Preschool–Grade 5

The Six Stone Waterpots

Six waterpots filled up to the brim · John 2:1–11 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



Harder

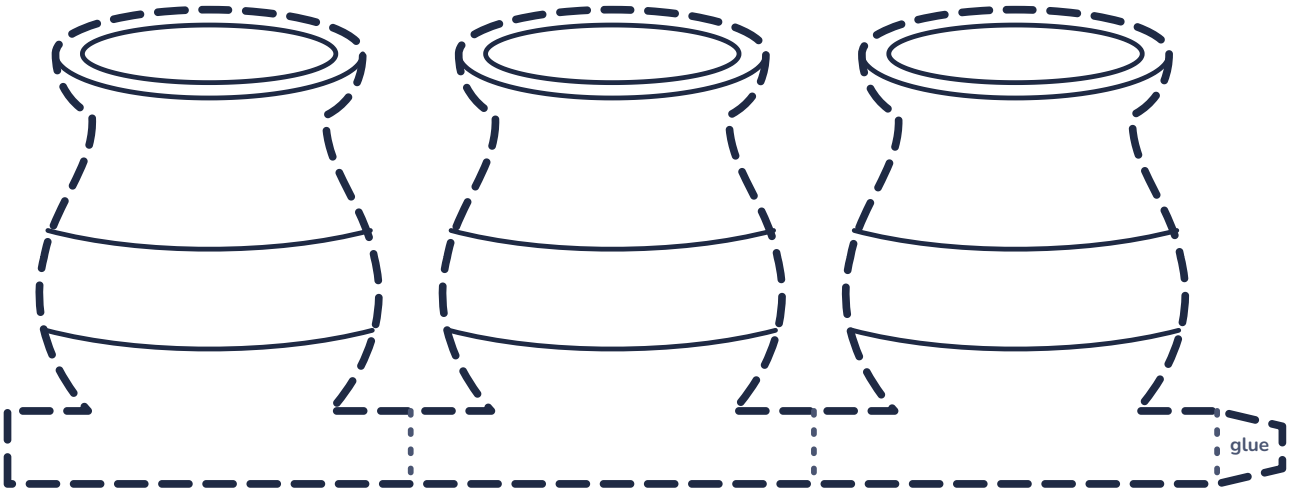
Medium (left): six gray paper waterpots of stone joined in one long row, folded back and forth so they stand up on the table, with the water in the top of every pot colored blue up to the brim. Harder (right): the same row with a red flap over the top of each waterpot; the first flap is lifted to show the blue water under it.

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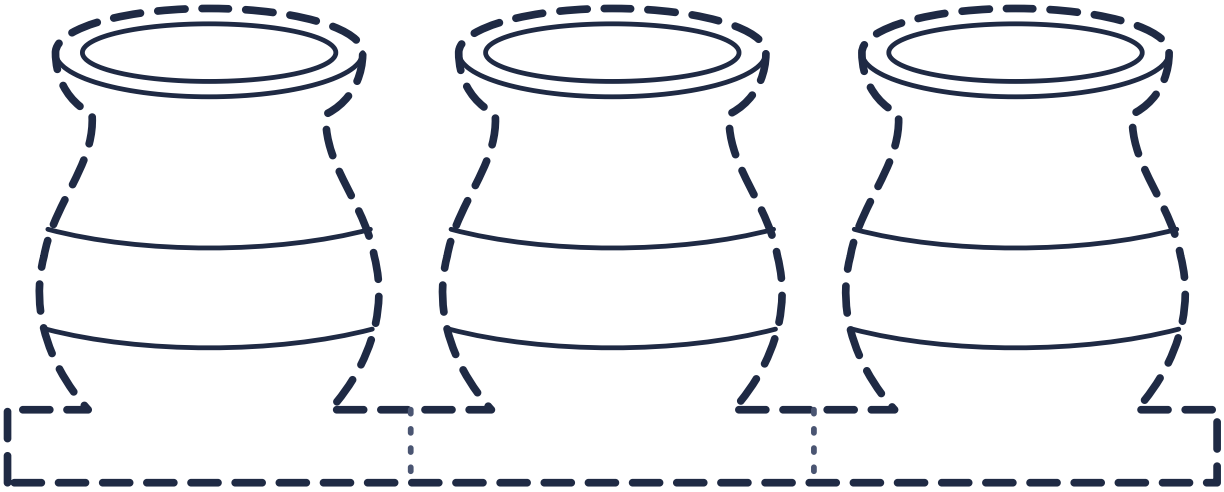
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

Strip 1: waterpots 1, 2 and 3



Strip 2: waterpots 4, 5 and 6



This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

John 2:11 (KJV)

