Preschool–Grade 5

Samson Craft

Honeycomb story · Judges 13–16 · print page 2 on yellow paper for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



Harder

Both levels are a honeycomb of seven yellow hexagons on dark blue paper: Samson praying in the middle (Judges 16:28) and six pictures around him in story order, the lion, the bee and honey, the broken ropes, the water, the city gate and the pillars (Judges 14–16). Medium (left): flat hexagons. Harder (right): the six pictures are flaps with a fact hexagon from page 3 on the back of each one.

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



lion: color the mane orange



bee: color the stripes black



ropes: color them brown



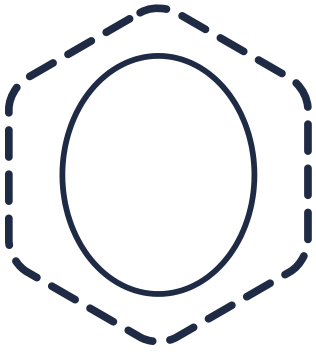
water: color it blue



gate: color it brown



pillars: color them gray



draw Samson praying

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1 (KJV)

Color the lion's mane orange, the bee's stripes black, the ropes brown, the water blue, the gate brown and the pillars gray. In the oval, draw Samson praying (Judges 16:28). Cut out all seven hexagons and the verse strip.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Fact hexagons (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines. Glue each one on the back of its picture hexagon from page 2.

back of the lion

God made Samson strong to beat a roaring young lion with bare hands.

Judges 14:5–6

back of the bee

Later Samson found bees and honey in the lion's body.

Judges 14:8–9

back of the ropes

God's Spirit came on Samson. New ropes fell off him like burnt thread.

Judges 15:13–14

back of the water

Samson was thirsty. He prayed, and God gave him water to drink.

Judges 15:18–19

back of the gate

Samson carried the city gate, posts and all, to the top of a hill.

Judges 16:2–3

back of the pillars

Samson prayed, "strengthen me," and God gave him strength once more.

Judges 16:28–30

Glue each flap to the paper along its left edge only, so it opens like a book.

How to make the fact flaps

1. Make and cut out the seven hexagons from page 2 first.
2. Cut out the six fact hexagons on this page.
3. Turn the lion hexagon over, like turning a page in a book. Glue the "back of the lion" fact hexagon on it, words facing up. Do the same for the other five.
4. Glue the hexagon with your drawing flat in the middle of the dark blue paper.
5. Put a thin line of glue along the left edge of each picture only, and press the six pictures around the middle in story order: lion, bee, ropes, water, gate, pillars.
6. Open each flap like a book to read the fact, and tell the story in order.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/samson-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 on yellow copy paper or yellow cardstock, one sheet of dark blue construction paper per child (9 by 12 inches), orange, black, brown, blue and gray crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child on yellow paper.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the seven hexagons and the verse strip 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 seven hexagons and verse strip. Kids color the pictures and draw Samson in the oval (or you draw a simple picture for them). Then they glue the hexagons on the dark blue paper with your help: the drawing in the middle and the six pictures around it. You glue the verse strip on the back. Read the verse together, or just "God is our refuge and strength."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut out the hexagons and glue them into a honeycomb in story order. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the seven hexagons like the medium level, then cut out the six fact hexagons from page 3 and glue each one on the back of its picture. Glue the drawing flat in the middle and glue each picture by its left edge only, so it opens like a book to show its fact. Kids retell the story in order with the flaps and say Psalm 46:1 from memory before they take it home. This is the craft in the second photo.

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Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the lion's mane orange, the bee's stripes black, the ropes brown, the water blue, the gate brown and the pillars gray.
2. **Draw:** in the oval on the plain hexagon, draw Samson praying (Judges 16:28).
3. **Cut:** cut out the seven hexagons and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Middle:** glue the hexagon with your drawing in the middle of the dark blue paper.
5. **Honeycomb:** glue the other six hexagons around it, edges touching. Go around in story order, starting at the top left and moving to the right like a clock: lion, bee, ropes, water, gate, pillars.
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back and read it together.

Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the lion. Who made Samson strong enough to beat it with nothing in his hand? *(The Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, Judges 14:5–6)*
- Point to the ropes. What happened to the two new ropes? *(They fell off his arms like burnt thread, 15:13–14)*
- Point to the water. What did Samson do when he was very thirsty? *(He called on the LORD, and God gave him water, 15:18–19)*
- Point to your drawing. What did Samson pray at the end? *("Strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once," 16:28)* When can you pray for God's help this week?

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Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** refuge = a safe place to hide; a very present help = God is right here to help, right now; Nazarite = someone set apart to God by a vow (Numbers 6:5).
- **What the Bible says:** Samson's strength came from God, not from his hair. Each time, "the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him" (Judges 14:6, 15:14). His long hair was the sign of his Nazarite vow (13:5), and when it was shaved, "the LORD was departed from him" (16:20).
- **Why a honeycomb:** Samson found bees and honey in the lion (Judges 14:8) and made a riddle about it: "out of the strong came forth sweetness" (14:14).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Hold up a finished craft so they can see the goal. If the honeycomb gets crooked, that's fine.
- **No yellow paper?** Ask your church office or a parent; a pack of yellow copy paper lasts a long time. Cardstock makes sturdier flaps for the harder level.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Samson Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/samson.

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