Preschool–Grade 5

Palm Sunday Craft

The road into Jerusalem · Matthew 21:1–11 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



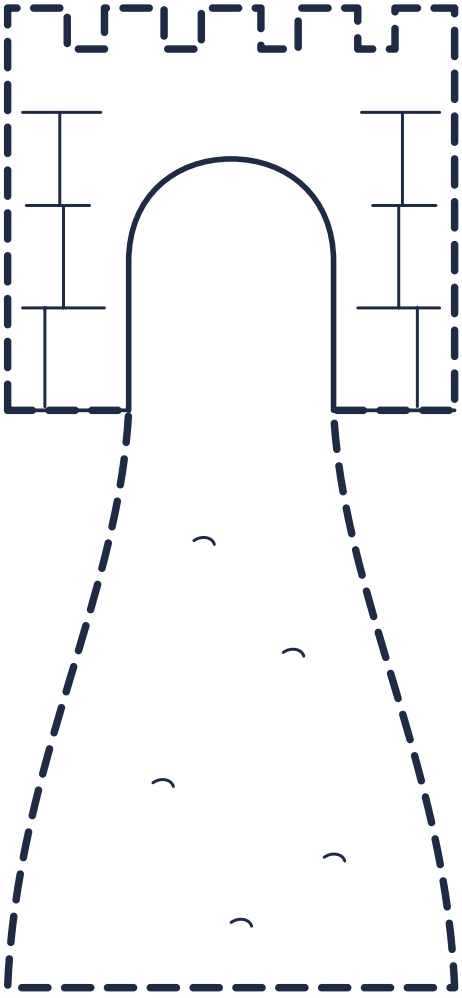
Harder

Both levels are a paper road on light blue paper leading up to the gate of Jerusalem. Garments and branches from the trees lie on the road (Matthew 21:8), a palm branch stands on each side (John 12:13), and the ass and the colt with clothes on them wait at the bottom (Matthew 21:7). Medium (left): the gate is open. Harder (right): two doors close the gate and open to show "Who is this?" (Matthew 21:10–11).

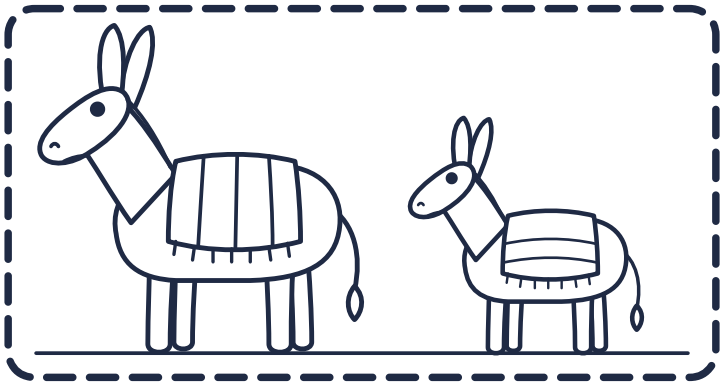
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Name: _____

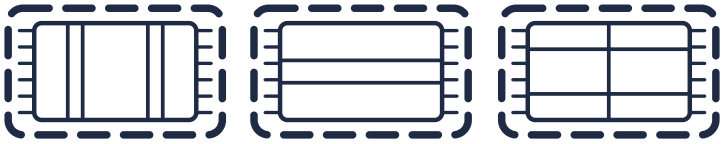
✂ Cut on the dashed lines



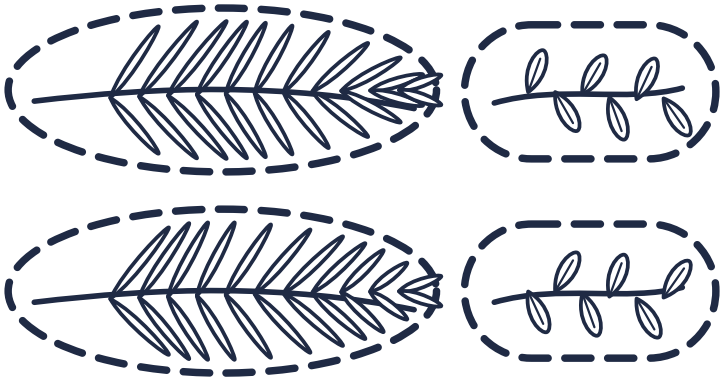
road brown (up into the gate), wall gray



color the ass and colt gray, their clothes red and blue



garments: color them red, blue and purple



all four branches: color them green

And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Matthew 21:9 (KJV)

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the road, the ass and colt card, the three garments, the four branches and the verse strip.

