Preschool–Grade 5

Crossing the Red Sea Craft

Parting sea with water flaps · Exodus 14 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished

Easy and medium

Harder

Both have a dry ground piece with God's people drawn in the window and two blue water flaps that close over the path and open wide, because God divided the sea and His people walked through on dry ground. For the harder level, kids also make the pillar of cloud and fire from page 3: the cloud sticks up on the front, and the fire is on the back.

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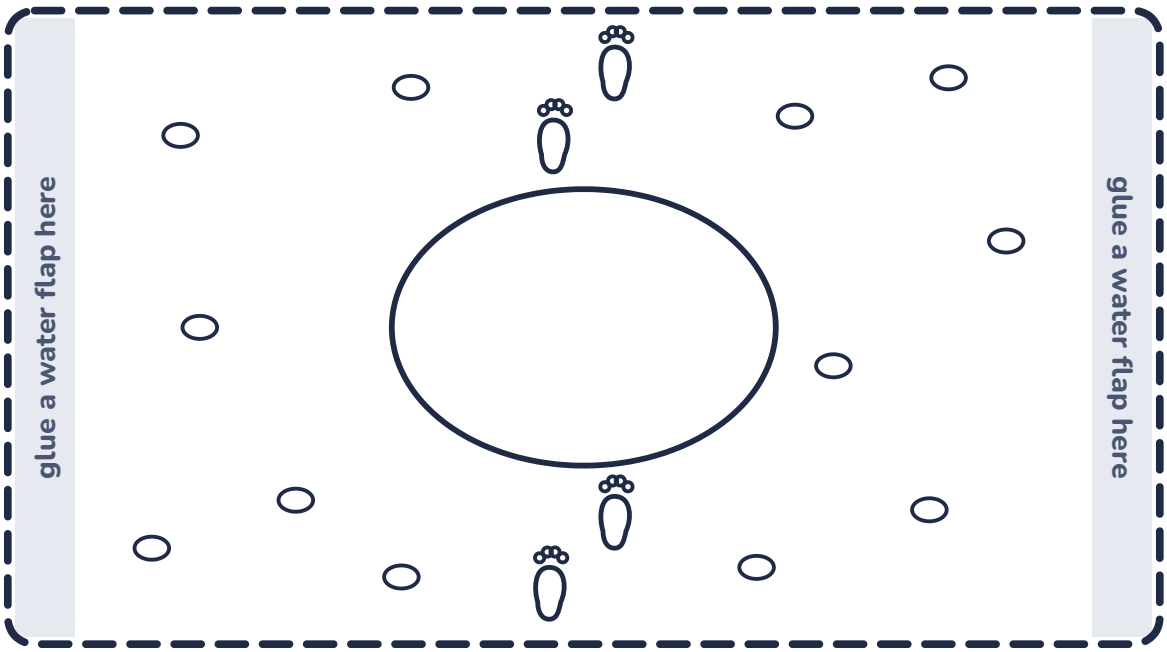
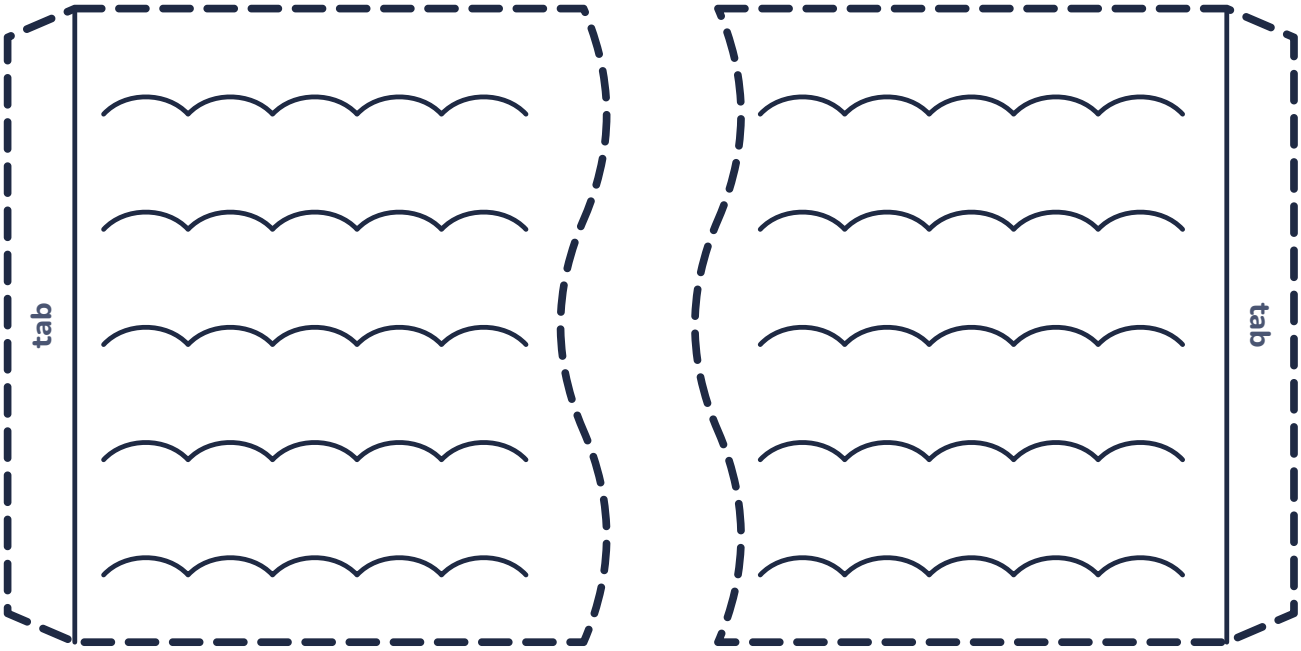
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines





Top: the dry ground. Bottom: the two water flaps. Color both sides of each flap blue.

