

# The Lions' Den

## Daniel

### Lesson 4

#### Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify Daniel as a man who prayed and trusted God.
- The children will state how and why God rescued Daniel from the lions.
- The children will describe at least two ways that they can be a light to their friends or family.

#### Lesson Text

Daniel 6:13-23

#### Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

*Daniel 6:10*

#### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Lions' Mane

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Daniel in the Den

Life Application: Little Lights

Craft: Prayer Knee Pads

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



# Pre class



# The Lions' Den

## Lions' Mane

The children will make lions' manes for use during the Bible story.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 paper plate, 9"
- glue stick

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- streamers, yellow and brown

### Preparation

1. For each child, cut five 15" long streamers of each color.
2. Cut out the center of each paper plate, see Figure A, as follows:
  - A. Cut a straight line from the rim of the plate into the center of the plate.
  - B. Cut out the center of the plate leaving about a 1½" rim.
3. Make a model following the instructions.

### Instructions

1. Explain to the children that they will learn about Daniel's strong faith in God. *You will make a lion's mane so you can pretend to be a lion during the Bible story.* Show them the model of the lion's mane.
2. Give each child a paper plate and streamers.
3. Have the children glue the streamers around the outside of the plate, making a mane.
4. Help the children write their names on their manes.

### Conclusion

Have the children hold their manes up to their faces and pretend to roar like lions.

### Teacher Tips

- Have the children count aloud with you as you give the ten streamers to each child.

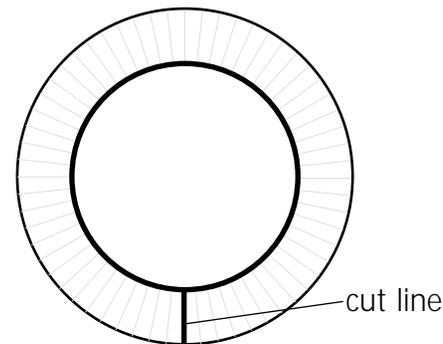


Figure A

# The Lions' Den

## Daniel in the Den

The children will hear about Daniel's courage to obey God and how God blessed Daniel's faith.

### Lesson Text

Daniel 6:13-23

### Materials

For each child:

- lion's mane from the Preclass Activity

For the teacher:

- robe
- scarf
- Bible

### Preparation

1. Before class dress in the robe with the scarf tied around your waist as a belt.
2. Familiarize yourself with the story.

### Daniel's Story

Have the children sit in a circle. Tell the story as you stand as part of the circle.

*Hi, children! My name is Daniel. I heard that you were learning about me in Bible class, so I have come to tell you a true story about me that is found in the Bible.*

*Some men, who didn't like me, persuaded my friend, the king, to make a law that no one could pray to anyone except the king (Daniel 6:6-9). Does anyone remember what I did when I heard about this new rule? Yes, I went home, and got down on my knees. Then I prayed to God just as I had always done (Daniel 6:10).*

*The men knew where to find me and they knew that I would be praying. They came and took me from my home, and then brought me to the king. The king was so upset. Do you know why? Yes, because now he was going to have to throw me to the lions. I was his friend, and he didn't want to put me in the lions' den, but he had made a rule, a law, and he had to obey it (Daniel 6:16).*

*Now these lions were hungry. Have the children put on their manes and pretend to be hungry lions. NOTE: Instruct the children to be careful, and not to bite or scratch anyone. They should only pretend to be lions.*

*Move to the middle of the circle. They threw me in with the hungry lions and they closed the entranceway with a stone. But God is so powerful! He can do anything! When I was in the lions' den, God shut the mouths of the lions! Have the children pretend that they are now calm lions that cannot open their mouths. God kept me safe all night long!*

*Do you know what my friend the king did that night? He worried about me. He did not sleep at all! Do you know why? He was afraid the lions would eat me. He was hoping that God would protect me. As soon as it was morning, he ran down to see if I was alive. When he got to the lions' den, he called to me hoping that I was safe. I told him that God had protected me all night. The king was so happy. He had some men take me out of the lions' den. There was not a scratch on me anywhere! The king was so amazed that he changed the rule. He wrote a letter to the whole world that they should love God and pray only to him (Daniel 6:18-23).*

