

Messy[®] Church MINI-MESS



LEW INSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - "BRINGING HOME THE MESS"

HUNGER PAINS

DANIEL 6:1-16

IN THE STORY THIS WEEK WE LEARN THAT DANIEL WAS "SET UP" BY THE OTHER ADMINISTRATORS AND OFFICIALS UNDER KING DARIUS WHO PROBABLY DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA THAT DANIEL, ONE OF THE JEWISH CAPTIVES, HAD RISEN TO SUCH HIGH RANK AND POWER. UNABLE TO FIND FAULT WITH HIS PERFORMANCE, THEY DECIDED TO EXPLOIT HIS RELIGIOUS BELIEFS IN AN EFFORT TO DISCREDIT HIM.

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CAME TO THE KING AS A GROUP, THEY LED HIM TO BELIEVE THAT DANIEL WAS IN AGREEMENT

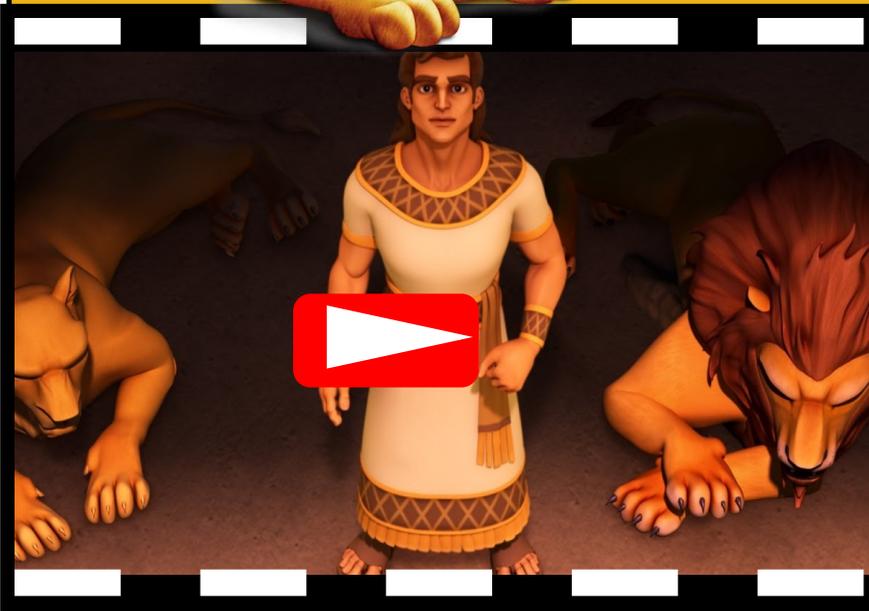
WITH THEIR IDEA OF PRAYING ONLY TO THE KING FOR 30 DAYS. KING DARIUS SEEMINGLY SHOULD HAVE NOTICED THAT DANIEL WAS NOT PRESENT OR ACCOUNTED FOR, BUT HE DIDN'T QUESTION THE SITUATION.

TO KING DARIUS, THE IDEA OF COMPELLING EVERYONE IN THE FORMER BABYLONIAN EMPIRE TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE AUTHORITY OF PERSIA PROBABLY SEEMED LIKE A GOOD POLITICAL MOVE. SO WITHOUT CONSULTING WITH DANIEL, HE AGREED.

WHEN DANIEL HEARD ABOUT THE DECREE AND THE PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEYING, HE COULD HAVE PRAYED SECRETLY OR AT NIGHT WHEN NO ONE COULD SEE HIM. DANIEL HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN LOYALTY TO HIS GOD OR LOYALTY TO THE GOVERNMENT.

WHEN THE SCHEMERS TOLD KING DARIUS THAT DANIEL HAD DISOBEYED THE ROYAL EDICT, THE KING WAS DISTRESSED, NO DOUBT REALIZING THAT HE HAD BEEN MANIPULATED.

