Preschool–Grade 5

Hannah and Samuel Craft

Samuel's little coats, from year to year · 1 Samuel 1–2 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



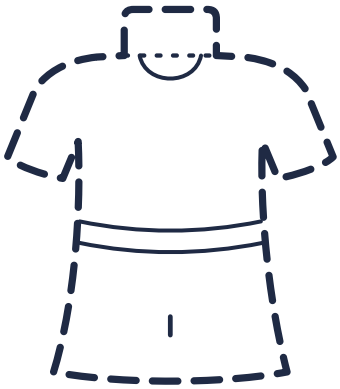
Harder

Medium (left): three paper coats hang in a row from a piece of yarn by their folded top tabs: a small blue coat, a middle green coat and a big red coat, each with a brown belt and one, two or three short marks below its belt. Harder (right): the same line with a fourth, biggest purple coat at the end, with yarn laced in and out of holes all around its edge.

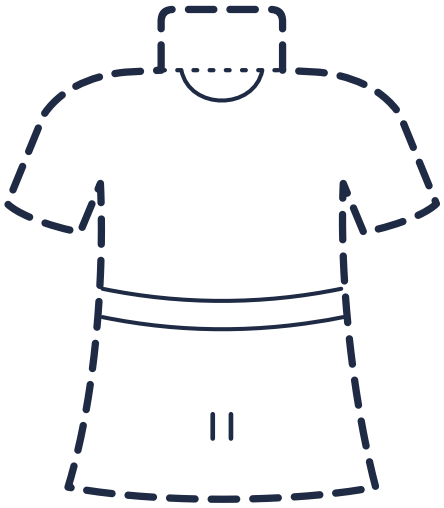
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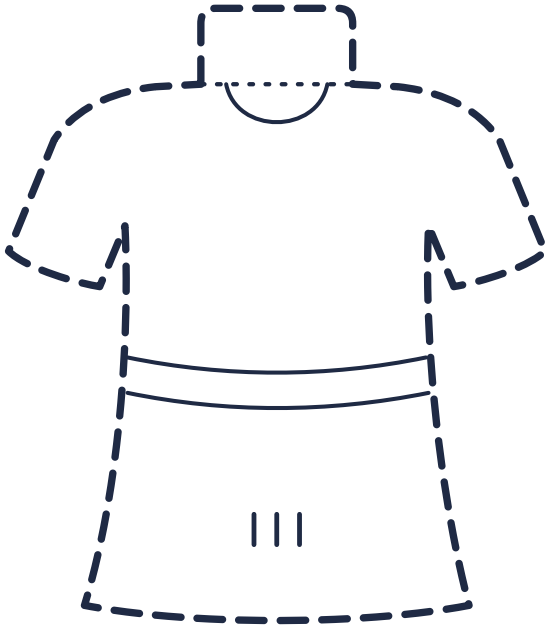
✂ Cut on the dashed lines



small coat (year 1): blue
belt brown



middle coat (year 2): green, belt brown



For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

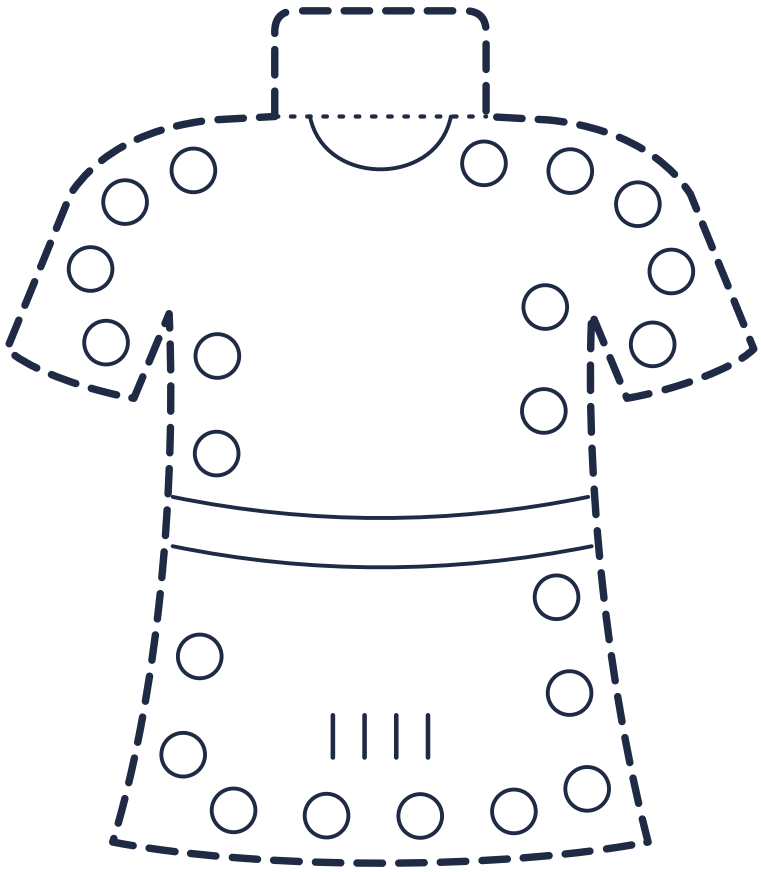
1 Samuel 1:27 (KJV)

big coat (year 3): red, belt brown
verse card: glue it on the back
of the big coat

