

DAY 1

PROSPECTOR'S POUCH (V. 1)

PRIMARIES & JUNIORS



Materials

- Brown fleece, one 10½-in. circle per child
- Jute, two 36-in. pieces per child
- Pony beads, 12 per child
- Drawstring Holes pattern

Tools and Basic Supplies

- Pinking shears
- Black bullet-tip permanent markers
- Scissors
- Masking tape

Pre-Prep

1. Cut the fleece into 10½-in. circles.
2. Center the Drawstring Holes pattern on each fleece circle. With a permanent marker, mark the location for each hole with a black dot.
3. Cut the jute into 36-in. pieces and tie a knot exactly 12 in. from each end.
4. Wrap the ends of each piece of jute with a small piece of masking tape.

Teaching Tie-In

Show the sample craft and say:

Prospectors used pouches to keep their gold nuggets in. They'd take their pouches to the assay office in town to get the gold weighed. Sometimes they'd find they struck it rich, but sometimes they'd find they had fool's gold. Fool's gold looked like real gold, but it was really fake gold and was worthless.

Today we're talking about learning the difference between fakes and the real thing. When it comes to God, only Jesus is the real thing. He is truly God. All others are fakes.

Class Time Directions

1. To make holes for the drawstrings, pinch the fleece between your fingers at each black dot, and use scissors to make a small slit (cut). The slit should be made parallel to the edge of the fabric. Continue until all the holes are cut.
2. Begin weaving a piece of jute through the holes, starting from outside (under) the circle, until you have made it completely around the fleece circle.
3. Follow the same weaving path with the other piece of jute, but begin and end at the opposite side of the circle. Both pieces of jute should be going under and over together.
4. Grab the ends of each drawstring and pull tightly to close your Prospector's Pouch. Adjust the strings until they are all an even length.
5. To decorate the drawstrings, thread 3 pony beads onto each string and push down to the knot. Then tie another knot tightly against the other side of the 3 beads so they won't slide.

6. Finish each drawstring by tying one more knot about 2 inches beyond the 3 beads and then cutting off the excess jute.

Tip Corner

- A large (10½-in.) dinner plate works well for marking circles on fleece.
- A piece of masking tape on the inside of the pouch works well as a name tag.

Super Simple Idea

Each day, at least one super simple option is included, which is a pre-made craft kit from Oriental Trading Company. The kit ties in with the teaching tie-in of the day.

As an alternative to the Prospector’s Pouch, try the following craft kit (call 1-800-875-8480 or visit www.orientaltrading.com):

- Imitation Leather Pouch Coin Purse Lacing Craft Kit (IN-48/2280)

Verse and Song Time

This section is for those who have extra time after the daily craft is completed.

Precious Gold Memory Verse Review

To review John 14:6, play a hide-and-seek race with the verse.

1. Before class, divide the verse into eight parts and print each section on a piece of gold paper. (Jesus said to him, / “I am the way / the truth / and the life. / No one comes / to the Father / except through Me.” / John 14:6) Repeat with the verse on blue, pink, green, and white papers, so that you have several sets of the verse. Cut the papers to resemble “nuggets.” Place each set in a plastic bag. Hide the verse sets around the room.
2. During class, explain that at this VBS, we’re searching for true gold—Jesus Christ. Our verse for today tells us the truth about who Jesus is. Review the verse.
3. Divide the class into several groups and assign each group a color. Each group searches for its verse set color. Once the group finds its color, it returns to its table and puts the sections in order. First group to get its verse in order raises its hands and, once called on, says the verse together. Each group completes its verse and says it together.
4. At the end of the class, each group can hide its verse set for the next class.
5. Repeat the activity with the theme verse.

Sing-Along Songs Time

Review these songs from the Sing-Along Songs DVD.

- “Rock of Ages”
- “Talkin’ ‘Bout Jesus”
- “The Bible Is a Gold Mine”

DAY 1 OVERVIEW

Meet Jesus: Discover His Bold Claims

Bible Passages	Apologetics Content	Precious Gold Memory Verse
1 John 3:5; John 4:5–26; Mark 2:1–12; John 14:1–6; John 1:1–5	Compared to all others, only Jesus can rightly claim to be God.	Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” John 14:6
Gem to Treasure	Nugget of Truth Time	Name of Jesus
Don’t be fooled by counterfeits!	Jesus’s impact on education	Rock
24-Karat Craft	Lip-Smackin’ Snack	Rip-Roarin’ Recreation
Prospector’s Pouch	Gold Nuggets and Sparkling Lemonade	Claim Jumpin’ and Name Game

DAY 1

PROSPECTOR'S POUCH (V. 2)

TODDLERS & PRE-PRIMARIES

Materials

- 9-in. white paper plates, 1½ plates per child
- Orange and yellow tempera paints
- Assorted buttons, 1 per child
- Adhesive hook-and-loop tape, ½ in. per child
- Jute, 24 in. per child

Tools and Basic Supplies

- Small foam paint brushes
- Paper towels
- Adhesive dots
- Stapler
- ¼-in. hole punch
- Styrofoam plates