THE KING HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO PUNISH DANIEL AND HAVE HIM THROWN TO THE LIONS BUT GOD SENT AN ANGEL TO SHUT THE MOUTHS OF THE LIONS SO DANIEL SURVIVED. THE KING WAS SO GLAD TO FIND DANIEL ALIVE THAT HE ISSUED A NEW DECREE THAT PEOPLE SHOULD HONOR GOD.

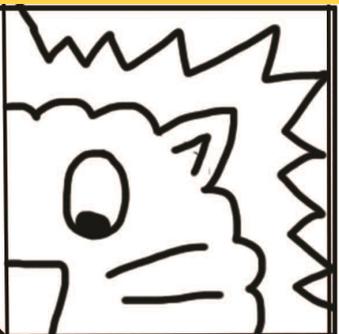
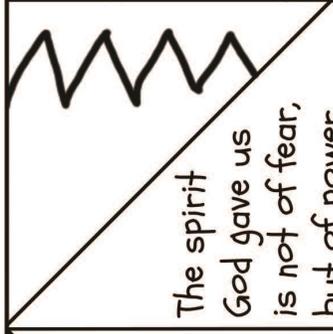
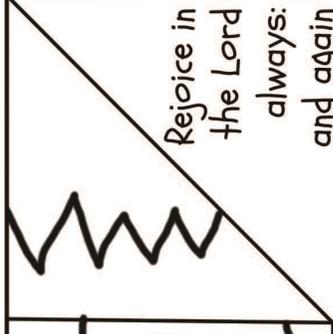
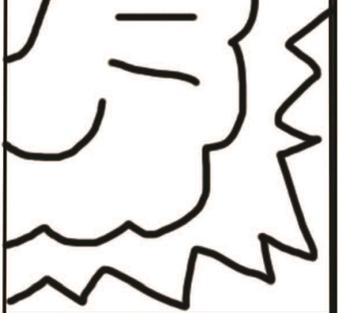


Q: HOW DO YOU KNOW DANIEL'S RESCUE WAS A MIRACLE?

A: BECAUSE DANIEL'S ACCUSERS WERE DROPPED INTO THE DEN, AND THE LIONS ATE THEM BEFORE THEY HIT BOTTOM!



COLOR THE PRINTABLE AND THEN CUT OUT THE SQUARE. FOLD THE SQUARE IN HALF AND THEN IN HALF AGAIN. UNFOLD THE PAPER AND FOLD THE CORNERS INTO THE CENTER OF THE SQUARE. TURN THE PAPER OVER AND FOLD THE NEW CORNERS INTO THE CENTER OF THE SQUARE. FOLD IT BACK IN HALF. PLACE YOUR FINGERS UNDER THE FLAPS AND MOVE IT BACK AND FORTH. ASK YOUR FRIENDS TO CHOOSE A CORNER OF THE LION TO OPEN AND SEE WHICH VERSE THEY GET!