"The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."

Exodus 14:14 (KJV)

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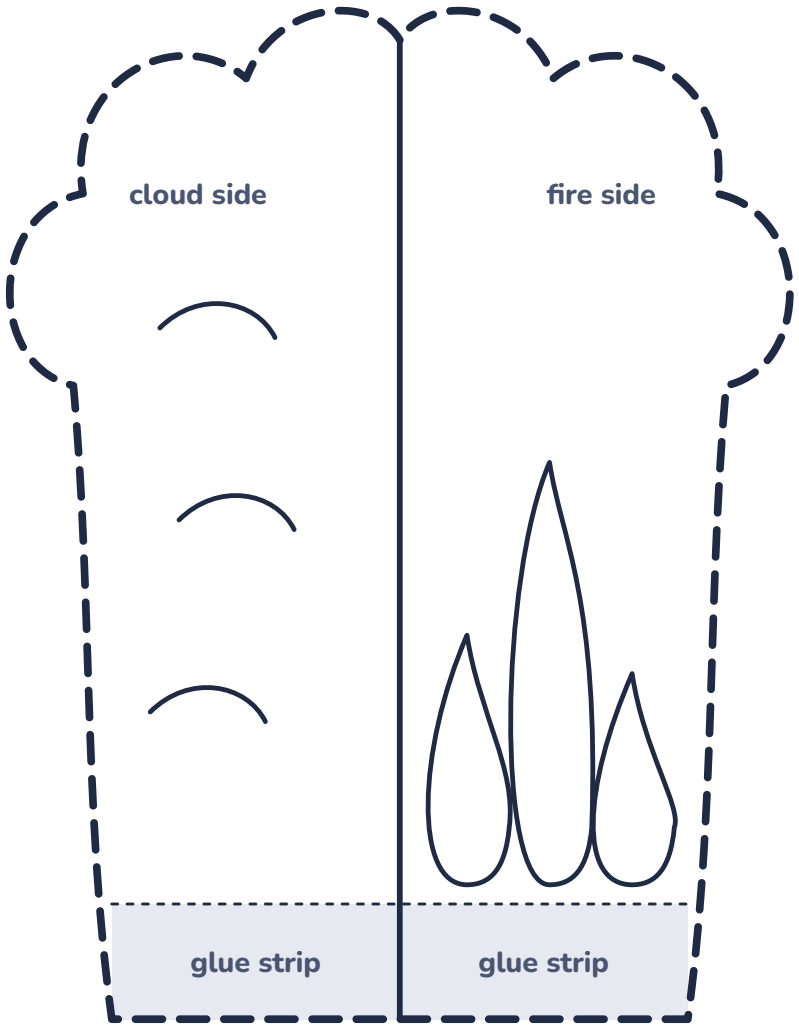
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

Pillar of cloud and fire (harder level)

Color the cloud side gray and white. Color the fire side red, orange and yellow. Leave the gray strip at the bottom white. Then cut on the dashed line.



Fold on the solid line so both colored sides face out, and glue the halves together. Glue the bottom strip to the back of the dry ground piece so the cloud sticks up.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/red-sea-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 (blue, light brown, dark brown and gray), scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, and red, orange, yellow and gray crayons.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the dry ground pieces, water flaps and verse strips ahead of time, and crease each flap on its solid line.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's dry ground piece, two water flaps and verse strip. Kids color the dry ground brown, scribble blue on both sides of the water flaps and draw God's people in the window. Help them glue the flap tabs on the gray strips, and glue the verse strip on the back for them. Then they open and close the sea while you tell the story.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color the dry ground and the water flaps, draw God's people in the window, cut out the pieces, glue on the flaps and glue the verse strip on the back. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** do every medium step, then make the pillar of cloud and fire from page 3. Color the cloud side gray and white and the fire side red, orange and yellow, leaving the gray glue strip white. Cut it out, fold it on the solid line so both colored sides face out, and glue the halves together. Glue the bottom strip to the back of the dry ground piece, in the middle of the top edge, so the cloud sticks up above the craft. The cloud shows on the front for the day; turn the craft over to see the fire for the night (Exodus 13:21). Kids say Exodus 14:14 from memory.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Dry ground:** color the big piece light brown. Color the pebbles gray and the footprints dark brown.
2. **Window:** in the oval window, draw God's people walking through the sea on dry ground (Exodus 14:22).
3. **Water:** color both sides of the two water flaps blue. On the plain back side, draw wavy lines like the ones on the front.
4. **Cut:** cut out the dry ground piece, the two water flaps and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
5. **Glue the flaps:** fold each flap on its solid line and unfold it again. Put glue on one gray strip and press a flap's tab on it, then do the same with the other flap on the other side. The two flaps close over the middle like doors.
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back. Close the sea, then open the flaps wide and read the verse together.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- The people were very afraid when they saw Pharaoh's army (Exodus 14:10). What did Moses tell them? *("Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD," 14:13)*
- How did God open the sea? *(Moses stretched out his hand, and the LORD sent a strong east wind all that night, 14:21)*
- Open your water flaps. The waters were a wall on their right hand and on their left (14:22). Who did you draw walking on the dry ground?
- God fought for His people (14:14). When you feel afraid, who can you trust?

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** ye = you, hold your peace = stay calm and quiet and let God work, salvation = God saving His people.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished craft so they can see the goal, and show them how the flaps open and close.
- **Sturdy flaps:** print on cardstock and crease each flap on its solid line before gluing, so the sea opens and closes easily.
- **Tell the story with it:** have kids keep the sea closed, then open the flaps when you read Exodus 14:21–22.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Crossing the Red Sea Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/red-sea.

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