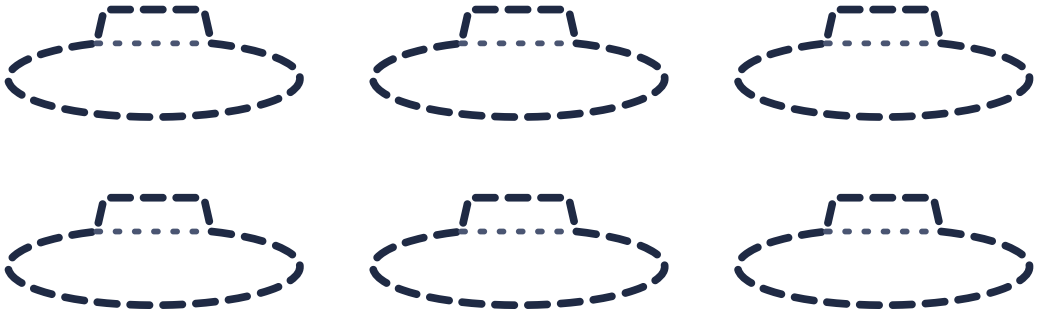
Six waterpots of stone (John 2:6)

Color the pots and the band along the bottom gray, like stone.
Color the water in the top of each pot blue, up to the brim (John 2:7).
Cut out the two strips and the verse card on the dashed lines.
Glue the tab behind waterpot 4, so the six pots make one long row.
Glue the verse card on the back of waterpot 1.
Fold back and forth on the dotted lines, so the pots stand up.

dashed line = cut · dotted line = fold

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level



Six flaps, one for each waterpot

Color each flap red. Fold the small tab back on the dotted line.
Glue only the tab to the back of a pot's rim, so the flap hangs over the blue water.

"the water that was made wine"
John 2:9 (KJV)

How to add the flaps

1. Make the medium craft from page 2 first.
2. Color the six flaps red, but not the small tabs.
3. Cut out the flaps on the dashed lines.
4. Fold the small tab of one flap back on its dotted line. Put glue only on the tab, and press it on the back of a waterpot, just behind the top edge, so the red flap hangs down in front and covers the blue water. Do the same for all six waterpots.
5. Lift a flap: "Fill the waterpots with water" (John 2:7). Close it: "the water that was made wine" (John 2:9). Tell the story to a partner, lifting the flaps as you go.

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/wedding-at-cana-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 best, so the waterpots stand up), gray and blue crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a red crayon or marker.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out each child's two strips and verse card, and glue the tab of strip 1 behind waterpot 4 so the six pots make one row. Make one finished craft to show the kids.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out the pieces and glue the two strips into one row. Kids color the waterpots gray and the water at the top of each pot blue. You glue on the verse card and fold the row so it stands up. Count the six waterpots together.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the two strips and the verse card, glue the strips into one row, glue the verse card on the back and fold the row so it stands up. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make it like the medium level, then add the six red flaps from page 3, one over the top of each waterpot. Kids lift the flaps as they tell the story: the water the servants filled them with, "up to the brim" (John 2:7), and the water that was made wine (John 2:9). This is the craft in the second photo.

Why there are no people: the template draws no people, and never Jesus. The six waterpots are what the servants filled when they obeyed: "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" (John 2:5).

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Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the six waterpots and the band along the bottom gray, like stone. Color the oval of water in the top of each pot blue, up to the brim.
2. **Cut:** cut out strip 1, strip 2 and the verse card on the dashed lines.
3. **Make one row:** fold the small tab on strip 1 back on its dotted line, put glue on it and press it on the back of waterpot 4.
4. **Verse:** turn the row over, glue the verse card on the back of waterpot 1 and read it together.
5. **Stand it up:** fold back and forth on the dotted lines between the pots, like a fan, and stand the row up. Count the six waterpots together.

Questions to ask while kids work

- Where was the wedding? *(In Cana of Galilee, John 2:1)* Who was there? *(Jesus' mother, and Jesus and His disciples, 2:1–2)*
- What did Jesus' mother tell the servants? *("Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it," 2:5)*
- Count the waterpots. How many were there, and what were they made of? *(Six, made of stone, 2:6)*
- Point to the blue water. How full did the servants fill the waterpots? *(Up to the brim, the very top, 2:7)*
- Who knew where it came from? *(The servants who drew the water, 2:9)*
- What did the disciples do after this first miracle? *(They believed on Him, 2:11)*
- Turn the row over. Read John 2:11 together.

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** waterpots = big jars for water; firkin = a measure of about 10 gallons; up to the brim = to the very top; draw out = dip some out; bear unto = carry to; the governor of the feast = the man in charge of the feast; whence = from where; this beginning of miracles = the first miracle; manifested forth his glory = showed how great He is; believed on him = trusted Him.
- **What the Bible says:** six waterpots of stone, "after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece" (John 2:6). The Bible doesn't say what shape the waterpots were, so the shapes and colors are ours.
- **Told the Bible's way:** keep the talk on Jesus' power and on the servants' obeying. If a child asks about the wine, answer simply with what John 2:9–10 says, and encourage the child to talk with their parents and pastor.
- **Preschool:** do all the cutting and the first gluing ahead of time. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue.
- **If the row won't stand up:** print page 2 on cardstock, and fold each dotted line firmly both ways.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Jesus turns water into wine lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/wedding-at-cana.

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