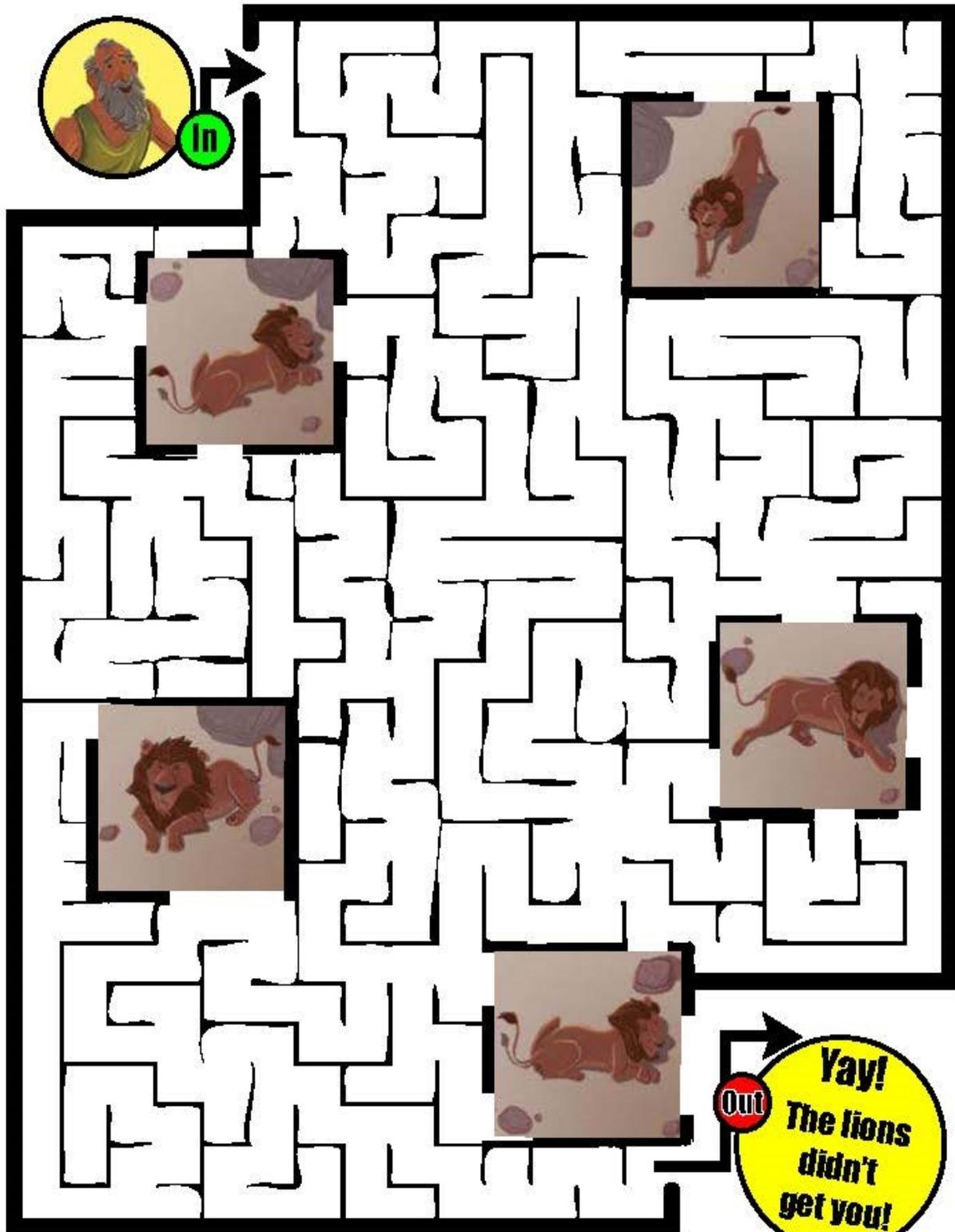
	<p>1</p> <p>Be strong in the Lord and in His great power. Ephesians 6:10</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Perfect love casts out all fear. 1 John 4:18</p>	
	<p>The spirit God gave us is not of fear, but of power and love and self control. 2 Timothy 1:7</p>	<p>Isaiah 41:10a</p> <p>Do not be afraid for I am with you.</p>	
	<p>Rejoice in the Lord always: and again and again I say, Rejoice. Philippians 4:4</p>	<p>The Lord has promised that he will not leave us or abandon us. Hebrews 13:5</p>	<p>Give all your worries to Him for He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7</p>
	<p>4</p> <p>Trust the Lord with all your heart. Don't depend on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5</p>	<p>3</p>	

The Lions' Den

Can you be as successful with the lions as Daniel was?
Find your way through the maze without going through
any lion cages.



In



Out

Yay!
The lions
didn't
get you!

