Preschool–Grade 5

Woman at the Well Craft

A well with a waterpot that pulls up · John 4:1–42 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



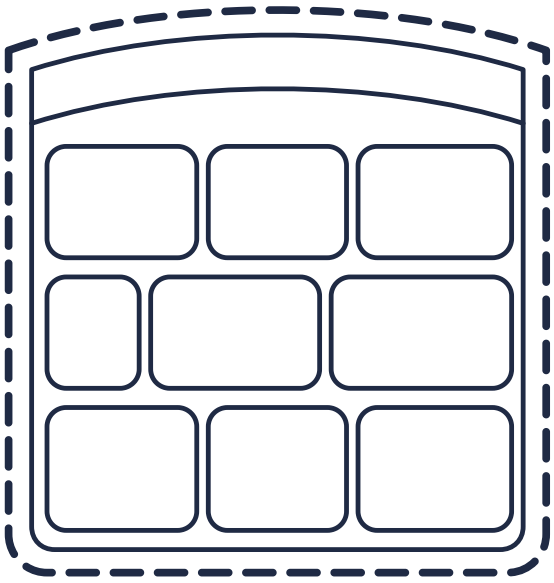
Harder

Jacob's well, where Jesus "sat thus on the well" (John 4:6), with the waterpot the woman brought to draw water (4:7, 4:28). Pull the blue yarn and the waterpot comes up out of the well. Medium (left): the well and the waterpot from page 2. Harder (right): the well glued on the scene card from page 3, with the sun at the sixth hour, the city of Sychar and a child's drawing of the woman in the window.

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



well front: stones gray, rim brown

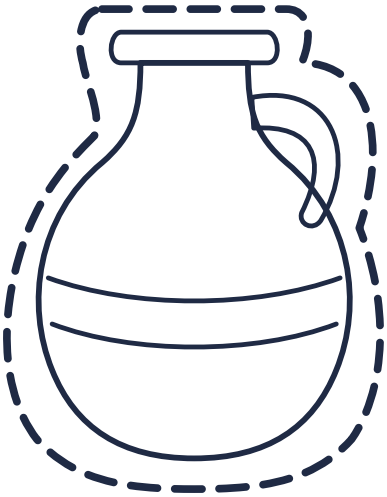
back of the well

Put glue on the dotted edges:
the two sides and the bottom.
Do not glue the top.

Press the well front on top.
The verse goes on the other side.

glue glue

well back: this side faces in



waterpot: color it orange,
the band and handle brown

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 4:14 (KJV)

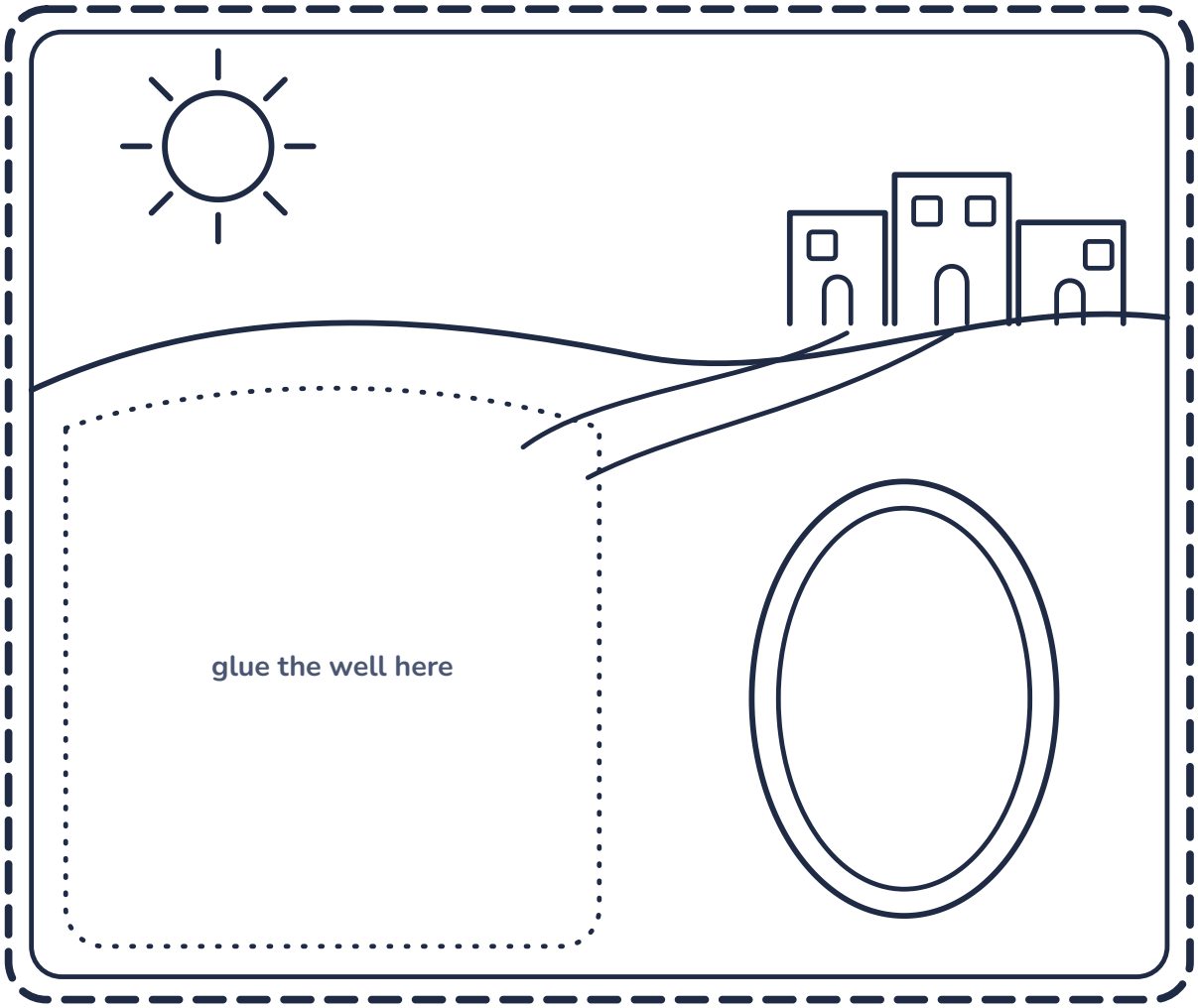
verse strip: glue it on the back of the well

