Preschool–Grade 5

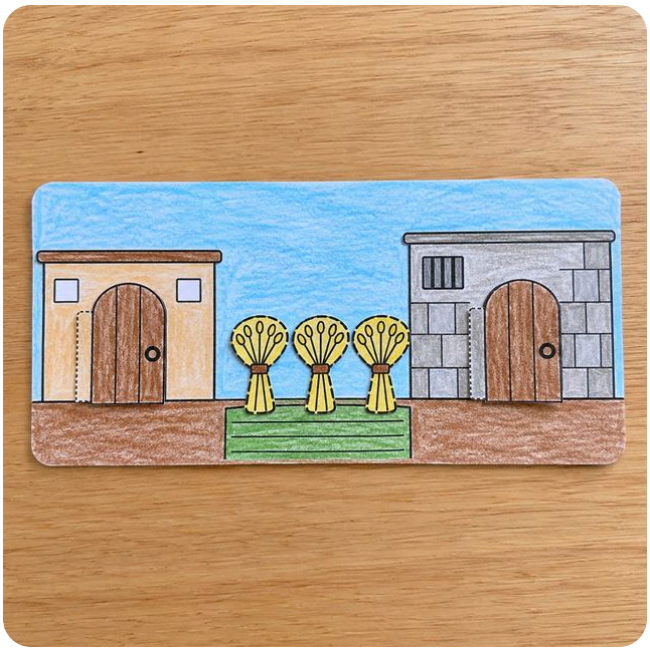
Joseph and Potiphar Craft

The LORD was with Joseph · Genesis 39 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



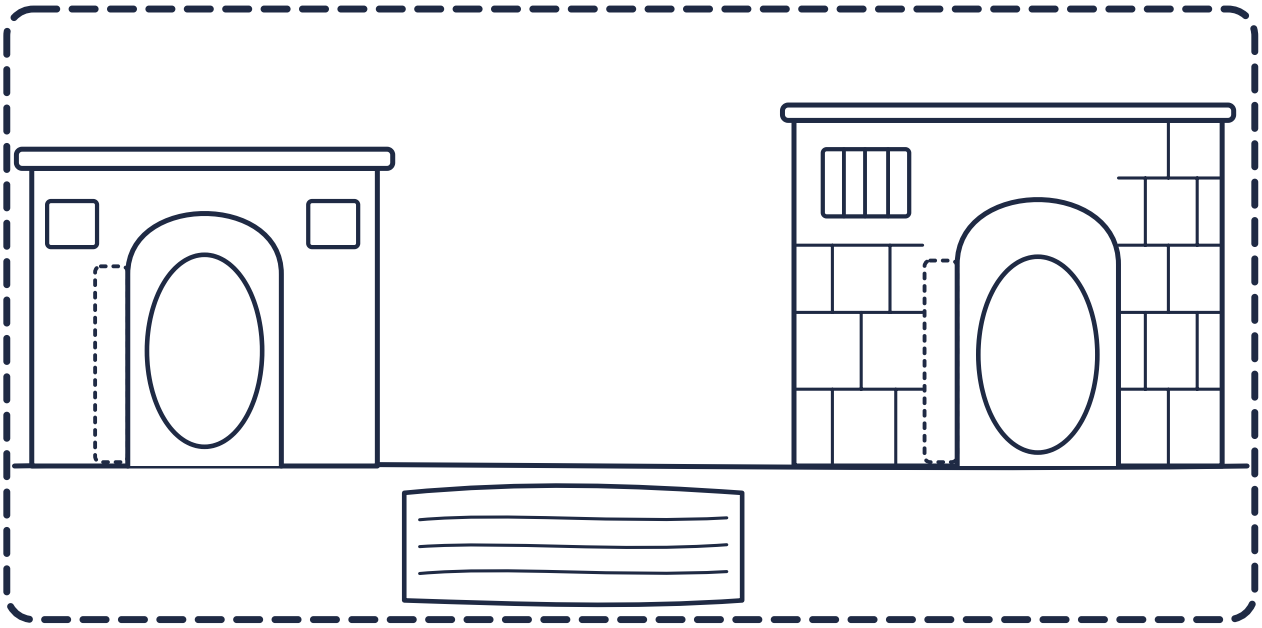
Harder

Both levels are a wide card with a light blue sky and brown ground. On the left is Potiphar's tan house with a flat brown roof, where Joseph was overseer (Genesis 39:4), and a green field beside it (39:5). On the right is the gray prison with a small barred window (39:20). A brown door with a black ring covers the prison doorway; open it to find Joseph, because "the LORD was with Joseph" there too (39:21). Medium (left): the card, with Joseph drawn in the house doorway. Harder (right): the same card with a brown door on the house too and three yellow sheaves of grain standing in the field.

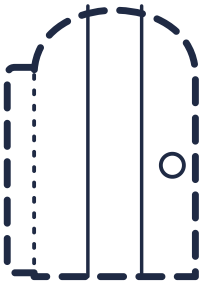
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, house tan, roof brown, field green, ground brown, prison gray, barred window dark gray. Leave the two doorway ovals white, and draw Joseph in each one.



prison door: brown, ring black

There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

Genesis 39:9 (KJV)

Bend the door's tab on the dotted line, and glue the tab on the dotted box beside the prison doorway, so the door covers Joseph. Open the door to find him!

