Preschool–Grade 5

Queen of Sheba Craft

Blessed be the LORD thy God · 1 Kings 10:1–13 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



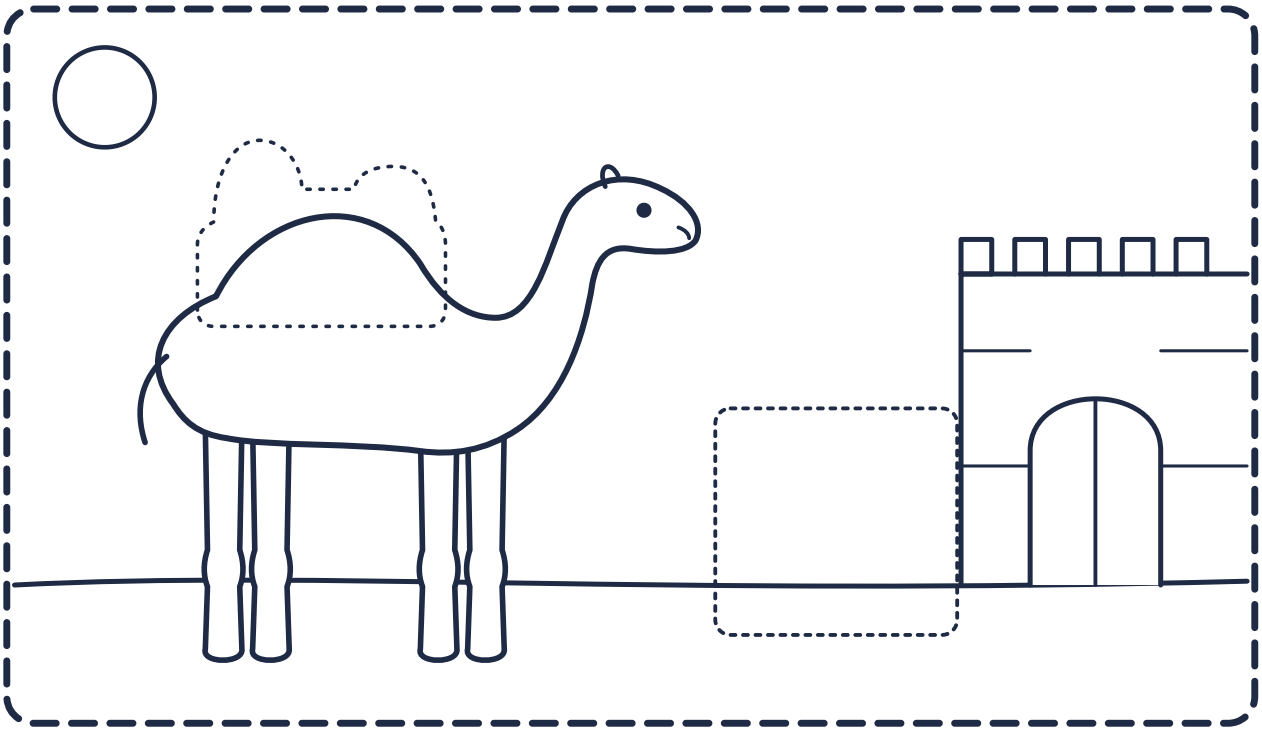
Harder

Both levels are a wide card: a light blue sky with a yellow sun, yellow ground, the gray wall of Jerusalem with a brown gate on the right, and a brown camel walking toward it. On the camel's back is a red basket with a green spice bag, yellow gold and blue stones, because the queen of Sheba came "to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones" (1 Kings 10:2). Medium (left): the camel card. Harder (right): the same card with an open brown gift chest by the gate, for the gifts she "gave the king" (10:10).

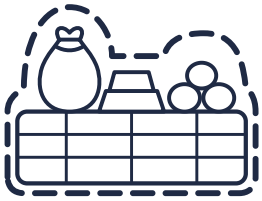
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, sun yellow, ground yellow, camel brown, wall of Jerusalem gray, gate brown



pack: basket red, spice bag green, gold yellow, stones blue. Glue it on the dotted shape on the camel's back.

Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

1 Kings 10:9 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card
(the dotted box by the gate is for the harder level)

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card, the pack and the verse strip. Glue the pack on the camel's back.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Gift chest (harder level)



chest and lid brown, spice bag green, gold yellow, stones blue

How to add the gift chest

1. Make the camel card from page 2 first, with the pack on the camel's back and the verse strip on the back of the card.
2. Color the chest and its open lid brown, the spice bag green, the gold yellow and the stones blue. Cut out the chest on the dashed line.
3. Find the dotted box on the ground in front of the wall, between the camel and the gate.
4. Put glue on the back of the chest and press it on the dotted box.
5. Tell it: the queen saw all Solomon's wisdom and said, "the half was not told me" (1 Kings 10:7). Then "she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices very great store, and precious stones" (10:10). A **talent** was a very heavy weight of gold.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/queen-of-sheba-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, gray, red, green and blue crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the pack 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, pack and verse strip. Kids color the pieces and glue the pack on the camel's back. Glue the verse strip on the back for them.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out and glue the pieces themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the camel card like the medium level. Then add the open gift chest from page 3 by the gate, for the gifts the queen "gave the king" (1 Kings 10:10). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the sun and the ground yellow, the camel brown, the wall of Jerusalem gray and the gate brown.
2. **Color the pack:** the basket red, the spice bag green, the gold yellow and the stones blue.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the pack and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Pack:** glue the pack on the dotted shape on the camel's back.
5. **Verse:** turn the card over. Glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.
6. **Tell it:** walk the camel card toward the gate as you say, "she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones" (1 Kings 10:2). She came to hear the wisdom God gave Solomon, and she said, "Blessed be the LORD thy God" (10:9).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Who came to see King Solomon, and what had she heard? *(The queen of Sheba. She heard of the fame of Solomon "concerning the name of the LORD," 1 Kings 10:1)*
- Why did she come? *("To prove him with hard questions," to test him, 10:1)*
- Point to the camel's pack. What did her camels carry? *(Spices, very much gold and precious stones, 10:2)*
- Point to the wall. Which city did she come to? *(Jerusalem, 10:2)*
- Could Solomon answer her questions? *(Yes. "There was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not," 10:3)*
- What did she say after she saw it all? *("The half was not told me," 10:7)*
- Whom did she bless? *("Blessed be the LORD thy God," 10:9)*
- Point to the chest (harder level). What did she give the king? *(An hundred and twenty talents of gold, very many spices and precious stones, 10:10)*
- What did Solomon give her? *("All her desire, whatsoever she asked," 10:13)*
- Who gave Solomon his wisdom? *(God. He gave Solomon "a wise and an understanding heart," 1 Kings 3:12)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: fame** means what people said about him; **prove** means test; a **train** is a long line of servants and animals traveling together; **bare** means carried; **communed** means talked; **precious stones** are costly, beautiful stones; a **talent** was a very heavy weight of gold.
- **What the Bible says:** 1 Kings 10 does not say how many camels came, what the spices, gold or stones looked like, or what color anything was. The camel, the basket, the chest, the wall, the gate, the sun and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **Where was Sheba?** The Bible doesn't name the place on a map. Jesus called her "the queen of the south," who "came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon" (Matthew 12:42).
- **No one is drawn on the template.** The craft shows the camel and the gifts she brought.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child walk the camel to the gate.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free queen of Sheba lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/queen-of-sheba.

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