*I was so happy that everyone would have a chance to learn about our powerful God! I was glad that I trusted God and obeyed him even though it meant being different from others. The others learned how powerful God is because of the lion's den that God saved me from. I know that made God very happy!*

### Conclusion

*What an amazing story! Can you imagine how powerful God must be to shut the mouths of the lions? Ask the following questions as a review:*

- Why did Daniel decide to pray? (He loved God and wanted to obey him.)
- Did Daniel know that he was going to be fed to the lions if he prayed to God? (Yes)
- Did Daniel know that God would keep him safe? (Yes, Daniel trusted God!)
- Why did God shut the mouths of the lions? (Because he loved Daniel. Daniel trusted and obeyed God.)

# The Lions' Den



## Little Lights

The children will describe at least two ways that they can be different from others by obeying as Daniel did.

### Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

*Daniel 6:10*

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- flashlight
- poster board
- marker

### Preparation

1. Print the Scripture Memory Verse on the poster board.
2. Familiarize yourself with the activity.

### Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle. Show the children the flashlight and ask them what it is. *What do we use a flashlight for?* (to see at night or in a dark place) *Does the light help us?* (Yes) *Who have we learned about who was like a light? Who do you know who obeyed God when no one else around him did?* (Daniel) *Do you know that you can be like Daniel?* Explain that they will think of ways in this activity that they can be like lights to the people around them.
2. Hold the flashlight and turn it on. Tell the children one way that you will be a light to your friends or family this week.
3. Turn off the flashlight and pass it to the child next to you.
4. Have that child turn on the flashlight and share one way that he can be a light to his family or friends this week (obeying even if no one else is, telling their friends at school about God, being nice to people, etc.).
5. Continue passing the flashlight around the circle until each child has had two turns.

### Scripture Memory Activity

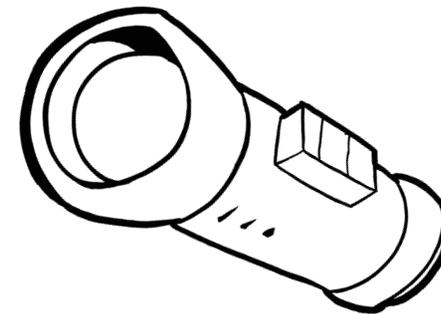
Show the children the poster board with the memory verse on it. Use the light of the flashlight to point to the words of the verse as you read it out loud.

Choose a child to use the flashlight to point to the words and say the memory verse. NOTE: Most children this age cannot read, but this activity will help them with their reading skills. Do not expect them to read accurately. Help them as needed.

### Conclusion

*When we are happy and are lights to the people around us they will see that we are different. When they ask us why, we can share with them about God. We can tell them how much God loves us.*

Choose a child to pray and thank God for helping them to be lights. Have the child pray that the group can bring their friends to Bible class with them.



# The Lions' Den

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10



# The Lions' Den

## Prayer Knee Pads

The children will make knee pads to remind them of how Daniel prayed on his knees to God three times every day.

### Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

*Daniel 6:10*

### Materials

*For each child:*

- 1 pair of adult white athletic socks
- 20 cotton balls
- markers

*For the teacher:*

- fabric scissors
- light-colored felt
- fabric glue
- fabric marker, extra-fine point

### Preparation

1. Prepare two felt squares for each child as follows:
  - A. Cut the felt into 2" squares.
  - B. Using the fabric marker, print, "Daniel 6:10" on each piece of felt.
2. Prepare two socks for each child as follows:
  - A. Cut off the foot from each sock.
  - B. Discard the foot and keep the remainder of the sock.
  - C. Fold the cut end of each sock inside itself, so that it sticks 1½" over the top. See Figure A.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

### Instructions

1. Remind the children of the Bible story. *This week we are learning about Daniel and the lions' den. Daniel was a man who trusted God and prayed to him every day. Who knows the memory verse? Let the children take turns saying the memory verse. Show the children your model of the craft. These are prayer knee pads. You can use them when you pray on your knees. Today you are going to make your own Prayer Knee Pads to remind you of how Daniel prayed on his knees every day!*
2. Give each child a pair of folded socks and cotton balls. Have them stuff the cotton balls inside the pocket of the socks, as shown in Figure B.
3. Help each child to tuck the cut end of the sock into the pocket. See Figure C.
4. Using fabric glue, glue the cut end of the sock to the top of the sock sealing the pocket.
5. Give each child two felt squares. Help them glue each felt square to the padded section of each sock.
6. Give each child markers to further decorate their knee pads.

