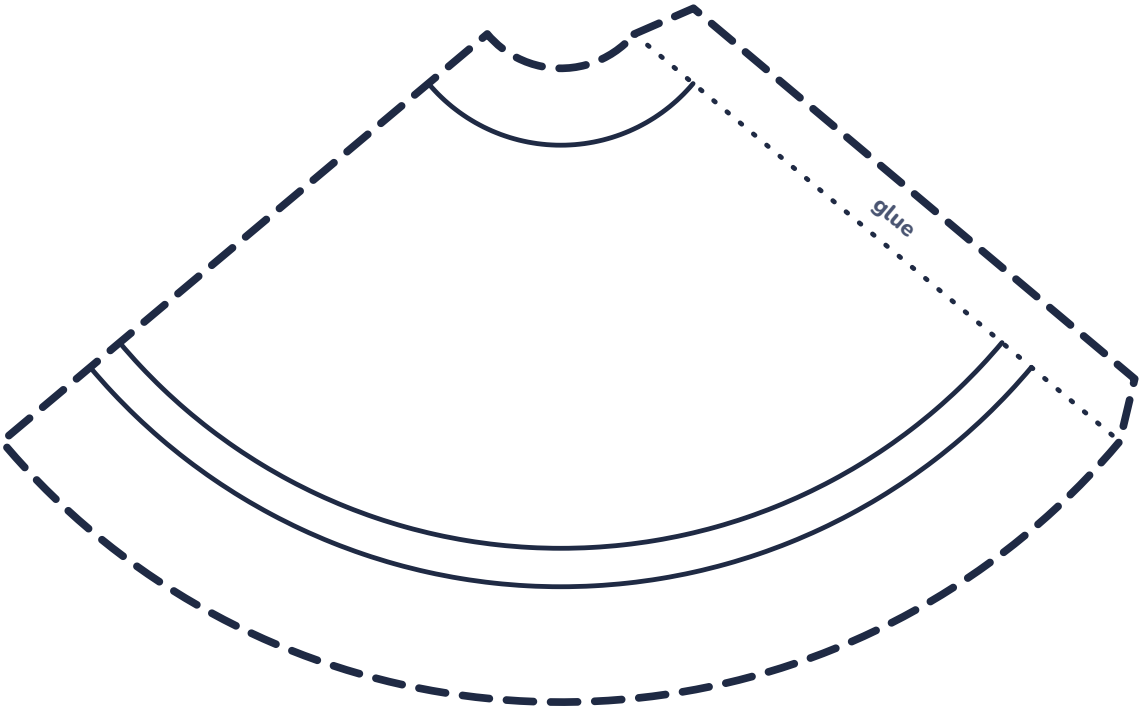
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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Rolled trumpet (harder level)

Color it light brown. Cut on the dashed lines. Roll it into a cone.



Use the pitcher, lamp and verse strip from page 2.

How to make the rolled trumpet

1. Color the trumpet piece light brown, rings and all. Leave the glue tab white.
2. Cut it out on the dashed lines, including the small curve at the top.
3. Put glue on the glue tab. Roll the piece into a cone, so the color is on the outside and the other straight edge lies on top of the tab. Hold it while you count to ten.
4. Make the pitcher and lamp from page 2 and glue the pitcher on the dark blue paper. Don't use the flat trumpet.
5. Hold the lamp in your left hand and the trumpet in your right hand. Gideon's men "held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal" (Judges 7:20).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/gideon-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), one sheet of dark blue construction paper per child (9 by 12 inches), brown, light brown, yellow and orange 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 pieces and glue each pitcher on its dark blue paper along the sides and bottom, leaving the top open.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pitcher, lamp, trumpet and verse strip, and glue the pitcher on the dark blue paper along its sides and bottom. Kids color the pitcher, the lamp and the trumpet, slide the lamp into the pitcher and glue the trumpet on the right with your help. You glue the verse strip on the back. Read the verse together, or just "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the pieces, glue the pitcher on its sides and bottom, slide the lamp in and glue the trumpet on the right. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the pitcher and lamp like the medium level, but instead of the flat trumpet, roll the trumpet from page 3 into a cone and glue it closed. Kids hold the lamp in the left hand and the trumpet in the right, like Gideon's men (Judges 7:20), and say Zechariah 4:6 from memory before they take it home. This is the craft in the second photo.

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Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the pitcher brown. Color the flame yellow and orange, and the lamp's holder and handle light brown. Color the trumpet light brown.
2. **Cut:** cut out the pitcher, the lamp, the trumpet and the verse strip on the dashed lines. Cut around the little dip at the top of the pitcher too.
3. **Pitcher:** turn the pitcher over. Put glue along its left side, right side and bottom edge only. Leave the top open. Hold the dark blue paper the wide way and press the pitcher on the left half, near the bottom.
4. **Lamp:** slide the lamp into the top of the pitcher, handle first, and push it all the way down. The lamp is hidden inside the pitcher, like the lamps "within the pitchers" (Judges 7:16).
5. **Trumpet:** glue the trumpet on the right half of the paper. Gideon's men held their lamps in their left hands and their trumpets in their right hands (7:20).
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.
7. **Act it out:** say "The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon!" (7:20) and push the lamp up from the dip at the top of the pitcher, so the light shines out.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to your pitcher. What did Gideon put in every man's hands? *(A trumpet, and an empty pitcher with a lamp inside it, Judges 7:16)*
- Push your lamp up. What did the men do with their pitchers? *(They broke them and held up the lamps, 7:20)* Which hand held the lamp, and which held the trumpet? *(Lamps in the left hand, trumpets in the right, 7:20)*
- How many men did God keep in Gideon's army? *(300, 7:7)* Why did God want so few? *(So Israel could not brag, "Mine own hand hath saved me," 7:2)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** might = strength; power = force; saith = says; the LORD of hosts = the LORD who rules over all the armies; pitchers = jars; lamps = burning lights; brake = broke.
- **What the Bible says:** Judges 7:16 says every man had a trumpet and an empty pitcher with a lamp inside. The men broke the pitchers so the lamps shone out (7:20). The Bible doesn't describe the trumpets, so the craft shows a simple horn. The craft shows no people.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the pitchers on before class, and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished craft so they can see the goal.
- **Lamps that slide:** remind kids to keep glue off the top edge and the middle of the pitcher, or the lamp won't go in. Cardstock makes a sturdier lamp.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Gideon Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/gideon.

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