



A Catholic Vacation  
Bible School Program  
by Tammy Gabrelcik



# St. Joan of Arc





# ***St. Joan of Arc***

***A Catholic Vacation Bible School Program***

***By Tammy Gabrelcik***



# ***Table of Contents***

## **Saint Lesson**

<i>Lesson Plan . . . . .</i>	<b>3</b>
------------------------------	----------

## **Crafts**

<i>Cardboard Shield &amp; Sword (Preschool, Grade K). . . . .</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Picture Frame (1st &amp; 2nd Grade) . . . . .</i>	<b>6</b>
<i>Tissue Paper Stained Glass Jar (3rd &amp; 4th Grade) . . . . .</i>	<b>7</b>
<i>CD Holder Relief Project (5th &amp; 6th Grade) . . . . .</i>	<b>8</b>

## **Music**

<i>Patron Saint . . . . .</i>	<b>9</b>
-------------------------------	----------

## **Snacks**

<i>Horse Snacks: Cinnamon-Apple Crunch . . . . .</i>	<b>10</b>
--	-----------

## **Games**

<i>Horse Sack Races . . . . .</i>	<b>11</b>
-----------------------------------	-----------

## **Extras**

<i>St. Joan of Arc Memory Verse . . . . .</i>	<b>12</b>
<i>Visual Aides for Lesson Plan . . . . .</i>	<b>13-19</b>



**St. Joan of Arc**

# Lesson Plan

## Objectives

- To introduce the life of St. Joan of Arc to children 4-12 years old.
- To show how the Lord calls people of all ages and backgrounds to serve Him and glorify Him.
- To give children a role model for their Christian pilgrimage to Heaven.

## Supplies

- St. Joan of Arc story
- Easel or magnetic board
- Line-drawings for story (teacher will need to color and pre-cut) in back of St. Joan of Arc's section.
- Tape or adhesive craft magnets

## Lesson

*Teacher reads the following story, using provided pictures to tape on easel or use as magnets for story visual aids. An easel would be a good way to prop up the magnetic board.*

"St. Joan was a peasant girl from France. At the age of 16 years old, she heard voices of St. Catherine, St. Margaret, and St. Michael the Archangel. These voices began to tell her to help fight for the freedom of France which had been overrun by England."



*Place picture of Joan in dress on board.*

"This young girl traveled to speak to the dauphin, the prince of France. She begged his permission to lead an army against the enemy. The commander of the soldiers laughed at such a thought. She was a small, poor peasant girl that didn't even know how to ride a horse. How could she lead an army of strong men into battle?"



*Place picture of dauphin on board next to Joan.*

"Joan whispered a secret to the dauphin. She told him of three things that he had prayed about. The dauphin knew that only he and God knew what these three things were. When Joan revealed these things to him, he was convinced that she had indeed been sent by God to save France. He gave her a horse, armor and several hundred soldiers. St. Joan set off carrying a staff with a flag. The flag had a picture of Jesus and angels. It carried the words Jesus and Maria on it."

# Lesson Plan (Continued)



*Place armor on Joan, add staff, and place horse next to her.*

"St. Joan was a sight to see. This small girl dressed in soldier's armor rode off on her horse to free Orleans from England. Carrying her staff was a sign that God would protect her and France. She drove the English from Orleans and fought on until she freed Rheims. This is where the Cathedral was that the dauphin would go to be crowned king of France."



*Place sword on board.*

"The English were defeated by this peasant girl. They were very angry. In one of Joan's final battles for the king, she was surrounded by the enemy Burgundians. Her soldiers retreated. Joan stayed behind to fight, but was outnumbered. She was captured and taken as a prisoner."



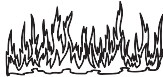
*Place ropes around Joan.*

"When England heard of Joan's capture, they offered the Burgundians six thousand francs for her. They agreed to sell St. Joan. She was put in a cell and chained there to await her trial."



*Place money on board.*

"The judge and other court officials were dishonest and wicked. They unfairly condemned Joan to death declaring her a witch and a heretic. St. Joan of Arc was burned at the stake on May 30, 1431. Before she died, she forgave all that had done this to her and she asked forgiveness from anyone that she might have offended. With her last breath, she said the name of Jesus."



*Place flames around and over Joan.*

"St. Joan of Arc is a martyr. She courageously died for her faith and her country. She was obedient to God's will. St. Joan is the patron saint of France."