### Conclusion

Have the children pray together using their knee pads.

### Teacher Tips

- Ask parents a week or so before class to bring in any old athletic socks they may have at home.
- It is important to use adult size socks so the knee pads will fit the children.



# The Lions' Den

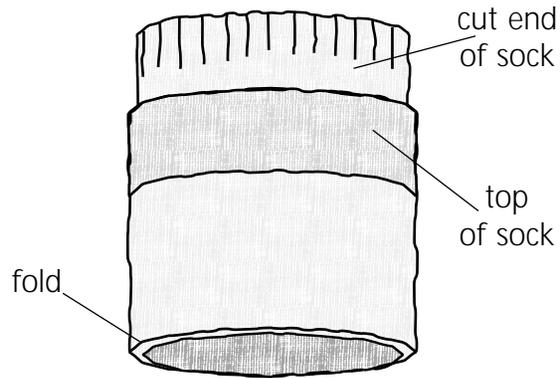


Figure A

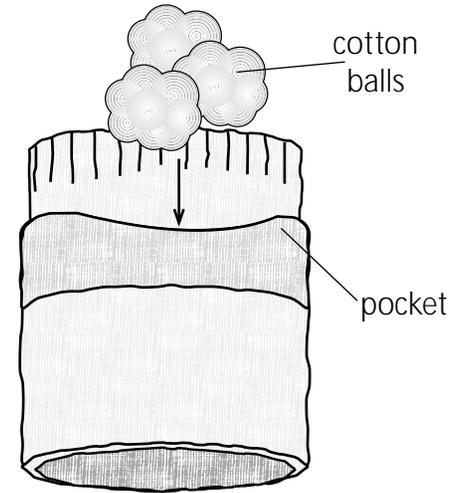


Figure B

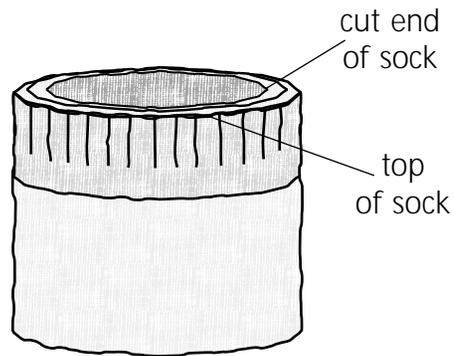


Figure C



Finished Craft

# The Lions' Den

## Daniel Lesson 4

### Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify Daniel as a man who prayed and trusted God.
- The children will state how and why God rescued Daniel from the lions.
- The children will describe at least two ways that they can be a light to their friends or family.

### Lesson Text

Daniel 6:13-23

### Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

*Daniel 6:10*

### Daniel and the Lions-1

The children will color pictures to be used during the craft center.

#### Materials

*For each child:*

- crayons
- paper clip

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- tape

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 2 copies for each child

#### Preparation

1. Cut out two lion pictures, one picture of Daniel standing and one picture of Daniel kneeling for each child from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Tape the two lion pictures side-by-side, as shown in Figure A.

#### Instructions

1. Give the children their set of pictures, and have them color them.
2. Write the childrens' names on one of their pictures.
3. Attach a paper clip to keep each child's set of pictures together.
4. Give all the pictures to the craft teacher.

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Daniel and the Lions-1

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Not the Same

Craft: Daniel and the Lions-2

Life Application: Little Lights

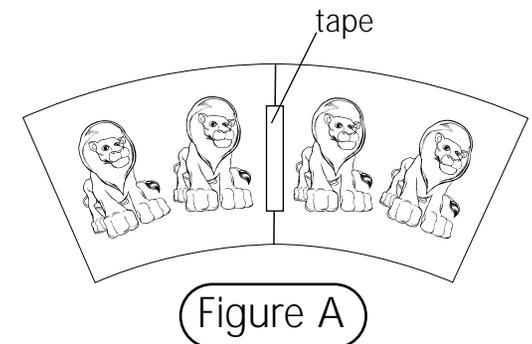
NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

#### Conclusion

Ask the children to tell you the story of Daniel in the lion's den.

