

PIRATE THEME
TITLE: "TREASURE HUNTING FOR GOD"

LESSON ONE – HOW TO BE A TREASURE HUNTER!

TREASURE OBJECTIVE

In this lesson, the children will be able to give examples of treasures that man collects and treasures that God wants us to obtain and use for His glory. The children will be able to name some of the books of the Bible, know that there are 66 books in the Bible and that the Bible is the "Word of God".

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THIS LESSON

- ___ 4 timers (one for each "treasure station")
- ___ Have the "SHIP'S JOURNAL" available for attendance sign up
- ___ Treasure maps to the "Treasure Stations" (#1, #2, #3, #4 see Theme Set Up and Schedule)
- ___ Two Treasure Chests – one marked God's Treasure Chest and the other Man's Treasure Chest
- ___ Gold Coins (Made out of gold construction paper) (See page 5-6)
- ___ Two large swimming pools (if possible)
- ___ Cut out pictures for each "Treasure Station" (See pages 8-12 and 16)
- ___ Tent stakes (8), hammer and string
- ___ Playdoh and/or lumps of clay for each child
- ___ A piece of cardboard for each child to work on their clay pot
- ___ Flashlight for the cave, blankets and premade jar of clay with a small scroll of the books of the Bible, and a small paper with the printed books of the Bible (see page 15) for their own clay pots
- ___ Gold Coins for teachers to hand out as "good behavior" for the "Treasure Store"

TREASURE SET UP:

You may choose to set up the classroom with clip art of pirates and sail boats. You could make a steering wheel of a ship. You may choose to have water rings around the classroom. Depending on the amount of room available, each station needs to be set up. Separate rooms may be used with an outside area for "At the Dig" site and "On the Ocean" area. However, one large room could be used for all the Treasure stations if necessary. You will need to set up for four treasure stations and a meeting room called the "Pirate's Lair".

____ The first learning station will be called “Treasure Station #1 – “On the Mountain”. You can pretend to use the tables as the mountains. Use one or two chairs as a step stool for the children to sit on top of the tables. It will represent searching for treasure on the mountains.

____ The second learning station will be called “Treasure Station #2 – “On the Ocean”. You can use children’s small swimming pools to represent the ocean. You can turn a table upside down to use as a ship and put blue sheets on the floor to represent water. Use your imagination.

____ The third learning station will be called “Treasure Station #3 – “At the Dig”. This treasure station needs to be set up outside. You will need tent pegs, a hammer and rope to stake out areas in the dirt or grass where you can possibly dig. It will represent searching for treasure in the earth.

____ The fourth learning station will be called “Treasure Station #4 – “In the Cave”. This treasure station can be made by putting long tables together to form a tunnel with a couple of round tables at the end. You can use black table clothes to throw over the tables making sure it is very dark. You could also use refrigerator boxes or any boxes to form a tunnel and an area where the children can sit, making sure it is dark so that flashlights have to be used.

TREASURE SIGN UP

____ Attendance Book, “SHIP’S JOURNAL” with “Log Pages” (See Theme Set Up and Schedule) _____ Black Markers _____ Star stickers _____ Pens

The teacher will fill out the “Ship’s Journal” for each child. The child will then put a sticker on his/her attendance “log page”. Each child will receive a “tattoo” on their wrist by drawing with a black marker, “a fish”, “a cross”, “a moon” and/or “a sun”. Then there will be four groups.

TREASURE MAPS: (See Theme Set Up and Schedule)