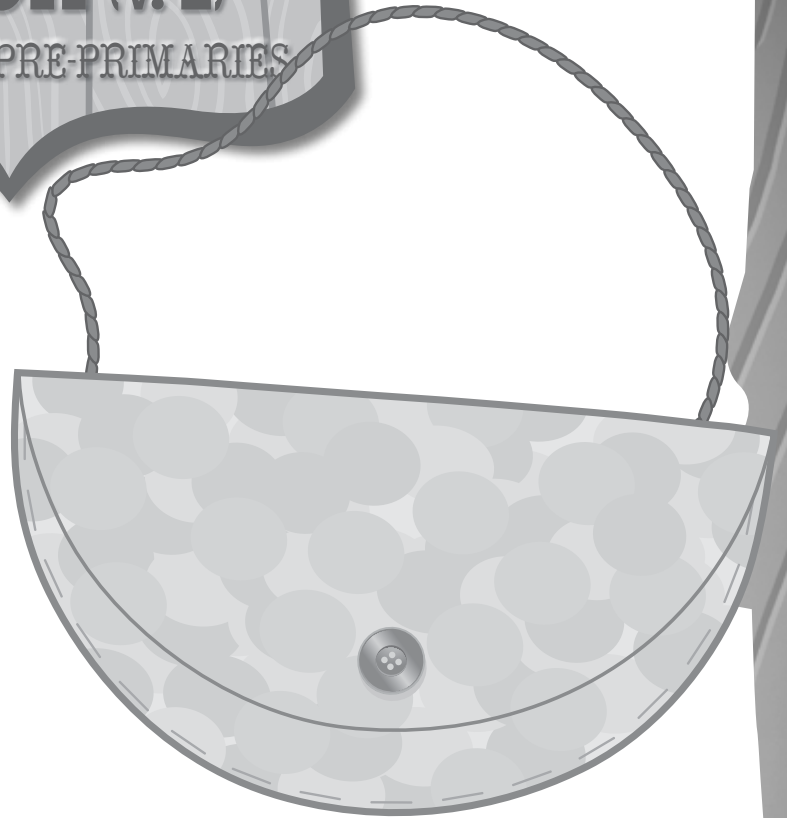
Pre-Prep

1. Cut some of the paper plates in half so each child will have 1½ plates.
2. Cut tape into ½-in. pieces.
3. Cut the jute into 24-in. lengths.

Teaching Tie-In

Hold up a sample craft and say:

Prospectors (miners) kept their gold in pouches like this. They were looking for real gold, but sometimes they found something that looked like real gold, but it was really just fake gold. It wasn't worth anything! Only real gold is the real thing, and only Jesus is the real, true God! He is worth more than all the silver and gold in the world!



Class Time Directions

1. Using a mixture of orange and yellow tempera paints, paint the backs of the 1½ plates. (Put a small amount of paint on styrofoam plates so the kids don't use too much.)
2. Dab the painted backs with a paper towel so they will dry quickly.
3. With the painted sides out, position the half plate on top of the full plate to create a pocket. Then attach the two together by stapling along the rounded edge.
4. Create a top flap by folding the full plate over the half plate. The crease should be about a half inch above and parallel to the top edge of the half plate.
5. Attach the ½ in. of tape under the flap to keep it closed.
6. Attach a button to the outside of the flap with an adhesive dot.

7. Add a strap by punching one hole at each side of the round plate, under the flap, between the crease and the top edge of the half plate. Thread the piece of jute through both holes, then tie the ends together.

Tip Corner

- Dot art paint applicators are a fun alternative to paint and paint brushes.
- Foam mounting tape can be used instead of adhesive dots.

Super Simple Idea

As an alternative to the Prospector's Pouch, try the following Oriental Trading Company craft kit (call 1-800-875-8480 or visit www.orientaltrading.com):

- Imitation Leather Round Coin Purse Lacing Craft Kit (IN-48/2280)

Verse and Song Time

This section is for those who have extra time after the daily craft is completed.

Precious Gold Memory Verse Review

To review John 14:6, play a hide-and-seek race with the verse.

1. Before class, divide the verse into five parts and print each section on a piece of gold paper. (Jesus said to him / "I am the way / the truth / and the life." / John 14:6) Repeat with the verse on blue, pink, green, and white papers, so that you have several sets of the verse. Cut the papers to resemble "nuggets." Place each set in a plastic bag. Hide the verse sets around the room.
2. During class, explain that at this VBS, we're searching for true gold—Jesus Christ. Our verse for today tells us the truth about who Jesus is. Review the verse.
3. Divide the class into several groups and assign each group a color. With a leader, each group searches for its verse set color. Once the group finds its color, it returns to its table and puts the sections in order. First group to get its verse in order raises its hands and, once called on, says the verse together. Each group completes its verse and says it together.
4. At the end of the class, each group can hide its verse set for the next class.
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Prospector's Pouch	Gold Nuggets and Sparkling Lemonade	Claim Jumpin' and Name Game