Preschool–Grade 5

Jesus Restores Peter Craft

Lovest thou me? · John 21:1–19 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



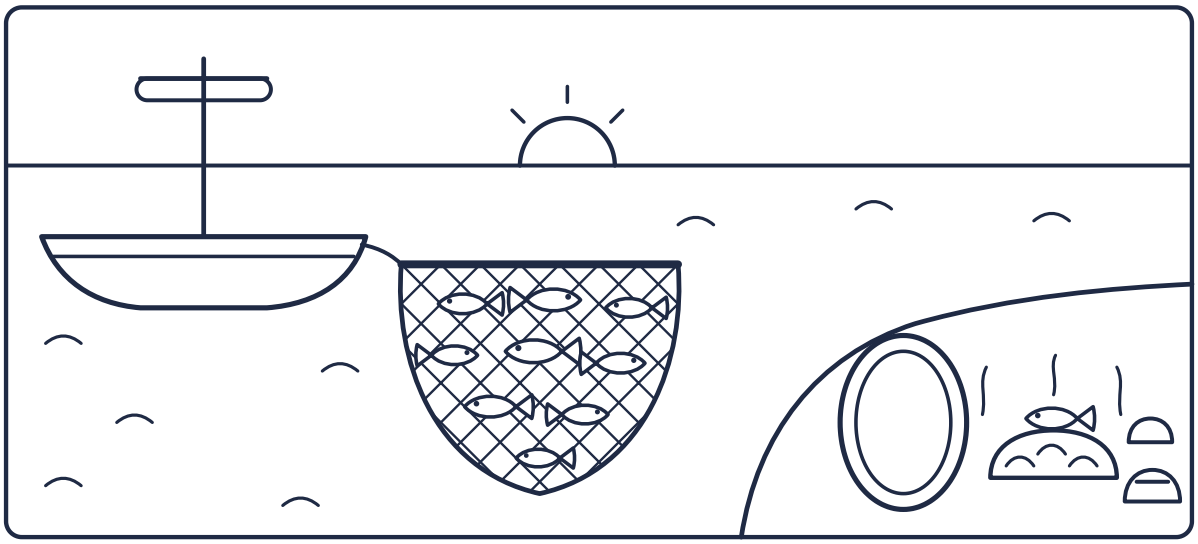
Harder

Both levels are a wide sea card at morning, with the sun rising on the horizon. On the left, a brown ship with a mast sits on the blue sea, and on its right side hangs a white empty net: "that night they caught nothing" (John 21:3). Lift the net flap, and under it is the net full of gray great fishes (21:6, 21:11). On the tan shore are the child's drawing of Peter in an oval window and a fire of coals with a fish on it and two loaves of bread (21:9). Medium (left): the card and the net flap. Harder (right): the same, plus a pasture strip hanging below the card, with a lamb, two sheep and three red hearts for "Feed my lambs" and "Feed my sheep" (21:15–17).

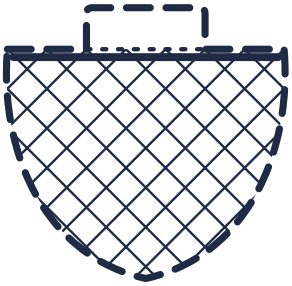
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, sun yellow, sea blue, shore tan. Ship and mast brown, rolled sail white. Fishes in the net gray, net rope brown. Coals red, the fish on them gray, the two loaves brown. Window frame brown. In the window, draw Peter on the shore.



net flap (the empty net): leave the net white, color the top rope brown; fold the tab back

Glue the net flap by its tab only, on the top edge of the full net, right beside the ship, so the empty net lines up with it, covers it and lifts up.

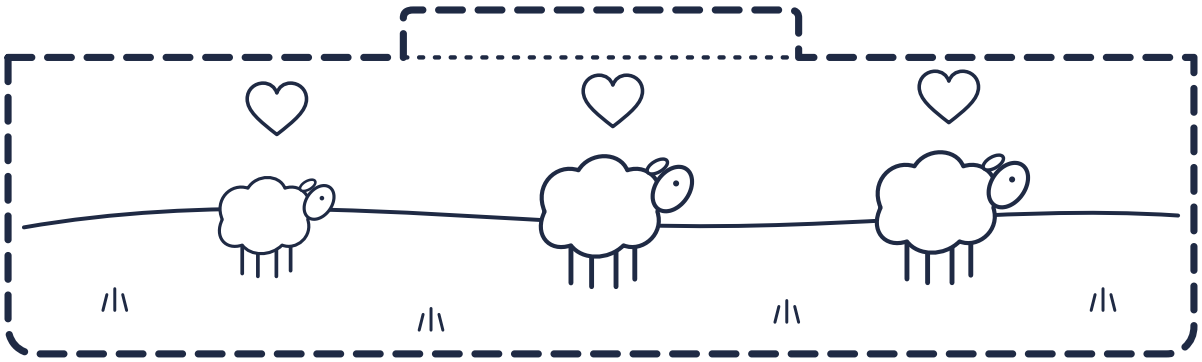
So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