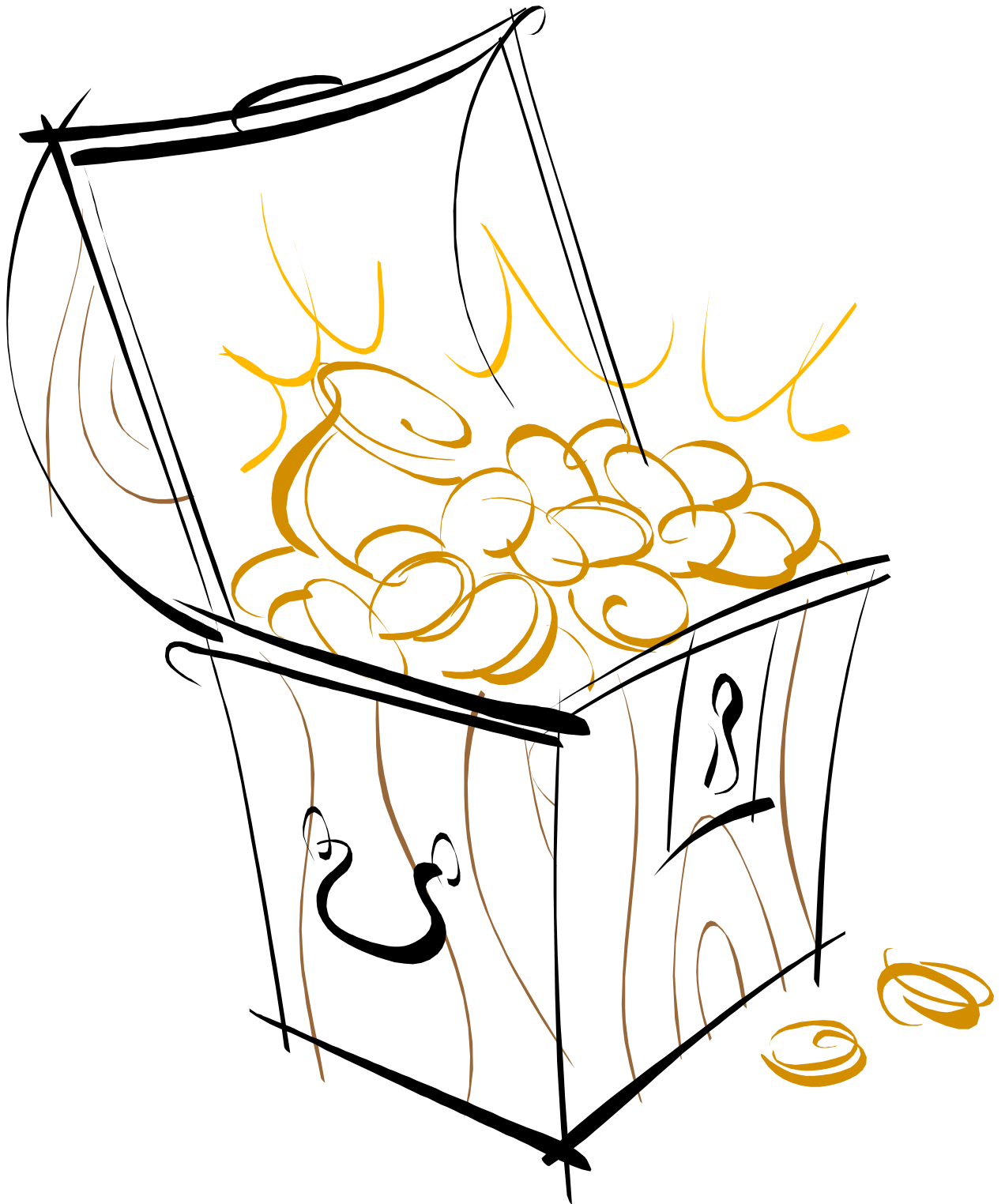
Each lead child in each group will receive a treasure map. There will be four treasure maps marked with #1, #2, #3 and #4, thus making four groups of children. Each lead child in each group will follow their treasure map to each “Treasure Station”. Treasure Chests could be set up for each numbered map #1 - #4 which would be used every week. At each Treasure station, a group of children will be instructed to complete a task in 10 minutes and will use the map to go to the next treasure map stop. When they have completed their tasks and gone to all treasure stations, they will need to return to the “Pirate’s Lair”.

TREASURE PAGE

_____ “Treasure Page” (see page 3) _____ Crayons or Markers

Give each child a “Treasure Page” to color. Make sure they put their name on their page. As each group leaves, leave their “treasure page” on the table. They can finish when they return from going to the four treasure stations.