Color the stones gray, the rim brown and the waterpot orange. Cut out all four pieces on the dashed lines. Glue the well back to the well front on the dotted edges to make a pocket. Tape the yarn to the waterpot and slide it into the well.

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Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Scene card (harder level)



How to make the scene card

1. Color the sun yellow (it was "about the sixth hour," the middle of the day, John 4:6), the hills green, the houses of the city light brown and the path brown.
2. Color the window frame blue. In the window, draw the woman of Samaria, with long hair and a long dress.
3. Cut out the card on the dashed line.
4. Make the well and the waterpot from page 2. Glue the back of the well inside the dotted outline on the card. Glue only the well back, so the pocket stays open at the top.
5. Glue the verse strip on the back of the card (not on the well).
6. Pull the yarn: the waterpot comes up out of Jacob's well. The path leads from the well to the city, where the woman went to say, "Come, see a man" (4:28–29).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/woman-at-the-well-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), gray, brown and orange crayons or markers, scissors, glue sticks, clear tape and one 12-inch piece of blue yarn per child. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and yellow, green, blue and light brown crayons.
Before class: cut the yarn. For preschoolers, cut out the pieces ahead of time, glue each well into a pocket and tape the yarn to each waterpot.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces, glue the two well pieces into a pocket and tape the yarn to the waterpot. Kids color the stones gray, the rim brown and the waterpot orange. You glue the verse strip on the back. Kids pull the waterpot up and down while you say, "There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water" (John 4:7). Read the verse together, or just "shall never thirst."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out the four pieces, glue the well into a pocket, tape the yarn to the waterpot, slide it in and glue the verse strip on the back. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the well and waterpot like the medium level. Then color the scene card from page 3, draw the woman of Samaria in the window, cut out the card, glue the well on the dotted outline and glue the verse strip on the back of the card. Kids say John 4:14 from memory before they take it home. This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the stones of the well front gray and the rim (the curved band at the top) brown. Color the waterpot orange, with its band and handle brown.
2. **Cut:** cut out the well front, the well back, the waterpot and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
3. **Glue:** lay the well back printed side up. Put glue on the three dotted edges (the two sides and the bottom), not the top.
4. **Pocket:** press the well front on top of it, colored side up, so the edges match. Now the well is a pocket, open at the top.
5. **Yarn:** tape one end of the blue yarn to the back of the waterpot, at the top.
6. **Into the well:** slide the waterpot down into the well, so the yarn hangs out of the top.
7. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the well.
8. **Draw water:** pull the yarn to draw the waterpot up out of the well, and let it slide back down. Read the verse on the back together.

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the well. Whose well was it? *(Jacob's well, John 4:6)*
- Jesus was tired from His journey. What did He do at the well? *(He sat on the well, 4:6)*
- Pull up the waterpot. What did the woman come to do? *(To draw water, 4:7)*
- What did Jesus ask her? *("Give me to drink," 4:7)* What did He offer her? *(Living water, 4:10)*
- Turn your well over. What did Jesus say about the water He gives? *(Whoever drinks it shall never thirst, 4:14)*
- When the woman went into the city, what did she leave behind? *(Her waterpot, 4:28)* What did she tell the men? *("Come, see a man," 4:29)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** draw water = get water out of the well; waterpot = a jar for carrying water; wearied = tired; the sixth hour = about noon (the Jews counted the hours from sunrise); Sychar = the city of Samaria near the well (4:5); whosoever = anyone; everlasting = forever.
- **What the Bible says:** the well was Jacob's well, and it was deep (John 4:6, 4:11). The Bible does not describe what it looked like, so the craft shows a simple well with no roof or bucket. The woman "left her waterpot" when she went into the city (4:28), so the waterpot stays at the well. The yarn is only there to pull the waterpot up.
- **No people are drawn on the template, and Jesus is never drawn.** At the harder level kids draw the woman of Samaria in the window. Show her with long hair and a long, modest dress.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything, glue the pockets and tape the yarn yourself. Hold up a finished well so they can see the goal.
- **Pockets that work:** remind kids to glue only the two sides and the bottom, or the waterpot won't go in. Let the glue dry a minute before sliding the waterpot in.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free woman at the well Sunday school lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/woman-at-the-well.

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