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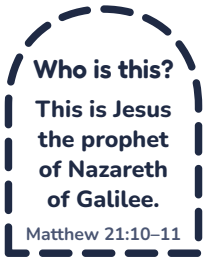
Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Gate doors and prophecy strip (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines. Fold on the dotted lines.



gate doors: frame gray, doors brown



answer card



Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Zechariah 9:9 (KJV)

How to make the gate doors

1. Make the road craft from page 2 first.
2. Color the frame of the gate doors gray and the doors brown. Cut out the gate doors, the answer card and the prophecy strip on the outside dashed lines.
3. Cut the gate doors along the dashed arch and the dashed line down the middle. Fold each door open on its dotted line.
4. Glue the answer card inside the gateway on your road, words facing up.
5. Put glue on the gray frame only, and press the gate doors over the gateway so they cover the card. Close the doors.
6. Glue the prophecy strip on the back next to the verse strip. Open the doors and ask, "Who is this?"

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/palm-sunday-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 light blue construction paper per child (9 by 12 inches), brown, gray, red, blue, purple and green crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out all the pieces 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 road, the garments and the branches. Then they glue them on the light blue paper with your help: the road in the middle, the garments and branches on the road, the ass and colt card at the bottom and a palm branch on each side. You glue the verse strip on the back. Say "Hosanna!" together.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the pieces and glue the road scene together. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the road like the medium level, then add the gate doors from page 3 over the answer card, so the doors open to show "Who is this? … This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee" (Matthew 21:10–11). Glue Zechariah 9:9 on the back. Kids read Zechariah 9:9 and Matthew 21:5 and find what the prophet said long before. This is the craft in the second photo.

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Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the road brown, all the way up into the gateway, and the wall gray. Color the ass and the colt gray, the clothes on the ass red and the clothes on the colt blue. Color the garments red, blue and purple, and all four branches green.
2. **Cut:** cut out the road, the ass and colt card, the three garments, the four branches and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
3. **Road:** hold the light blue paper the tall way. Glue the road in the middle, with the city gate near the top.
4. **Garments and branches:** going up the road toward the gate, glue the purple garment, a branch from the trees, the blue garment, the other branch, and the red garment near the gate (Matthew 21:8).
5. **The ass and the colt:** glue the card at the bottom of the paper, just below the road (Matthew 21:7).
6. **Palm branches:** glue one palm branch standing up on each side of the road, stem down (John 12:13).
7. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back and read it together. Then say "Hosanna!" together.

Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the ass and the colt. What did Jesus tell two disciples to do? *(Go to the village, untie an ass and a colt with her, and bring them to Him, Matthew 21:1–2)*
- Point to the garments. What did the people spread on the road? *(Their garments, and branches they cut from the trees, 21:8)*
- Point to the palm branches. What did the people take when they went out to meet Jesus? *(Branches of palm trees, John 12:13)*
- What did the crowd shout? *("Hosanna to the Son of David," Matthew 21:9)* How can you praise Jesus this week?

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Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** an **ass** is a strong, gentle animal people rode and used to carry loads (we call it a donkey today); a **colt** is a young one, "the foal of an ass" (Matthew 21:5); **garments** are clothes, like a coat or robe; **strawed** means spread out (21:8); **Hosanna** is a Hebrew word of praise from a prayer that means "Save now" (Psalm 118:25); **Son of David** means Jesus came from King David's family, the King God promised.
- **What the Bible says:** Matthew says the disciples brought the ass and her colt and put their clothes on them (Matthew 21:2, 7). Mark and Luke say Jesus sat on the colt, one that no man had ever sat on (Mark 11:2, 7; Luke 19:30, 35). Matthew says people cut branches from the trees (Matthew 21:8), and John says they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him (John 12:13). That is why the craft has both.
- **No one is drawn on the template:** the road is waiting for the King. Ask the kids who rode on the colt, and let them tell you.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished craft so they can see the goal.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Palm Sunday lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/palm-sunday.

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