

Arch-Enemies?

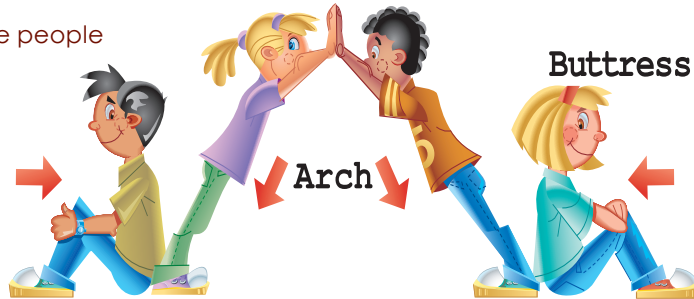
These instructions

will help your group build an arch out of your own bodies.

First, two people should stand facing each other and pressing their palms together (like they're giving each other a "high-ten"), and slide their feet back as far as possible without losing their balance.

Next, have a volunteer GENTLY pull down on the arch-peoples' arms. How can you make this arch stronger?

Idea: Have two more people sit tightly behind the arch-peoples' feet to create buttresses. What other ideas can you come up with?



Faith on the Go!

Get together with your family, and read the text from today's lesson. Ask each other some of these questions:

- Who's someone on TV or in a movie that you think is cool? Why?
- What about someone who is a "bad guy?" What makes you want to reject them?

Next, find a TV show you can pause, or a DVD with a person like this in it. With your parents' help, put some plastic cling-wrap onto the screen to cover this person's face, and use markers to add some features to their face to make them look a little funny or silly. Ask:

- Why do you think Jesus was rejected in today's story? How do we reject Jesus sometimes?
- How would our behavior be different if we saw ourselves in the people we don't like?
- Why is it a good idea to picture ourselves as both the "good" and the "bad" characters in parables like this one?

Memory Verse

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes. Matthew 21:42b



Parable of the Vineyard



Matthew 21:33-46



People **SEE** themselves in Jesus' parables.

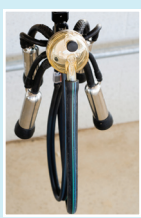


Who can we trust?

A Productive Harvest

Whether you live near a farm or not, it's good to know where our food comes from (and where it's going)! Work as a group to see how many of these farm machines you can name.

Harvesting combine



Tractor



Milking machine



Sugar beet planter

Crowded House

There are some small, important details in this VERY busy picture. See how many of the following items you can find in a crowd:

Grapes

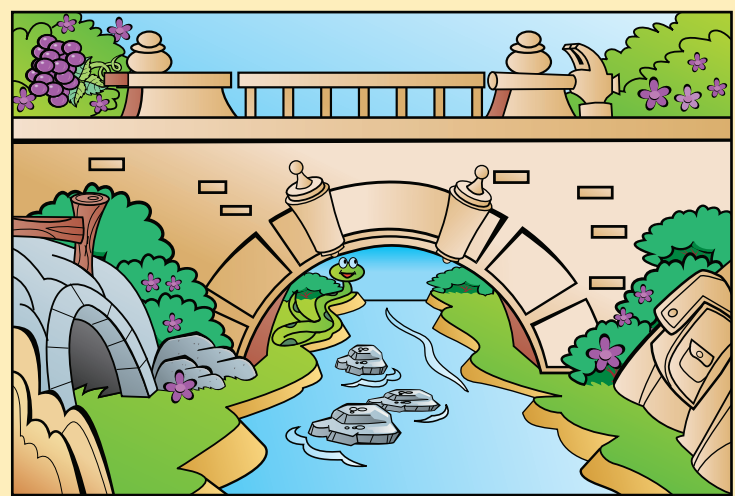
Hammer

Snake

Backpack

Scroll

Archway



Did You Know?

The Kolob Arch, in Zion National Park, is the largest naturally occurring arch in the world.

Look it up!

In today's story, it seems that God wants us to give our "first fruits" to the vineyard owner, and that our lives should produce "fruits of the kingdom." But what does that fruit look like? Work together to look up these vineyard-laws from the Old Testament. What do these laws have in common? What do they say we should do with our first fruits? What about the stuff we have left?

Exodus 23:19
Numbers 18:13

Nehemiah 10:35
Exodus 23:10-11

Leviticus 19:9-10
Deuteronomy 24:19



Shockingly Sad

If this parable were an actual news story that happened to a friend of yours, how would you feel? What if you could send a text message to someone involved in this story? Pick one character and write a TOUGH question to them that's under 140 characters. Write the name of the recipient after the "@" symbol, and then keep it short and to the point!

Kingdom Tales

Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a lot of different things and situations. In this space, sketch something that you can compare God's kingdom to. Then, complete this thought by writing it around your picture: "God's kingdom is like . . ."