#### Teacher Tips

- Tape the two lion pictures together placing the tape on the back so that no tape seam shows.





### Not the Same

The children will be reminded of how different Daniel was from the other people around him.

#### Materials

For the teacher:

- pen
- paper



#### Preparation

1. Familiarize yourself with the instructions.
2. Create a list of action ideas as follows: hands on head, finger on nose, one hand touching toes, finger touching eye, etc.



#### Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle. Tell the children that Daniel was a man who was different from most of his friends because he obeyed God. Explain that they will play a game where they will guess who is the person in the group who is different.
2. Choose one child to go first. Have that child leave the group and hide their eyes.
3. Ask one of the remaining children to do something on the list while the other children all sit with their hands folded in their laps.
4. Ask the first child to come back to the group. That child should look at the children and pick out the one who is doing something different from the rest.
5. Choose another child to hide their eyes and continue playing the game until every child has had a turn.



#### Conclusion

Explain to the children that we get to be different and shine like lights. This helps people to see God and learn about Jesus. When Daniel was different the king changed and began to love God.

#### Teacher Tips

- If you have space, have the children spread out and do physical actions using more of their bodies. One idea is for all the children to jump up and down and have one child do deep knee bends.



## Daniel and the Lions-2

The children will make a craft to help them tell the story of Daniel and the lions' den.

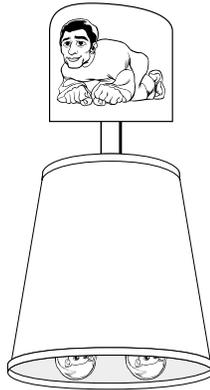
### Materials

*For each child:*

- pictures from the Preclass Activity
- glue stick
- 1 clear plastic cup, 16 oz.
- craft stick

*For the teacher:*

- tape
- scissors
- utility knife
- permanent marker
- pencil (optional)
- ruler (optional)



### Preparation

1. Cut a slit in the bottom of each cup so a craft stick can freely slide in and out.
2. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

### Instructions

1. Introduce the activity as follows: *Today you are going to make a craft using the pictures that you colored during the Preclass Activity. Show the children your model so the cup shows Daniel praying. Today you are learning about Daniel. Daniel was different because he prayed to God three times a day. Some people told the king, and then Daniel was thrown into the lions' den. Show the children your model so the cup now shows Daniel in the lions' den. God protected Daniel from the lions so they did not harm him. God is very powerful!*

# The Lions' Den

## Daniel

### Lesson 4

2. Give each child a slitted cup and the pictures from the Preclass Activity. Help the children to roll, and then place the picture of the lions into their cups. Be sure the lions are facing inside the cup, as shown in Figure A. NOTE: The lion pictures are designed to fit inside a 16 oz. cup only.
3. Give the children each a craft stick and a glue stick. Have them glue the picture of "Daniel standing" to one end of the craft stick, as shown in Figure B. NOTE: Notice the orientation of the picture of Daniel standing.
4. Have each child push the other end of the craft stick through the inside of the cup, and then through the cup's bottom. See Figure C.
5. Have each child turn the cup upside down, and then glue the picture of "Daniel kneeling" to the end of the craft stick. See Figure D.
6. Help the children write their names with a permanent marker on the outside of their cups.

### Conclusion

Have the children practice telling the story of Daniel in the lions' den using their crafts.

### Teacher Tips

- It may help to draw a pencil line on both ends of each craft stick approximately 1½" from the ends. When the children are gluing their Daniel pictures, have them place glue only from the pencil mark to the nearest end on the craft stick.

