

Story of the Wise Men Scene Boxes

variation of a project idea from Janet McMaster

Level: ages 6-12

Time: 30-60 minutes

Story from the Word: Matthew 2

Depicting the Story of the Wise Men

Each side of the box should depict a different aspect of the story, such as:

1. The wise men following the star
2. The wise men meeting with Herod the king
3. The wise men presenting gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Lord
4. Joseph being warned in a dream to take Mary and the Lord into Egypt for safety.

OR

Joseph and Mary fleeing into Egypt with the young Child.

Materials Needed

string
masking tape
medium size cardboard box (with as little labeling as possible)
pencil
eraser (optional)
tempera paint with a brush for each color
for older children, offer smaller boxes, medium brush with water, small pieces of white paper, pen, and glue

Preparation

Set up and prepare paints.

Have 4 children to work on each box, each taking one side.

The top of the box will not be painted unless it is a solid color.

Steps

1. Each student should be well aware of what they are painting. Older children may even want to pencil in an outline.
2. Paint figures or paint in pencil outline.
3. Fill in background.
4. A short quote about the scene could be written on a small piece of white paper and glued to corner of scene.
5. Let the paint dry. Scene boxes can be hung at various eye levels and make an interesting display. String can be threaded through holes in the corners of the boxes and tied securely. Use tape to hang the box from the ceiling.

Application Ideas

Scene boxes are like hanging books so they are a good project for illustrating a series of events such as the story of Joseph, the Christmas story, Easter story, John on the Isle of Patmos, and many others.

