

DAY 1 CRAFT

Castle Catapult

JUNIOR & PRIMARY

Materials

- Jumbo craft sticks, 2 per child
- Standard craft sticks, 1 per child
- ½-inch dowel rods, one 1½-inch piece per child
- Medium-size rubber bands, 1 per child
- Mini hair rubber bands, 1 per child
- Water bottle caps, 1 per child
- Glue dots, 1 per child
- White or gray cardstock
- [Castle Pattern](#)
- 1-inch pom-poms, 1 per child
- Zippered baggies, 1 per child

Tools and Basic Supplies

- Scissors
- Glue sticks

Prep

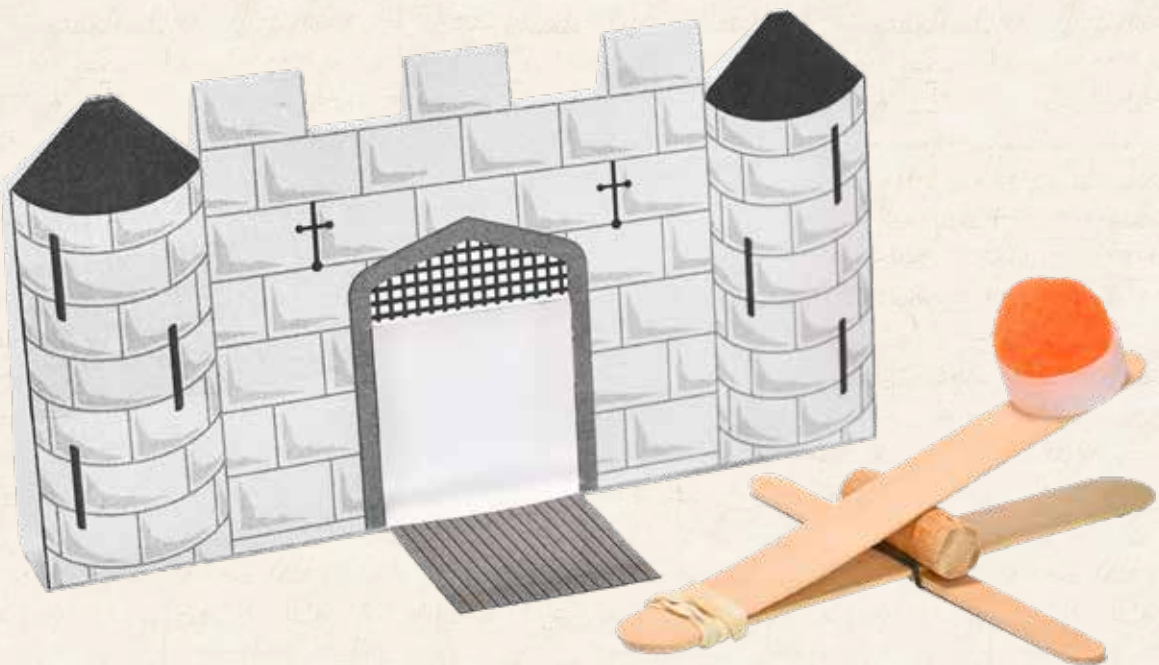
1. Cut dowel rods into 1½-inch pieces, one per child. Sand any rough edges.
2. Photocopy the Castle Pattern onto white or gray cardstock. Then cut out a castle for each child.
3. Place 2 jumbo craft sticks, 1 standard craft stick, 1 dowel rod piece, 1 medium rubber band, 1 mini hair rubber band, 1 water bottle cap, an adhesive dot, and a pom-pom into a zippered baggie for each child.

Teaching Tie-In

Show the sample craft and say:

Today's craft is a castle catapult. Catapults were used in medieval times during battles. During an attack, the enemy would use them to try to knock down the castle walls. If the walls were strong and the defenders were on their guard, they could withstand the attack and be the victors.

Today at VBS, we're talking about the two opposing kingdoms that are battling each other. Can you remember who the ruler of each is and what he's like?



Take responses. God's kingdom is the good one. I hope you're a child of God.

Class Time Directions

1. Take a jumbo craft stick and attach a standard craft stick across the middle in a perpendicular fashion with a mini hair rubber band. The standard craft stick should be under the jumbo stick. This will form the base of the catapult.
2. Lay the other jumbo craft stick on top of the first one and attach the ends of one side together by tightly wrapping with the larger rubber band.
3. Use a glue dot to attach the bottle cap near (about ¼-inch from) the loose end of the top jumbo craft stick.
4. Slide the dowel piece (fulcrum) in between the two jumbo craft sticks so it rests in line with the standard craft stick and between the strands of the mini hair rubber band.
5. Fold the Castle Pattern in half and then carefully cut out the tops of the two towers and stone wall. Cut only where indicated.
6. Cut out the drawbridge (what looks like the door of the castle).
7. Fold the bottom ends of the pattern toward each other and glue stick together.
8. Glue stick the drawbridge tab to the base of the castle so the drawbridge lies flat in front of the castle.
9. Using the catapult, try to shoot the pom-pom over the castle or through the castle door.