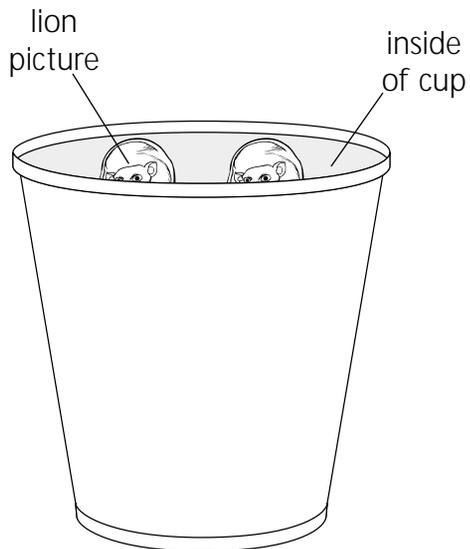


Figure A

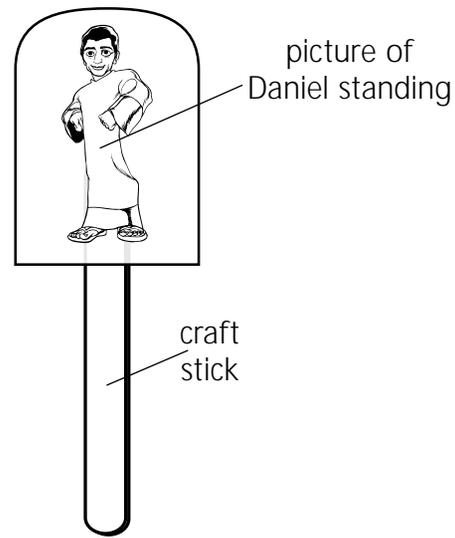


Figure B

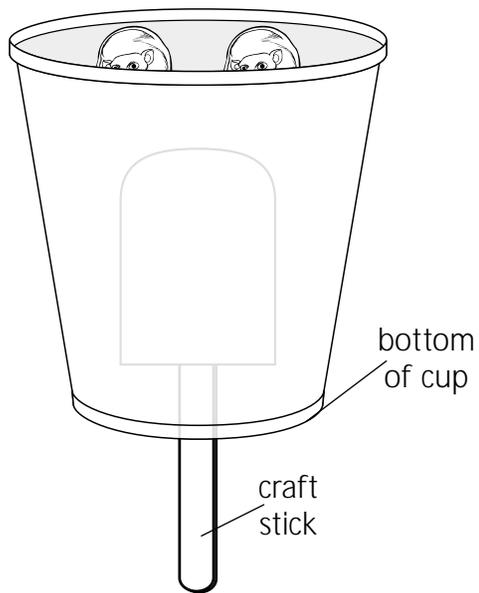


Figure C

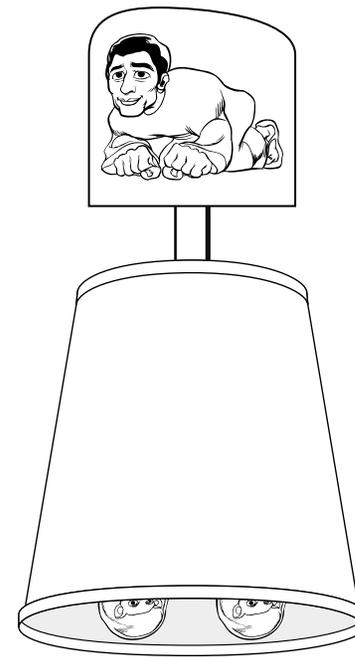


Figure D





## Little Lights

The children will describe at least two ways that they can be different from others by obeying as Daniel did.

### Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

*Daniel 6:10*

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- flashlight
- poster board
- marker

### Preparation

1. Print the Scripture Memory Verse on the poster board.
2. Familiarize yourself with the activity.

### Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle. Show the children the flashlight and ask them what it is. *What do we use a flashlight for?* (to see at night or in a dark place) *Does the light help us?* (Yes) *Who have we learned about who was like a light? Who do you know who obeyed God when no one else around him did?* (Daniel) *Do you know that you can be like Daniel?* Explain that they will think of ways in this activity that they can be like lights to the people around them.
2. Hold the flashlight and turn it on. Tell the children one way that you will be a light to your friends or family this week.
3. Turn off the flashlight and pass it to the child next to you.
4. Have that child turn on the flashlight and share one way that he can be a light to his family or friends this week (obeying even if no one else is, telling their friends at school about God, being nice to people, etc.).
5. Continue passing the flashlight around the circle until each child has had two turns.