LIFE IN BABYLON

CYLINDER SEALS

IN ANCIENT TIMES, CYLINDER SEALS WITH EITHER AN ENGRAVED OR A RAISED IMAGE WERE ROLLED ON CLAY TABLETS AS A SIGNATURE OR USED TO MARK OR SEAL SHIPMENTS THAT WERE BOUND FOR EXPORT. THE BABYLONIAN CYLINDER SEAL WAS USUALLY 1-3 INCHES LONG. EACH SEAL WAS CARVED WITH A DESIGN THAT SERVED AS A UNIQUE PERSONAL SIGNATURE. CYLINDER SEALS WERE MADE FROM A VARIETY OF MATERIALS, INCLUDING SOAPSTONE, AMETHYST, AND OBSIDIAN. IN BABYLON, LAPIS LAZULI WAS ESPECIALLY POPULAR BECAUSE OF ITS BEAUTY. TEXT ON THE CYLINDER SEALS WAS A CUNEIFORM, WHICH WAS THE WRITTEN LANGUAGE OF THE REGION.

SUCH A SEAL WAS PROBABLY USED BY THE KING TO "SIGN" THE LAW THAT DANIEL HAD TO DISOBEY!

MAKE YOUR OWN CYLINDER SEAL

YOU WILL NEED

LARGE SHEETS OF PAPER
ROLLING PINS
PAINT
PAINT TRAYS
BRUSHES (OPTIONAL)
VARIOUS TEXTURED ITEMS TO ATTACH TO ROLLING PINS AND/
OR STICKY BACK FUN FOAM SHAPES

TO MAKE

USE ROLLS OF PLAIN WHITE WRAPPING PAPER OR YOU COULD USE SHEETS OF PAINTING PAPER OR ANY OTHER PAPER YOU HAVE THAT IS LARGE ENOUGH.

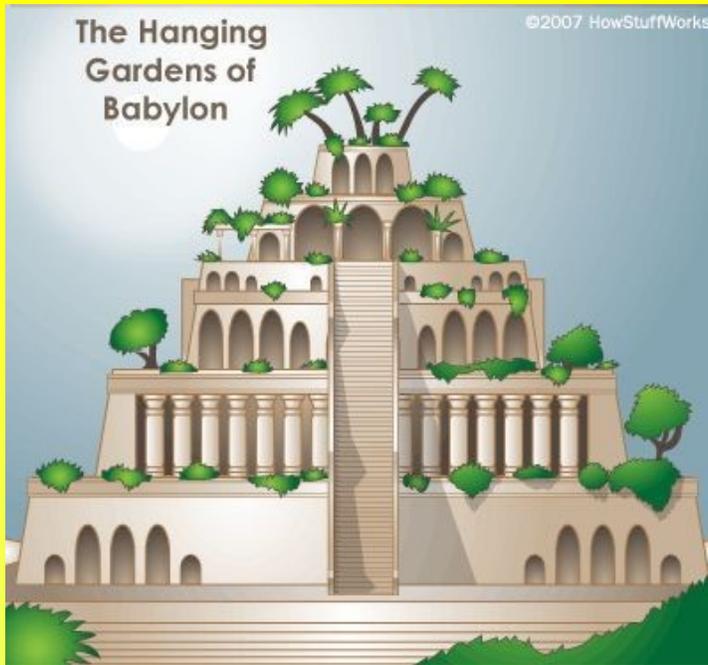
ROLLING PINS FROM THE KITCHEN AND PLAY DOUGH ACCESSORIES FOR ROLLING PINS OR CUT SECTIONS OF POOL NOODLES WITH A PENCIL OR DOWEL ROD IN THE CENTER FOR ROLLING. ATTACH DIFFERENT ITEMS TO THE ROLLING PINS THAT WOULD LEAVE INTERESTING PATTERNS WHEN PRINTED. YOU NEED THINGS THAT HAVE A DISTINCT TEXTURE AND THAT CAN EASILY BE ATTACHED TO THE ROLLING PIN/POOL NOODLE.