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level



biggest coat (year 4): purple, belt brown · punch a hole on every circle

How to add the biggest coat

1. Make the line of three coats from page 2, with the verse card on the back of the big coat.
2. Color the biggest coat purple and its belt brown. Cut it out on the dashed line, and punch a hole on every circle.
3. Tape one end of the long yarn on the back. Lace the yarn in and out through the holes all the way around the coat, and tape the other end on the back. Remember: "his mother made him a little coat" (1 Samuel 2:19).
4. Fold its top tab over the yarn line at the right of the big red coat, and glue it on the back. Now there are four coats for four years.

VBSHQ

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vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/hannah-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), a piece of yarn about 24 inches long per child, blue, green, red and brown crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, a purple crayon, a hole punch, a second piece of yarn about 36 inches long per child and tape.
Before class: cut the yarn. For preschoolers, also cut out each child's three coats and verse card. Make one finished craft to show the kids.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out the coats and the verse card. Kids color the coats and belts. Then help them fold each tab over the yarn and glue it, and glue the verse card on the back of the big coat. Count the coats together: "One year, two years, three years!"
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the coats and the verse card, glue the coats on the yarn and glue the verse card on the back. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make it like the medium level, then add the biggest coat from page 3, with yarn laced all around its edge, at the end of the line. They say 1 Samuel 1:27 from memory before they take it home. This is the craft in the second photo.

Why there are no people: the craft draws no people. It shows the little coat the Bible names (1 Samuel 2:19), which Hannah brought to Samuel from year to year. While the kids work, tell them about Hannah, Eli and Samuel with each coat.

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Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the small coat blue, the middle coat green and the big coat red. Color every belt brown. Keep the short marks below each belt easy to see: one mark for year 1, two for year 2, three for year 3.
2. **Cut:** cut out the three coats and the verse card on the dashed lines.
3. **Line them up:** lay the yarn straight across the table. Put the coats face down under it in a row: small at the left, middle in the middle, big at the right.
4. **Hang them:** fold each coat's top tab down over the yarn on the dotted line and glue the tab to the back of the coat.
5. **Verse:** glue the verse card on the back of the big coat, below its tab. Turn the line over so the coats face up, and read the verse together.
6. **Tell the story:** his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice (1 Samuel 2:19). The coats get bigger to show that the child Samuel grew (2:21, 2:26).

Questions to ask while kids work

- What did Hannah ask the LORD for when she prayed at Shiloh? *(A man child, a son, 1 Samuel 1:11)* What did she promise? *(To give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, 1:11)*
- Only Hannah's lips moved. What did Eli think? *(That she had been drunken, 1:13)* What was she really doing? *(She had poured out her soul before the LORD, 1:15)*
- What did Hannah name her son, and why? *(Samuel, "Because I have asked him of the LORD," 1:20)*
- Did Hannah keep her promise? *(Yes. She brought Samuel to Eli at the house of the LORD in Shiloh and lent him to the LORD, 1:24–28)*
- Point to the small coat. Who made Samuel a little coat, and when did she bring it? *(His mother, from year to year, when she came up to offer the yearly sacrifice, 2:19)*
- Point to the big coat. What did Samuel do as he grew? *(He ministered before the LORD, being a child, 2:18; he grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men, 2:26)*

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Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** vowed a vow = made a promise to God; handmaid = a woman servant (Hannah calls herself this to show she is humble); affliction = trouble and sorrow; provoked her sore = upset her badly; fret = be upset; marked her mouth = watched her lips; countenance = face; petition = what you ask for; lent = given; weaned = old enough not to need his mother's milk; minister = serve; ephod = a linen garment worn to serve the LORD; in favour = loved and approved.
- **What the Bible says:** "his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year" (1 Samuel 2:19). The Bible doesn't say what color the coat was, how big it was, or for how many years she brought one. The craft makes each coat a little bigger, because "the child Samuel grew" (2:21, 2:26), and the colors are only for fun. The short marks below the belts count the years.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut the coats and the verse card. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished craft so they can see the goal.
- **Gluing the tabs:** glue only the tab, not the yarn. If a coat slides along the yarn, press its tab down a little longer.
- **Harder level:** a hole punch reaches every circle from the edge. For younger hands, punch the holes before class. Wrap a small piece of tape around the end of the yarn to make a stiff tip for lacing.
- **Hang it up:** tie the ends of the yarn to a door handle or tape them to a wall, so the coats hang down in a row.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Hannah and Samuel Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/hannah.

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