TREASURE PAGE



TREASURE STATION #1 "ON THE MOUNTAIN"

___ Timer ___ God's Treasure Chest ___ Man's Treasure Chest
___ Gold Coins (see pages 5-6) ___ Gold Coins for Good Behavior

The Pirate teacher will make sure that the two "treasure chests" marked "God's Treasure Chest" and the other "Man's Treasure Chest" are placed up high for the children to see and can step on a chair to reach it and put a coin in it. As the children enter this Treasure Station #1, they will choose a mountain to sit on. (Several tables can be set up as mountains or this may be done on the side of a hill outside.)

Children will find gold coins scattered on their mountain and will be told to collect one coin only. For the purpose of time constraints, teachers will have written some answers on the gold coins. The teacher will set the timer for 10 minutes and discuss.

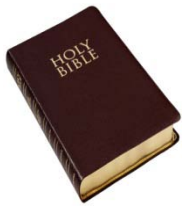
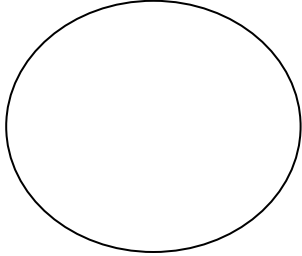
TREASURE LESSON:

1. What do we consider a "treasure"? (things that we really, really like or have a value)
2. What are some "treasures" that God would want us to have? (love, kindness, faithfulness, trust....)
3. The teacher will then hold up two treasure boxes marked "Man's Treasures" and "God's Treasures". She will put these two treasure chests on two different mountains. Then the teacher will ask each child for their gold coin, and ask them what it is. "Is this God's treasure or Man's treasure? She will wait for a response and have that child put the gold coin in the correct treasure box.
4. Whose treasure is more important? God's treasures or Man's treasures? (Cannot take things to heaven with us when we die, the memories we leave with others are what God wants us to do by treating others more important than things.)

When the timer goes off, the Pirate teacher will ask the lead child to look at the treasure map and decide where they should be going next and then send them on their way.

GOLD COINS FOR TREASURE STATION #1 "ON THE MOUNTAIN"

(Cut out from gold paper, the size of the circle. Then cut out pictures and glue onto the gold circles to look like "gold coins".)



(Cut outs to glue onto gold coins for treasure)



TREASURE STATION #2 "ON THE OCEAN"

_____ Timer _____ Pictures of "treasure places" (See pages 10-11) _____ Pictures of "treasure equipment" (See page 8-9) _____ swimming pools _____ Gold Coins

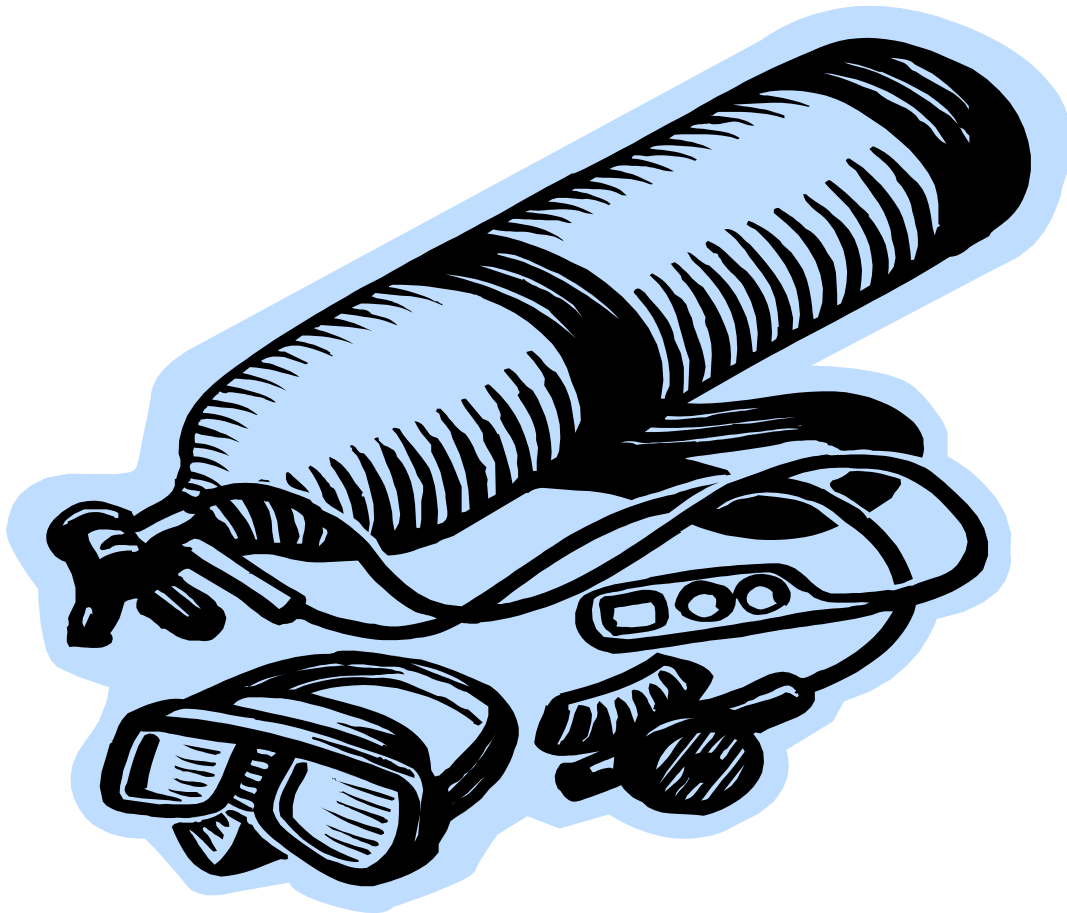
The teacher will set the timer for 10 minutes, discuss and help the children to answer the following questions by having them look at the pictures and items placed in the swimming pools. They will need to match the equipment needed to the place where they would use it. For example, the picture of a flashlight would match the picture of a cave because we need a light to see in the cave for treasures that we are hunting. Another example would be, the scuba gear needed to search for treasure in the ocean.