Verse strip: glue it on the back of the card.
(the dotted box beside the house doorway is for the harder level)

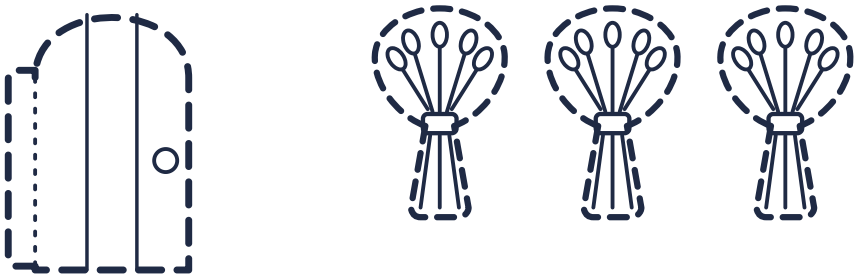
Color each piece the way its label says. Draw Joseph in both ovals. Cut out the card, the prison door and the verse strip. Glue the door's tab beside the prison doorway.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

House door and sheaves (harder level)



house door: brown, ring black

sheaves: yellow, bands brown

Glue the door's tab on the dotted box beside the house doorway.
Glue the three sheaves standing on the green field.

How to add the house door and the sheaves

1. Make the card from page 2 first, with Joseph drawn in both ovals, the prison door glued on, and the verse strip on the back.
2. Color the house door brown and its ring black. Color the three sheaves of grain yellow and their bands brown. A **sheaf** is a bundle of grain stalks tied together.
3. Cut out the house door and the three sheaves on the dashed lines.
4. Bend the house door's tab on the dotted line. Glue the tab on the dotted box beside the house doorway, so the door covers Joseph in the house.
5. Glue the three sheaves standing in a row on the green field, with their bottoms on the field.
6. Tell it: Potiphar made Joseph overseer over his house, and "the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field" (Genesis 39:5). Open both doors: the LORD was with Joseph in the house (39:2) and in the prison (39:21).

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vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/joseph-and-potiphar-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, tan, brown, green, gray, dark gray and black crayons or markers (plus any colors for drawing Joseph), scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a yellow crayon.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the prison door and the verse strip.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's card, prison door and verse strip. Kids color, draw Joseph in the two ovals, and color the door. Help them glue the door's tab beside the prison doorway. Glue the verse strip on the back for them.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut out and glue the pieces themselves. 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 house door and three sheaves of grain from page 3 (Genesis 39:5). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, Potiphar's house tan with a brown roof, the field green, the ground brown, the prison gray and the barred window dark gray. Leave the two doorway ovals white.
2. **Draw:** in the house doorway oval, draw Joseph, in charge of Potiphar's house (Genesis 39:4). In the prison doorway oval, draw Joseph standing tall, in charge in the prison (39:22).
3. **Color and cut:** color the prison door brown and its ring black. Cut out the card, the prison door and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Door:** bend the tab on the dotted line. Put glue on the tab only and press it on the dotted box beside the prison doorway, so the door covers Joseph. Open the door to find him!
5. **Verse:** turn the card over. Glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.
6. **Tell it:** "the LORD was with Joseph" in Potiphar's house (39:2). When Joseph was asked day by day to do wrong, he said, "how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (39:9). He was put in prison, "But the LORD was with Joseph" there too (39:21).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Who bought Joseph when he was brought down to Egypt? *(Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, Genesis 39:1)*
- Point to the house. Who was with Joseph there? *("The LORD was with Joseph," 39:2)*
- What job did Potiphar give Joseph? *(Overseer over his house; all that he had he put into Joseph's hand, 39:4)*
- Point to the field. What did the LORD bless because of Joseph? *(All that Potiphar had "in the house, and in the field," 39:5)*
- When Joseph was asked day by day to do wrong, what did he say? *("How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" 39:9)*
- Point to the prison. Where was Joseph put? *(Into the prison, "a place where the king's prisoners were bound," 39:20)*
- Open the prison door. Who was with Joseph there? *("But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy," 39:21)*
- What did the keeper of the prison put into Joseph's hand? *(All the prisoners, 39:22)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** an **overseer** is the one in charge; to **prosper** means to go well; **wickedness** means a very bad thing; **shewed** means showed; **mercy** means kindness; the **keeper** of the prison is the man in charge of it; a **sheaf** is a bundle of grain stalks.
- **What the Bible says:** Genesis 39 does not say what Potiphar's house or the prison looked like, or that there were sheaves in the field. The house, the prison, the doors, the colors and the sheaves are the craft's simple picture of the story. Potiphar's house and field (39:5), the prison (39:20) and "the LORD was with Joseph" in both places (39:2, 39:21) come from the text.
- **About Potiphar's wife:** the craft doesn't show her. If a child asks, say only that she asked Joseph day by day to do wrong, Joseph said no (39:9–10), and she blamed him for something he did not do. The lesson has a teacher note on this.
- **People are drawn by the children, never printed:** Joseph goes in the two doorway ovals. Men have short hair and long robes with long sleeves.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue, and help with the door's tab. Let every child open the door and say, "God was with Joseph!"
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Joseph and Potiphar lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/joseph-and-potiphar.

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