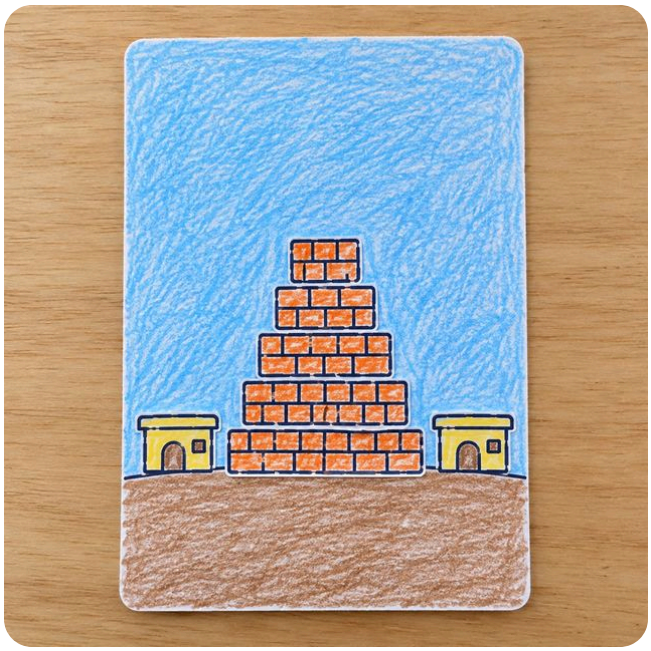
Preschool–Grade 5

Tower of Babel Craft

The brick tower and city · Genesis 11:1–9 · 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 scene card with a light blue sky and a light brown plain. On the plain stand a tower of five orange brick rows, biggest on the bottom, and two yellow houses for the city: "a city and a tower" (Genesis 11:4), built with "brick for stone" (11:3). Medium (left): the sky is open. Harder (right): a white cloud from page 3 lifts up on a fold, with Genesis 11:5 hidden under it.

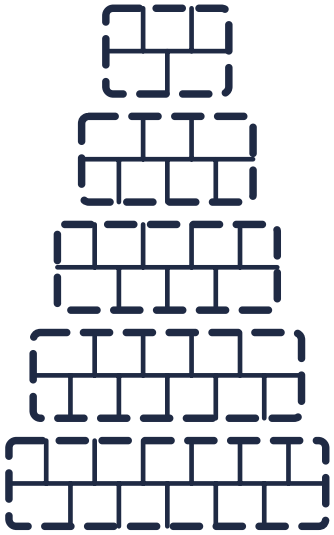
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

Scene: sky light blue, plain light brown

Below the ground line is the plain.



5 brick rows: color them orange



2 houses: yellow · door and window: brown

Pride goeth before destruction,
and an haughty spirit
before a fall.

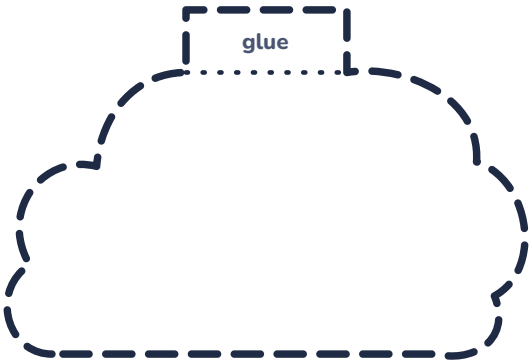
Proverbs 16:18 (KJV)

Verse card: glue it on the back.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Cloud and hidden verse (harder level)



Cloud

leave it white · fold the tab back



Under the cloud

leave it white

How to add the cloud

1. Make the tower scene from page 2 first: color it, cut it out, and glue on the brick rows and the houses.
2. Cut out the "Under the cloud" card. Glue it on the sky in the middle, above the top of the tower.
3. Cut out the cloud on the dashed lines and leave it white. Fold the tab back on the dotted line.
4. Put glue on the tab only. Press the tab on the sky just above the card, so the cloud hangs down and covers the card.
5. Lift the cloud and read Genesis 11:5. The people wanted a tower "whose top may reach unto heaven" (11:4), but "the LORD came down to see the city and the tower."

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/tower-of-babel-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, light brown, orange, yellow and brown crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out each child's scene card, 5 brick rows, 2 houses and verse card. Make one finished tower yourself to show the class.

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 sky, the plain, the brick rows and the houses. Then they glue the brick rows from biggest to smallest to build the tower, and a house on each side, with your help. You glue the verse card on the back. Read the verse together, or just "Pride goeth before destruction."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the pieces, build the tower row by row, add the two houses and glue the verse card on the back. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the tower scene like the medium level, then add the cloud from page 3: the Genesis 11:5 card glued on the sky above the tower and a white cloud that lifts up on a folded tab to show it. Kids say Proverbs 16:18 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 sky on the scene card light blue and the plain below the ground line light brown. Color all 5 brick rows orange. Color the 2 houses yellow, with brown doors and windows.
2. **Cut:** cut out the scene card, the 5 brick rows, the 2 houses and the verse card on the dashed lines.
3. **Start the tower:** glue the biggest brick row in the middle of the scene card, with its bottom edge just below the ground line. Say: The glue is your mortar. The builders had "brick for stone, and slime had they for morter" (Genesis 11:3).
4. **Build it up:** glue the next biggest row right on top. Keep going, biggest to smallest, until the smallest row is on top.
5. **The city:** glue one house on each side of the tower, on the plain. The people said, "let us build us a city and a tower" (11:4).
6. **Verse:** turn the scene card over and glue the verse card on the back. Read Proverbs 16:18 together.

Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the bricks. What did the people use instead of stone, and what held the bricks together? *(Brick, and slime for morter, Genesis 11:3)*
- Point to the houses and the tower. What two things did the people want to build, and why? *(A city and a tower, to "make us a name" and so they would not be scattered, 11:4)*
- What did the LORD do? *(He came down to see the city and the tower, confounded their language and scattered them, 11:5–8)* What did they stop building? *(The city, 11:8)*

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Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** brick for stone = they used bricks instead of stones; slime = a sticky tar; morter = mortar, what holds bricks together; plain = wide, flat land; Shinar = the land where the plain was; make us a name = make ourselves famous; scattered = spread out; confound = mix up; left off = stopped; pride = thinking you are better than others or don't need God; goeth before = comes before; haughty = proud.
- **What the Bible says:** Genesis 11:1–9 doesn't give the tower's height or name a leader, so the craft and the teacher pages don't either. The people wanted its top to "reach unto heaven" (11:4). Genesis 11:8 says "they left off to build the city," and doesn't say what happened to the tower afterward. The craft shows only what the passage names: brick, a city and a tower on a plain. It shows no people.
- **If a child asks about "let us go down" (11:7):** keep to what the passage says: "the LORD came down" (11:5), "the LORD scattered them" (11:8), "the LORD did there confound the language" (11:9). There is one God: "The LORD our God is one LORD" (Deuteronomy 6:4).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything before class and use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Lay out the brick rows from biggest to smallest so they can see the order.
- **Straight tower:** have kids line up the middle of each row with the middle of the row under it. Cardstock keeps the scene card flat.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Tower of Babel Bible lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/tower-of-babel.

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