Preschool–Grade 5

Philip and the Ethiopian Craft

See, here is water · Acts 8:26–40 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished





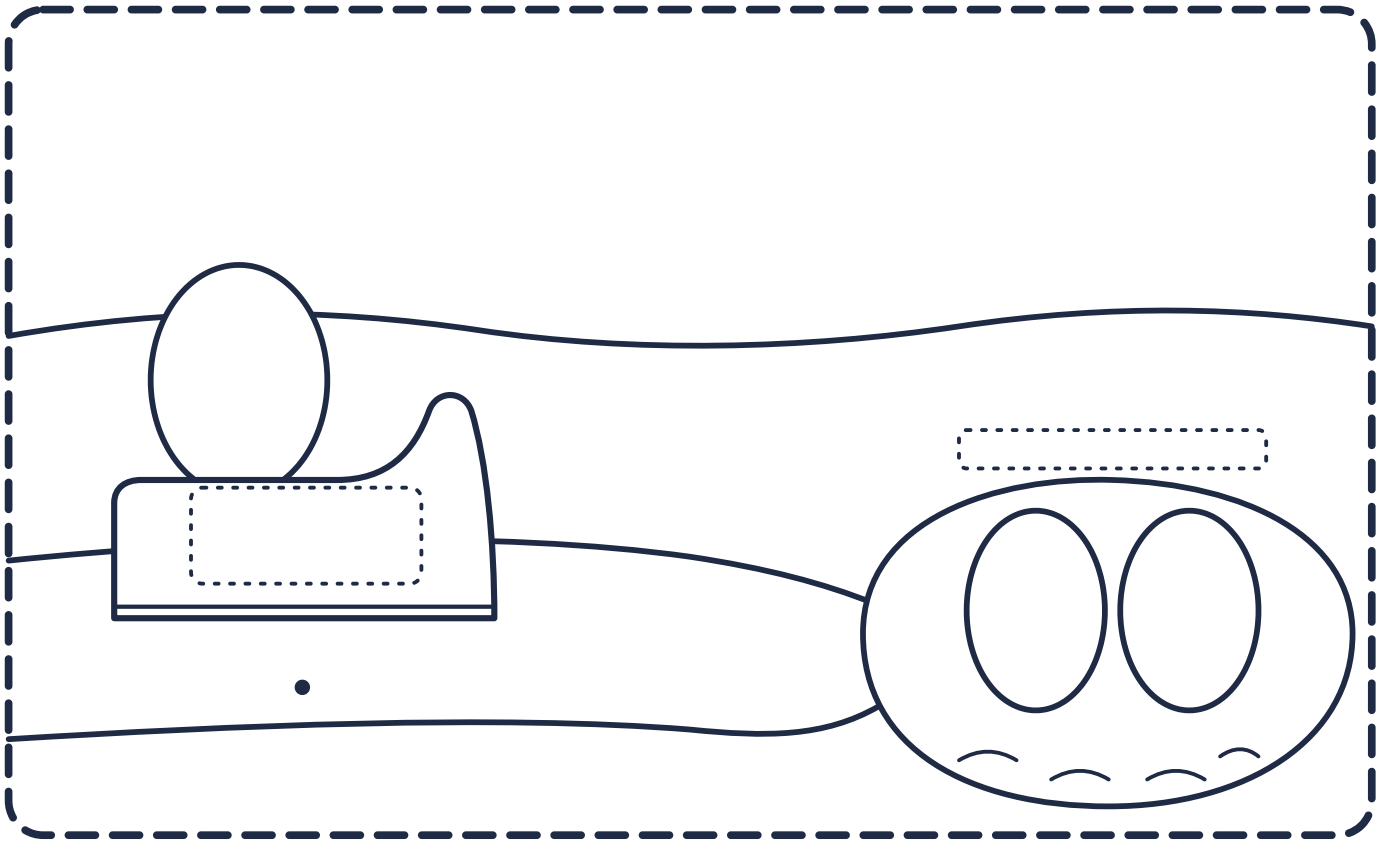
Easy and medium **Harder**

Both levels are a desert road card: a light blue sky, yellow desert ground and a brown road. On the road is a red chariot with a brown wheel that turns on a brad. The man of Ethiopia is drawn in the oval in the chariot, holding a paper scroll, because he "sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet" (Acts 8:28). At the end of the road is blue water, with Philip and the man drawn in two ovals, because "they went down both into the water" (8:38). Medium (left): the card, the wheel and the scroll. Harder (right): the same, with a blue water flap that folds down over Philip and the man and lifts up again (8:38–39).

