

An Angel Couple in Heaven

(Note: This project is adapted from a project in Glenview Preschool Sunday School Lesson 2.34.)

Children can make stick puppets to help picture an angelic couple in heaven.

See the enclosed story (adapted from *Conjugal Love* 42) about Emanuel Swedenborg seeing an angelic couple for details that can help the children with this project.

Figures for the angel husband and wife are provided. If desired, the children could make another figure for Emanuel Swedenborg. They could also make a beautiful garden for the angel couple.

Materials Needed:

crayons
scissors
glue
2 popsicle sticks
sequins or glitter
rocks or pebbles
flowers

Directions:

1. Have children color and then cut out the husband and wife angel figures. Cut out the figures for the children if they are too young to use scissors.
2. Spread glue on half of each popsicle stick and place the lower half of figures onto the glue, allowing to dry for a few minutes.
3. Let the children glue sequins or glitter onto figures, perhaps as jewels or light from the angels. (See *Conjugal Love* 42 for a beautiful description of a husband and wife in heaven.)

Options:

- If time permits, you could let the children make a garden in heaven for the angel couple.
- Make another stick puppet for Emanuel Swedenborg and retell the story as the children manipulate the puppets.
- Show the children how the figures can hold hands or put their arms around each other. Emphasize how the married couple loves to be together. Talk about how people meet their partners in the other world, the uses they perform, how they are young and strong in heaven, and live together in lovely homes forever.

Adaptation of a True Story about an Angelic Couple

Translated from *Conjugal Love 42* by Lisa Hyatt Cooper

One morning, I looked up into heaven. I heard a voice from heaven, which sounded like a trumpet, saying, "We know that you are thinking deeply about marriage and its love. We will send a married couple down to you so that you can learn about the love that is in a true marriage."

Then I saw a carriage! It was coming from the highest heaven, and a single angel could be seen in it. But as it drew closer, I saw two angels in it.

From a distance the carriage sparkled like a diamond. Young horses white as snow were harnessed to the carriage. The two people sitting in the carriage held two turtledoves in their hands. They called out to me, "Do you want us to come closer? If you do, be careful."

I answered, "I'll be careful. Come closer."

They did come closer, and they turned out to be a husband and his wife. They said, "We are married partners. We've lived happily in heaven since the earliest times. And we've always had the same bloom of youth in which you see us today."

I looked closely at them, because they were a picture of marriage love. The husband was very handsome, and light flashed from his eyes making his face glow. He was wearing a robe that came down to his feet, and under the robe a garment of sky blue. A gold belt was tied around his waist, and on the belt were three precious stones: two sapphires on the sides and a ruby in the middle. Such was the appearance of marriage love with the husband.

The wife was very beautiful, and her eyes sparkled with the light of heaven. Her beauty was so great that no painter could copy it. Her hair was arranged beautifully, to match her loveliness, and it was sprinkled with diamond flowers. She had a ruby necklace from which hung a rose-shaped pendant. She also had pearl bracelets. She wore a bright red robe, and under it a deeper red bodice, fastened in front with rubies. But it amazed me to see that the colors changed depending on how she turned toward her husband. They also sparkled the more they faced each other.

Finally they said, "We are being called back. We have to go." And then they appeared to be riding in a carriage again, the same as before. They rode along a paved road with flower gardens on either side. Olive trees were growing up from the flowerbeds, and orange trees full of fruit. When the couple got close to their heaven, some girls came out to meet them, welcome them, and lead them in.

(Adapted from *Conjugal Love 42* as translated by Lisa Hyatt Cooper)

Figures for Stick Puppets