SOME SUGGESTIONS:

- JUMBO BUBBLE WRAP (REGULAR SIZED BUBBLE WRAP WOULD BE GREAT TOO) ATTACHED WITH DOUBLE SIDED TAPE
- RUBBER BANDS THAT FIT NEATLY OVER THE ROLLING PIN, SPACED OUT EVENLY
- A PIECE OF PLASTIC MESH BAG THAT THE ORANGES CAME IN ATTACHED WITH DOUBLE SIDED TAPE
- BLOBS OF PLASTICINE THAT STUCK NICELY TO THE PLASTIC ROLLING PIN. YOU'LL NEED TO ROLL THIS ROLLING PIN ON A NICE HARD SURFACE TO FLATTEN THE BLOBS EVENLY BEFORE YOU ADD PAINT

GET THE PAINT ONTO THE ROLLING PINS WITH NICE FAT BRUSHES, RATHER THAN TRYING TO ROLL THEM ON TRAYS. COVER YOUR TEXTURED ROLLING PINS WITH PAINT AND ROLL YOUR WAY ACROSS YOUR PAPER TO SEE WHAT PATTERNS YOU CAN MAKE!





HANGIN' AROUND

SUPPOSEDLY, NEBUCHADNEZZAR II BUILT THE HANGING GARDENS OF BABYLON FOR HIS WIFE, AMYTIS, WHO MISSED THE TREES AND PLANTS BACK IN HER HOMETOWN OF PERSIA. ACCORDING TO ANCIENT WRITERS, THE HANGING GARDENS WERE PRETTY AWESOME! BUT EARTHQUAKES DESTROYED THE HANGING GARDENS, SO THERE'S A WHOLE LOT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEM. THEY'RE GONE!

AREN'T YOU THANKFUL THAT GOD IS STILL AROUND? GOD WAS HERE YESTERDAY, HE'S HERE TODAY, AND HE'LL BE WITH YOU TOMORROW!

NOTHING CAN DESTROY GOD
HE LASTS FOREVER!

MAKE YOUR OWN "HANGING" GARDEN



MATERIAL NEEDED:

3 PAPER CUPS
STAPLER
SCISSORS
POPSICLE STICKS (ROUGHLY 9)
TWINE OR THICK YARN
GLUE (WOOD, ELMERS OR WHATEVER YOU HAVE ON HAND) I USED HOT GLUE
POTTING SOIL

DIRECTIONS:

1-FIRST, YOU ARE GOING TO NEED TO SECURE EACH UP TO STABILIZE THEM FOR HANGING. STAPLE THE THREE CUPS TOGETHER (AFTER DECORATING).
2-NEXT, GLUE YOUR POPSICLE STICKS TOGETHER TO FORM A TRIANGLE THAT FITS AROUND THE RIM OF THE



FOR
KIDS

Seedling Planter

CUPS. YOU ARE GOING TO NEED TO OVERLAP ALL YOUR POPSICLE STICKS. I PULLED OUT MY TRUSTY HOT GLUE GUN FOR THIS STEP TO SECURE THEM IN PLACE. THIS STEP SHOULD NOT INVOLVE "LITTLE FINGERS" IF USING THE GLUE GUN.

3-CUT THREE 18 PIECES OF TWINE OR HEAVY YARN (I BELIEVE OURS WAS SLIGHTLY LONGER THAN THE 18 INCHES).

4-THEN YOU WILL TIE EACH PIECE OF YARN TO A CORNER OF YOUR TRIANGLE. AFTER THAT, TIE THE THREE PIECES TOGETHER AT THE TOP. DO YOUR ABSOLUTE BEST KNOT.

5-FILL THE CUPS WITH SOIL, PLANT SOME SEEDS (ACCORDING TO YOUR SEED PACK INSTRUCTIONS) AND HANG YOUR BEAUTIFUL PLANTER NEAR A WINDOW. I DO SUGGEST USING POTTING SOIL IF YOU HAVE IT. IT IS LIGHTER IN WEIGHT.