# The Lions' Den

### Scripture Memory Activity

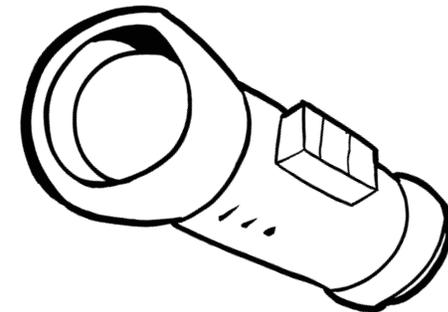
Show the children the poster board with the memory verse on it. Use the light of the flashlight to point to the words of the verse as you read it out loud.

Choose a child to use the flashlight to point to the words and say the memory verse. NOTE: Most children this age cannot read, but this activity will help them with their reading skills. Do not expect them to read accurately. Help them as needed.

### Conclusion

*When we are happy and are lights to the people around us they will see that we are different. When they ask us why, we can share with them about God. We can tell them how much God loves us.*

Choose a child to pray and thank God for helping them to be lights. Have the child pray that the group can bring their friends to Bible class with them.



Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

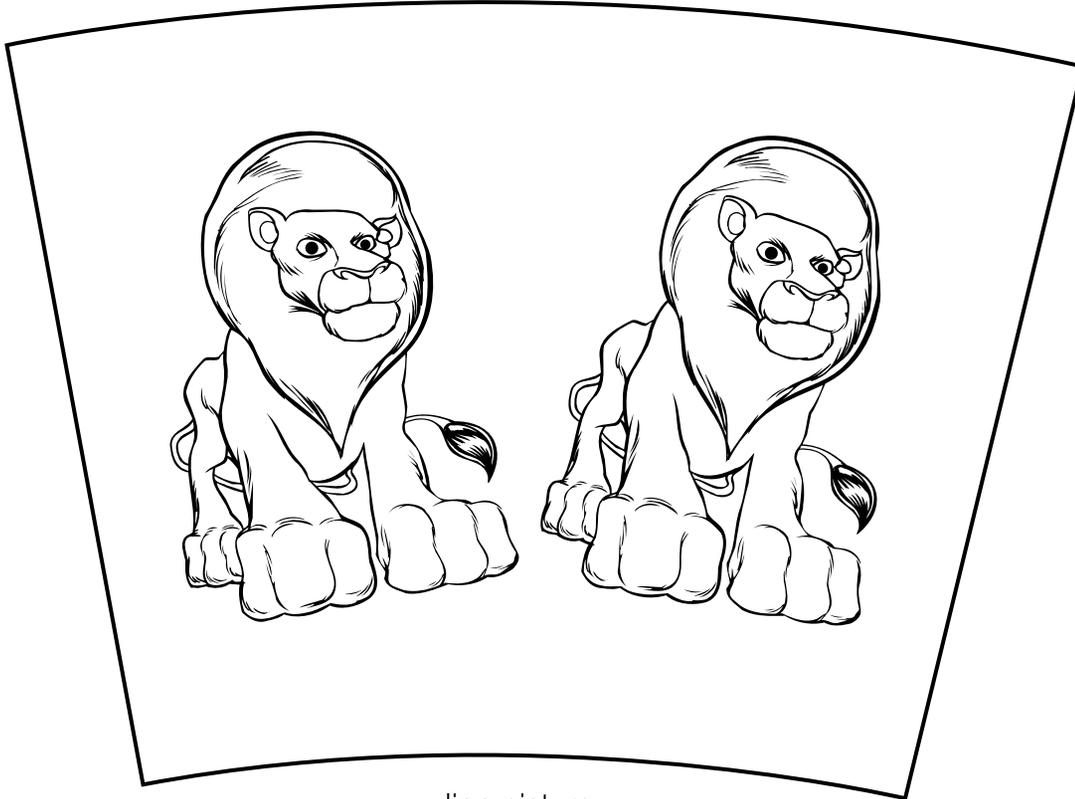


# Supplement/Preclass Activity

2 copies for each child

## Daniel

Lesson 4



lion picture



Daniel standing



Daniel kneeling