Tip Corner

- To collect water bottle caps, consider having a “bottle cap challenge.”

Super Simple Idea

Each day, at least one super simple option is included, which is a premade craft kit from Oriental Trading Company (call 1 (800) 875-8480 or visit orientaltrading.com) that goes along with the main concepts of the day.

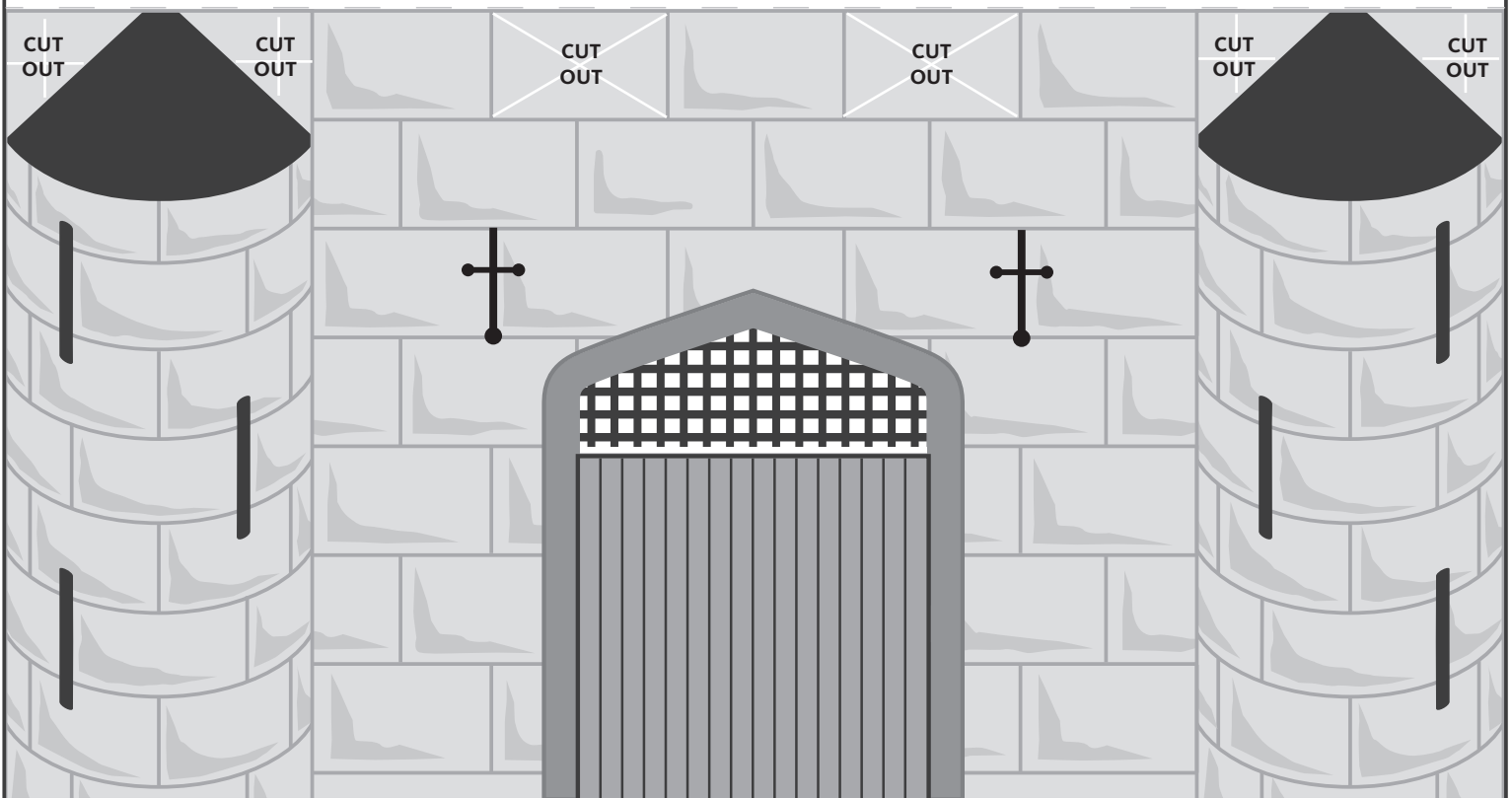
As an alternative to the Day 1 main crafts, try the following craft kit. Note that this is available at the time of printing and may not be available later.

- STEM Craft Stick Catapult Craft Kit (Item Number: #13772396)—Manufacturer does not recommend for children under three years of age.

↓ FOLD UNDER ON DASHED LINE ↓

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↓ FOLD ON LINE AND THEN CUT INDICATED PIECES OUT THROUGH BOTH THICKNESSES ↓



CUT
OUT

CUT
OUT

CUT
OUT

CUT
OUT

CUT
OUT

CUT
OUT

↑ FOLD UNDER ↑

CUT OUT DRAWBRIDGE
AND TAB IN ONE PIECE
ALONG THICK BLACK LINE

↓ CUT ↓

↓ CUT ↓

↑ FOLD UNDER ↑