6-SPRITZ WITH WATER SEVERAL TIMES A DAY. DON'T FORGET TO KEEP YOUR SOIL MOISTEN. IT MAKES YOUR SEEDS HAPPY. TO DO THIS, JUST FILL A CONTAINER WITH SOME POTTING SOIL AND WET IT THROUGH. BE CAREFUL NOT TO MAKE IT SOGGY. YOUR PLANTERS ARE MADE OUT OF PAPER CUPS AND TOO MUCH WATER CAN ACTUALLY WEIGH DOWN THE SOIL AND ALLOW THE PAPER IN THE CUPS TO ABSORB THE WATER.

FEAR BUSTERS

Daniel 6

1. What kind of man was Daniel? (v4)
2. What law did Daniel break? (v13)
3. How did they punish Daniel? (v16)
4. When King Darius went to see Daniel, what did he find? (v20-21)

Think about...

What is the scariest creature that you can think of? What would you do if you ever came face to face with that animal in the wild?

Find some paper or card and draw an outline of a lions face - without his mane. Then use some wool or coloured paper or newspaper to attach strips around the face for the mane. Discuss how God took care of David even when he was in a den of lions all night.

Daniel prayed and trusted that God was listening. Do you pray and trust God is listening? Daniel believed that prayer was important, so he would not stop, even when he knew he could die. Discuss how prayer has helped you as a family and make a plan of times when you can pray together each day.

Pray...

Thank You God that You look after us. Thank You that we can trust You each day. Help us to stand up for what we believe in and to continue to pray to You when things get tough. Amen.

Remember: When you need faith; God is with you!



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5 Finger Prayer

4) The ring finger is the weakest. Pray for the sick, poor, and those most in need.

5) The pinkie finger is the smallest. Pray for yourself and your own needs.

3) The middle finger is the tallest. Pray for leaders in government, business, and the church.

2) The pointer finger is used to give directions. Pray for teachers, coaches, therapists, doctors, and first responders.

1) Your thumb is closest to your heart, so pray for those closest to you - your family and friends.



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DANIEL LEARNED FROM AN EARLY AGE TO PRAY TO GOD ON A DAILY BASIS. DANIEL PRAYED THREE TIMES A DAY. HE PRAYED, NOT IN SECRET, BUT OPENLY. HIS DEVOTION TO HIS GOD WAS WELL KNOWN.

HOW TO PRAY THE 5 FINGER PRAYER

HOLD OUT YOUR HAND AS YOU PRAY AND SAY A PRAYER FOR EACH OF YOUR FIVE FINGERS.

1) THUMB – PRAY FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

YOUR THUMB IS THE CLOSEST TO YOUR HEART. SO, START HERE BY PRAYING FOR THOSE CLOSEST TO YOU. PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

2) INDEX FINGER – PRAY FOR THOSE WHO TEACH AND GUIDE

THE NEXT FINGER IS THE INDEX OR POINTER FINGER, THE ONE USED TO GIVE DIRECTIONS. PRAY FOR PEOPLE WHO LEAD, TEACH, AND GIVE GUIDANCE. PRAY FOR YOUR TEACHERS, DOCTORS, COUNSELORS, MINISTERS, COACHES, POLICE, FIREMEN, AND OTHER PEOPLE WHO INFLUENCE AND GUIDE YOUR LIFE.

3) MIDDLE FINGER – PRAY FOR LEADERS

THIS IS YOUR TALLEST FINGER AND REMINDS US TO PRAY FOR THOSE IN CHARGE. PRAY FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS AROUND YOU. PRAY FOR YOUR COUNTRY AND ITS LEADERS. PRAY FOR YOUR LOCAL STATE AND CITY LEADERS. PRAY FOR LEADERS AT YOUR OFFICE PLACE.

4) RING FINGER – PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED

YOUR RING FINGER (THE FOURTH FINGER) IS YOUR WEAKEST FINGER. THIS ONE REMINDS US TO PRAY FOR THE WEAK AND NEEDY. PRAY FOR THE SICK, THE HOMELESS, THE POOR, AND ALL THOSE WHO ARE HURTING AND IN NEED.

