

BABY MOSES ART EXTRA

PreK-K

Woven Placemats

To remind them that God is full of surprises, kids will make woven placemats as a reminder of the woven basket Baby Moses was in while floating in the river.

Spark Resources:

None

Supplies:

12" x 18" construction paper in blue

Construction paper strips, 1 ½-2" wide x 18" long in brown, green, yellow, and orange

Scissors

Clear tape

Black permanent marker

Glue sticks

Set-up:

For each kid, fold one 12" x 18" sheet of blue construction paper in half so that it looks like a 12" x 9" piece. This will be the base for the placemat. Make 1 ½-2" cuts from the folded edge across the paper, stopping the cut at least 2 inches from the open edges. Cut 1 ½-2" strips from contrasting colors of construction paper; the kids will be able to weave them into the 12" x 18" piece. Begin a sample weaving to use as demonstration.

Instructions:

Show the sample weaving you have started. **Have you done a paper weaving before? What are some things you can think of that are woven?** (*material or fabric, paper, baskets*)

Sometimes God can surprise us. God definitely surprised Moses' family in today's story! Moses' mother didn't know what would happen to Moses when she put him in a woven basket on the river, but God kept him safe and helped someone find him. We're going to weave a placemat from paper to remind us about the basket Moses' mother put him in to keep him safe.

1. Give everyone a blue base for their placemat. **This blue sheet reminds us of the water Baby Moses floated in.**
2. Help each kid print his or her name with a marker in one corner.
3. Provide an assortment of paper strips for all the kids to use. **The brown strips remind us of the basket Baby Moses floated in, as well as the reeds and trees that surrounded him. The green reminds us of the bushes and grasses that lined the river. That's where Miriam hid! The yellow and orange strips remind us of the sun that was shining on Baby Moses when he was in the river.**
4. Use your sample to demonstrate and teach the kids to weave the over-under-over-under pattern.
5. If it would be helpful, tape the ends of the color strips along one side of large construction

paper sheet to keep them secure.

6. Kids can weave strips tightly against one another to make a firm pattern or more loosely - either way will work.
7. Talk about these questions while the kids are working:
 - **How would you feel if Moses had been your baby brother?**
 - **What do you think it was like to hide in grass by the river to watch baby Moses?**
 - **Did God surprise a lot of people in this story?**
 - **Who do you think was the most surprised?**
8. Help the kids glue the ends of the strips to the placemat base.

Great job weaving today, everyone! Whenever you see your placemat, remember the story of Baby Moses and that God is full of surprises.

If you have less time...

Cut wider strips (3-4 inches) for the weavings. Set placemats and color strips at each kid's place on the table. Start the over-under-over-under weave pattern on the placemat base, taping the ends securely.

If you have more time...

Cut the placemat base with a curved pattern (rather than making straight cuts) and use 1 inch straight strips. Your woven design will have an Op-Art feel to it! Once placemats are completed, let kids use paper scraps to make simple shapes to glue on the placemat for detail – baskets, a baby, and so on.