John 21:15 (KJV) · glue this strip on the back of the card

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the net flap and the verse strip. You also need a glue stick.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level



pasture strip: grass green below the hill line, sky light blue above it, the three hearts red. Leave the lamb and the two sheep white, with gray faces and legs. Fold the glue tab back.

How to make the harder level

1. Make the card, the net flap and the verse strip from page 2 first.
2. Color the pasture strip: the sky light blue, the grass green and the three hearts red. Leave the lamb and the two sheep white, with gray faces and legs.
3. Cut out the strip on the dashed line, with its glue tab. Fold the tab back on the dotted line.
4. Turn the card over. Glue the tab on the back of the card at the bottom, in the middle, so the pasture strip hangs down below the card.
5. Tell it: three times Jesus asked Peter, "lovest thou me?" Touch one heart each time. Peter said, "thou knowest that I love thee." Point to the lamb: "Feed my lambs" (John 21:15). Point to each sheep: "Feed my sheep" (21:16, 21:17). Then Jesus said, "Follow me" (21:19).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/jesus-restores-peter-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), crayons or markers in light blue, yellow, blue, tan, brown, gray and red plus any colors for the drawing, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a green crayon.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the net flap 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 pieces. Kids color the card and draw Peter in the window. Glue the net flap on for them by its tab, and the verse strip on the back.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut and glue the net flap. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level, then add the pasture strip from page 3 so it hangs below the card (John 21:15–17). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** color the sky light blue, the morning sun yellow, the sea blue and the shore tan.
2. **Ship and net:** color the ship and its mast brown, and leave the rolled sail white. Color the great fishes in the net gray and the net's top rope brown.
3. **Shore:** color the fire of coals red, the fish on the coals gray and the two loaves of bread brown. Color the window frame brown.
4. **Draw:** in the oval window, draw Peter on the shore.
5. **Net flap:** leave the empty net white and color its top rope brown.
6. **Cut:** cut out the card, the net flap and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
7. **Glue the flap:** fold the flap's tab back on the dotted line. Glue only the tab on the top edge of the full net, right beside the ship, so the empty net covers the full net and lifts up.
8. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, and read it together.
9. **Tell it:** "that night they caught nothing" (John 21:3). Jesus said, "Cast the net on the right side of the ship" (21:6). Lift the flap: full of great fishes (21:11)! Point to the fire: "Come and dine" (21:12). Then read the verse: "lovest thou me?" (21:15).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Where did Jesus show Himself to His disciples? *(At the sea of Tiberias, John 21:1)*
- What did Peter and the others catch that night? *(Nothing, 21:3)*
- On which side of the ship did Jesus tell them to cast the net? *(The right side, 21:6)*
- Lift the flap. How many great fishes were in the net? *(An hundred and fifty and three, 21:11)*
- Was the net broken? *(No, 21:11)*
- Point to the shore. What was on the fire of coals? *(Fish laid thereon, and bread, 21:9)*
- What did Jesus ask Peter three times? *("Lovest thou me?" 21:15–17)*
- What did Jesus say at the end? *("Follow me," 21:19)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: shewed** means showed; **meat** means food; **multitude** means a great number; **girt** means tied on; **dine** means eat a meal; **durst** means dared; **lovest thou me** means do you love Me; **yea** means yes; **thou knowest** means you know; **lambs** are young sheep; **grieved** means sad.
- **What the Bible says:** the disciples caught nothing all night; Jesus told them to cast the net on the right side of the ship, and the net held a hundred and fifty-three great fishes and was not broken; on land there was a fire of coals with fish and bread (John 21:3–11). The passage doesn't describe the ship, the net's shape or the colors. The craft shows only some of the fishes, and the ship, the shore, the sheep and the hearts are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No person is printed, and never Jesus:** the only person on the craft is the child's own drawing of Peter in the window.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and glue the flap on ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child lift the net and say, "Full of great fishes!"
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Jesus Restores Peter lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/jesus-restores-peter.

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