TREASURE LESSON:

1. How do we go about getting treasures? A discussion will follow with the teacher helping the children to realize that we do "digs" to find treasure, we search "caves" for treasure, we dive into the "oceans" to find treasure from sunken ships, we climb "mountains" and we search locked safes and places for treasures. The teacher will lead the discussion into what kind of equipment we may use to accomplish treasure hunting in these various different ways and hunt for treasures.
2. Where would we search for treasures from God? The teacher will lead a discussion on where would we find the treasures of God. Discussion should lead to maps or letters or pictures of where the treasures may be. The children will match the equipment needed to find God's treasures. (see page 12)
3. Game: The children will search the bottom of the ocean (swimming pool) and pull out the pictures. They will match the "equipment pictures" with the "treasure places". They will be rewarded with "gold coins" for being successful which they will put in their "gemstone bags". (see page 8-11)

When the timer goes off, the teacher will then ask the children to check their treasure map and go to their next treasure station.

(TREASURE EQUIPMENT - Cut out and place in the Swimming Pool.)



(TREASURE EQUIPMENT - Cut out for children and put in swimming pool.)



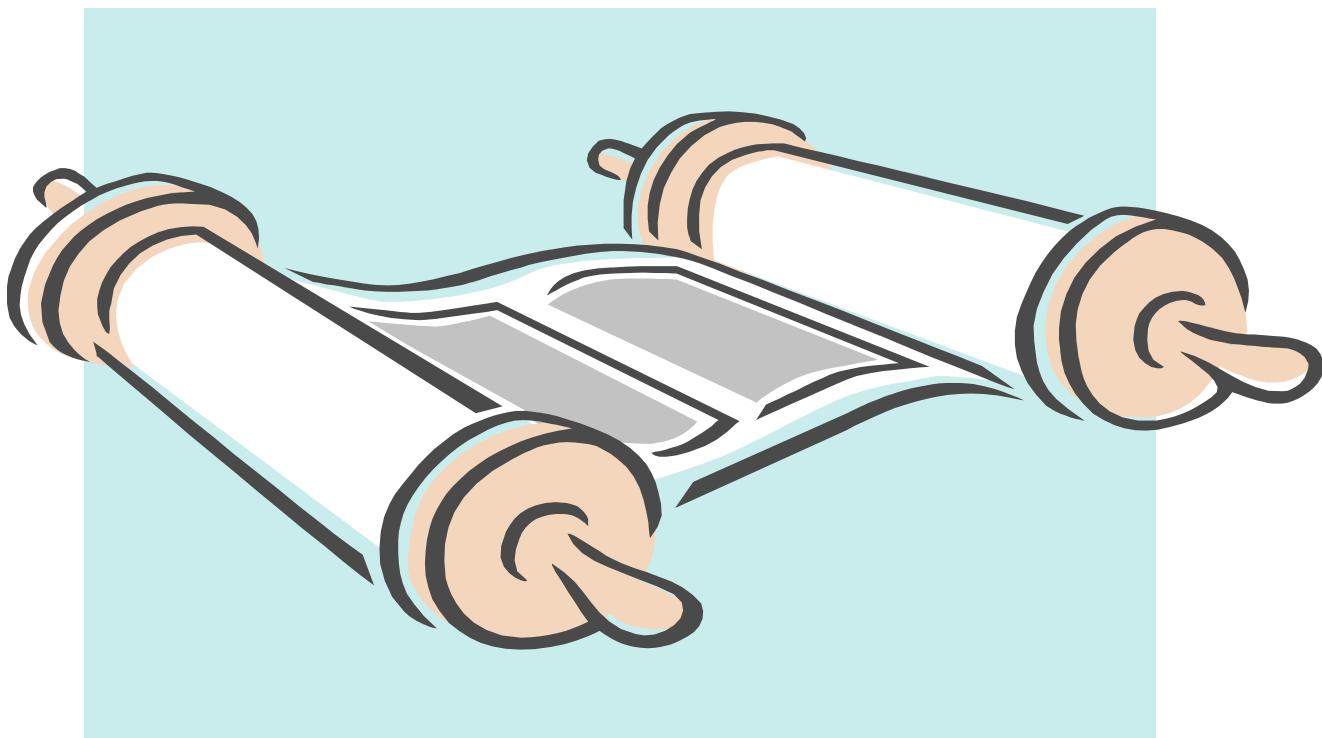
(TREASURE PLACES - Cut out these "treasure places" for the children to match with the equipment. Place in the swimming pool.)



(TREASURE PLACES - Cut out these "treasure places" which the children will match to the "treasure equipment". Place in the swimming pool.)



(GOD'S TREASURES - Cut out and place in the swimming pool)



TREASURE STATION #3 "AT THE DIG"

___ Timer ___ Cardboard pieces to hold clay ___ Baggie of Clay ___ Wipees
___ Markers ___ Picture of a clay pot (page 16) ___ Bible "Isaiah 64:8" marked
___ Gold Coins

As the children enter Treasure Station #3, they will sit in between the roped area called "the dig". The teacher will set the timer for 10 minutes and encourage the children to complete their project quickly.

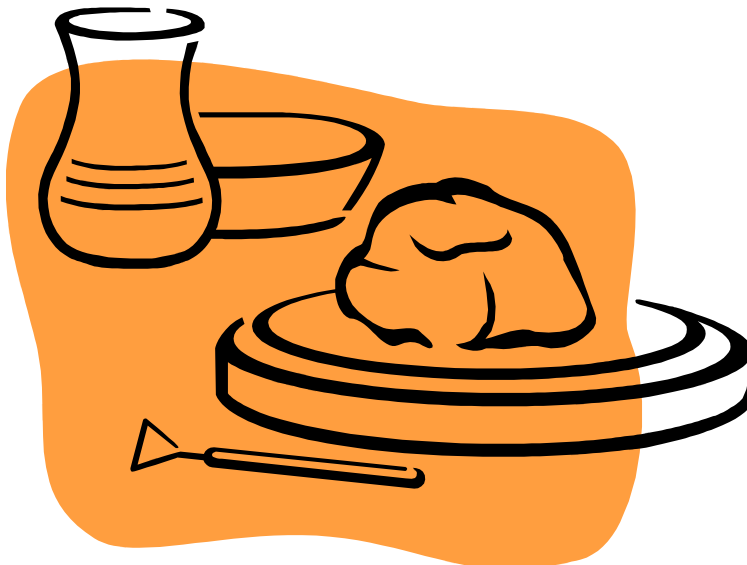
At this learning station, the children will be asked to make clay pots from clay from the earth. The teacher will give them instructions about forming a clay pot. Each child will receive a piece of cardboard which they will put their name on it first, place their clay on it and form a pot.