5) PINKIE FINGER – PRAY FOR YOURSELF

THE LAST FINGER, THE PINKIE, IS YOUR SMALLEST FINGER. THIS ONE IS FOR YOU. NOW THAT YOU HAVE PRAYED FOR EVERYONE ELSE, SPEND TIME TO PRAY FOR YOURSELF. CONSIDER YOUR NEEDS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ALL THE OTHERS YOU'VE JUST PRAYED FOR. PRAY FOR YOURSELF LAST. PRAY FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST TO GROW. PRAY FOR YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS AND CONCERNS. PRAY FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS IN YOUR LIFE. PRAY PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVINGS.

how to make a pet prayer rock



THE CONCEPT OF A PRAYER ROCK IS PRETTY EASY. YOU PUT IT ON YOUR PILLOW SO YOU REMEMBER TO SAY YOUR PRAYERS AT NIGHT. THEN DURING THE NIGHT IT LIVES ON THE FLOOR SO YOU STUB YOUR TOE AND REMEMBER TO SAY YOUR PRAYERS IN THE MORNING.

STEP 1: FIND ROCKS OR YOU CAN BUY ROCKS AT A CRAFT STORE.

STEP 2: WASH ROCKS. (YOU CAN SKIP THIS STEP IF YOU PURCHASED YOUR ROCKS).

STEP 3: GATHER SUPPLIES. GOOGLY EYES IN A VARIETY OF SIZES AND SOME CURLY DOLL HAIR, AS WELL AS A GLUE GUN, AND A PAPER BAG TO COVER YOUR WORK SPACE.

STEP 4: GLUE ON EYES. MOVE THE ROCKS AROUND TO FIGURE OUT THE BEST PLACE FOR THEIR EYES. TRY TO MAKE IT SO THAT THEY COULD STAND.

STEP 5: GLUE ON HAIR.

LION SNACK IDEAS



LION CRACKERS

INGREDIENTS:

GRAHAM CRACKERS
TWO TYPES OF PRETZELS
CHOCOLATE CHIPS
RAISINS
PEANUT BUTTER OR NUTELLA OR ICING

TO MAKE:

USING THE SPREAD OF CHOICE, SPREAD SOME ON A GRAHAM CRACKER SQUARE. LAY THE PRETZEL STICKS AROUND THE EDGES OF THE OF THE CRACKER AND IN THE SPREAD. LAY THE SECOND GRAHAM CRACKER SQUARE ON TOP. DAB A BIT OF THE SPREAD IN THREE PLACES ON THE TOP CRACKER. ATTACH THE MOUTH (PRETZEL) AND RAISIN NOSE THEN THE CHOCOLATE CHIP EYES TO THE DABS OF SPREAD.



LION CUPCAKES

INGREDIENTS:

CUPCAKES (PREPARED FROM A CAKE MIX)
- VANILLA FROSTING
- ORANGE FOOD COLORING (MIXED WITH FROSTING IN DARK ORANGE AND LIGHT ORANGE)
- MINI M+MS
- CARAMEL POPCORN (FIDDLE FADDLE, YELLOW ZONKERS, ETC.)
- CHEERIOS (OPTIONAL)
- PRETZEL STICKS

DIRECTIONS

1. FROST PREPARED CUPCAKES WITH DARK ORANGE FROSTING. ADD A SMALL CIRCLE OF LIGHT ORANGE SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN CENTER.
2. ADD CARAMEL POPCORN ALL AROUND OUTER EDGE, PRESSING DOWN LIGHTLY INTO FROSTING.
3. ADD BROWN MINI M+M'S AS EYES AND A RED MINI M+M AS A NOSE.
4. BREAK EACH PRETZEL STICK IN HALF AND STICK INTO CUPCAKE TOP ON EITHER SIDE OF THE NOSE TO FORM WHISKERS.
5. ADD A CHEERIO FOR EACH EAR (OPTIONAL).