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines







"Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus."
Acts 8:35 (KJV)

Color each piece the way the steps say. Cut out the card, the wheel, the scroll and the verse strip. You also need 1 brad. The dotted strip above the water is for the harder level.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level



How to add the water flap

1. Make the card with the wheel from page 2 first.
2. Color the water flap blue on the front and on the back. Cut it out on the dashed lines.
3. Fold on the dotted line. The narrow strip above the dotted line is the glue tab.
4. Put glue on the back of the tab only. Press the tab on the dotted strip just above the water on the card, so the flap hangs down over Philip and the man and covers them.
5. Tell it: the chariot stood still, "they went down both into the water… and he baptized him" (Acts 8:38). Keep the flap down. Then lift it up: "And when they were come up out of the water… he went on his way rejoicing" (8:39).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/philip-and-the-ethiopian-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, yellow, brown, red and blue crayons or markers, crayons for drawing the people, 1 brass paper fastener (brad) for each child, scissors, glue sticks and a sharp pencil. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the wheel, the scroll and the verse strip. At every level a grown-up pokes the brad holes.

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 and draw the people in the ovals. You glue on the scroll, poke the holes and push in the brad, and help glue the verse strip on the back. Then they turn the wheel and stop at the water.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut and glue the pieces themselves; a grown-up pokes the holes. 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 blue water flap from page 3, which folds down over Philip and the man and lifts up again (Acts 8:38–39). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the desert ground yellow, the road brown, the chariot red and the water blue. Leave the three ovals white.
2. **Draw:** in the oval in the chariot, draw the man of Ethiopia sitting and reading (Acts 8:28). In the two ovals in the water, draw Philip and the man standing in the water (8:38).
3. **Color the wheel and the scroll:** the wheel brown. Leave the scroll white, and color its two rolled ends brown.
4. **Cut:** cut out the card, the wheel, the scroll and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
5. **Glue the scroll** in the dotted box on the chariot, in front of the man, as if he is holding it.
6. **Put in the brad:** a grown-up pokes a hole with a sharp pencil through the dot in the middle of the wheel and the dot on the chariot. Push the brad through the wheel and the card from the front, and open its legs flat on the back.
7. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, on the right side, away from the brad. Read it together.
8. **Tell it:** turn the wheel as the chariot goes along the desert road. Philip ran to the chariot and preached unto him Jesus (8:30, 8:35). At the water, stop the wheel: "See, here is water" (8:36). Point to the water: they went down both into the water, and Philip baptized him (8:38).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Who sent Philip to the desert road? *(The angel of the Lord, Acts 8:26)*
- Point to the chariot. Who was riding in it, and where had he been? *(A man of Ethiopia, of great authority under Candace the queen; he had come to Jerusalem to worship, 8:27)*
- Point to the scroll. What was he reading? *(Esaias the prophet, which is Isaiah, 8:28)*
- What did Philip ask him? *("Understandest thou what thou readest?" 8:30)*
- Who did Philip tell him about? *(Philip began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus, 8:35)*
- Stop the wheel. What did the man say at the water? *("See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?" 8:36)*
- Point to the water. What happened there? *(They went down both into the water, and Philip baptized him, 8:38)*
- How did the man go on his way? *(Rejoicing, 8:39)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: desert** means a dry, empty land; **chariot** means a cart with wheels; **treasure** means money and riches; **Esaias** is the Bible's Greek way to say Isaiah; **understandest thou what thou readest** means do you understand what you are reading; **guide** means explain; **preached unto him** means told him about; **what doth hinder me** means what stops me; **rejoicing** means full of joy.
- **What the Bible says:** Acts 8 does not say what the chariot looked like, what pulled it, who drove it, or what the water was (it says only "a certain water," 8:36). The chariot, the scroll, the pool and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story. No horse or driver is drawn.
- **Baptism the Bible way:** "they went down both into the water" and came "up out of the water" (Acts 8:38–39). In the same chapter, the Samaritans were "baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" (8:16).
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus or an angel:** each child draws the man of Ethiopia and Philip in the ovals.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything, and glue the scrolls, poke the holes and push in the brads yourself after the kids color. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child turn the wheel and stop at the water.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Philip and the Ethiopian lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/philip-and-the-ethiopian.

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