TREASURE LESSON:

The teacher will ask the following questions and have a discussion while the children are making their clay pots:

1. Who made us? (God) How did He make us? (From the earth)
2. Where would God hide His treasures for us? (In the Bible)
3. Where did the Bible come from? (Written down by men of God and put on scrolls, hidden in caves, found and published into the Bible)
4. God says in the Bible Isaiah 64:8 "Yet O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."

When the timer goes off, the children will then finish their clay pot, leave it to dry and place it outside the roped area and go to their next treasure station.



TREASURE STATION #4 "IN THE CAVE"

____ Timer ____ Flashlight ____ Clay Pot ____ Pictures (See page 16) ____ Small printed list of Books of Bible for each child (See page 15)
____ Bible with II Corinthians 4:5 and 6 marked. ____ Gold Coins for "Good Behavior"

Children will crawl into the cave in the darkness. The teacher will shine a light for the children to find a place to sit quietly, and set the timer for 10 minutes. A large clay pot will be discovered in the cave. The teacher will ask some questions and hold a discussion:

TREASURE LESSON:

1. What do we need to find the treasure in a cave? (The teacher will turn off her flashlight.) (light)
2. What kind of light do we need to find God's treasure? For God, who said "Let light shine out of darkness, made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ". II Corinthians 4:5 Discuss this verse.
3. Where should we look for that treasure of the "light of knowledge"? God continues to tell us in II Corinthians 4:6 "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us." Repeat this Bible verse twice with the children. (in clay pots- the Dead Sea Scrolls which were discovered in a cave named the Qumrand Cave near the Dead Sea)(Show a map.) God wants us to find his words, the Bible as His treasure and "the light of knowledge" for our hearts. Show some pictures (see page 16). What is on the scroll? (names) Names of what? (books of the Bible)(66) The teacher will pass the scroll around to the children who can read and name some of the Books of the Bible. Each child will receive a small rolled up scroll of the "Books of the Bible" to put in their clay pots.

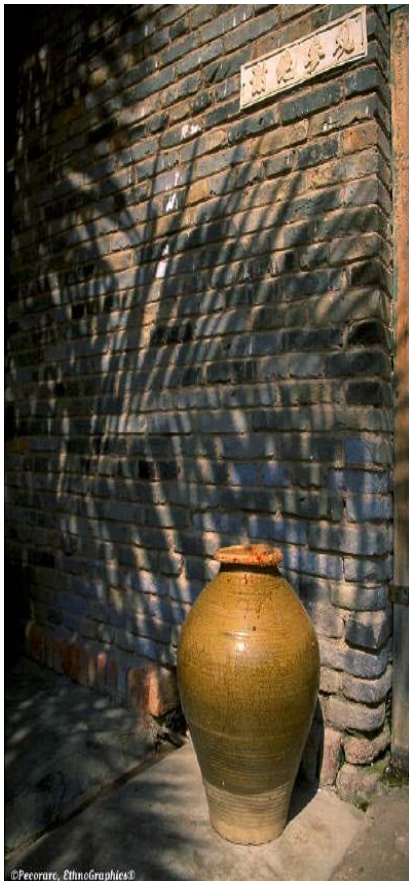
When the timer goes off, the teacher will ask the children to check their treasure map for the next treasure spot they need to go.

On the next page, there will be a list of all the books of the Bible. Cut out and roll the strips up like a scroll for the children to put into their clay pots.

BIBLE BOOKS

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
Joshua
Judges
Ruth
I Samuel
II Samuel
1 and 2 Kings
I Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther
Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Songs
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zechariah
Malachi
Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts
I Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians
1 and 2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon
Hebrews
James
1 and 2 Peter
1, 2, and 3 John
Jude
Revelation

(Cut outs for Treasure Station #4 In the Cave)



PIRATE'S LAIR

All the children will return to the "Pirate's Lair" to finish their coloring, return their gem stone bags and shop at the "Pirate Treasure Store". The "Pirate Teachers" will be giving out "gold coins" for good behavior. Here they will say a prayer. Their parents will come to pick them up. They may take home their clay pots with the scroll of the books of the Bible.