*Place a picture of France on board.*



**St. Joan of Arc**

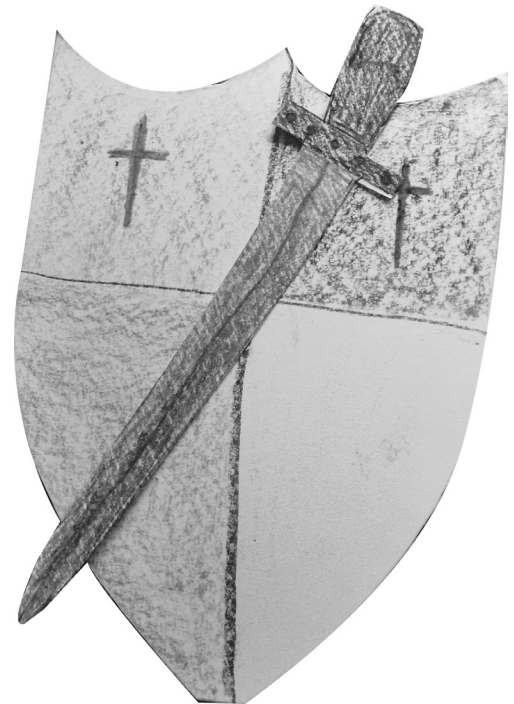
Appropriate for:  
**Preschool, Grade K**

# Cardboard Shield & Sword

- Supplies**
- Pre-cut cardboard shields and swords using pattern
  - Shipping tape
  - Cardboard strips 6 inches x 2 inches for handle on shields
  - Crayons
  - 1 black permanent marker

- Set Up**
1. Pre-cut cardboard shields and swords using included pattern, one per child.
  2. Tape cardboard strap in the center of the back of the shield using shipping tape.

- Directions**
1. Give each child a shield.
  2. Write children's name on back of shields.
  3. Distribute crayons to children.
  4. Allow children to color and decorate shields.
  5. As children are coloring, write on each child's shield "Pray for Us St. Joan of Arc"
  6. Distribute cardboard swords.
  7. Write children's names on handles of swords.
  8. Allow children to color swords with crayons.
  9. Allow time for children to play with shields and swords in an open area.
  10. Explain rules: No hitting other children with swords.







**St. Joan of Arc**

Appropriate for:  
**1<sup>st</sup> Grade & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

# Picture Frame

- Supplies**
- 5-inch x 7-inch Craft plain picture frame one per child
  - Assorted buttons, sequins
  - Plastic bowls
  - Markers
  - Tacky Glue
  - Paper cups
  - Paint brushes
  - 5-inch x 7-inch picture of St. Joan of Arc

- Set Up**
1. Place bowls with assorted buttons, sequins at children's work areas. Position the bowls to allow children to share supplies.
  2. Place paper cup filled with small amount of glue and a paint brush at each child's work area.
  3. Place one picture frame at each child's work area.

- Directions**
1. Write child's name on back of frame.
  2. Encourage children to color designs on the picture frame first with the markers.
  3. When all coloring is finished, allow children to glue buttons and sequins onto the frame.
  4. Allow to dry undisturbed.
  5. When frame is dry place picture of St. Joan of Arc in frame.





**St. Joan of Arc**

Appropriate for:  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

# Tissue Paper Stained Glass Jar

Crafts

- Supplies**
- Various sizes of recycled plastic jars, peanut butter jars, spice jars...
  - Various colors of tissue paper torn into approximately 1-inch size, any shape
  - Picture of St. Joan of Arc
  - Glue mixture: 2 parts white glue to 1 part water
  - Paint brushes
  - Small paper cups
  - Permanent marker for teacher
  - Optional: newspaper

- Set Up**
1. Tear sheets of tissue paper into small irregular shapes about 1-inch in size.
  2. Place newspaper at each child's work area for easy clean up.
  3. Put a small pile of tissue paper pieces at each child's work area.
  4. Give each child a small paper cup half full of glue mixture with a paint brush.
  5. Place a jar at each child's work station, or allow children to choose their own jar if they are different in size and shape.

- Directions**
1. Write names on the bottom of the jars with permanent marker.
  2. Allow children to paint glue mixture over a small area of their jar.
  3. Place tissue paper pieces, covering glue. Use different colors randomly.
  4. Continue process, alternating with covering with glue in small areas and placing tissue paper over glue until the whole jar is covered.
  5. When jar is completely covered, give each child a picture of St. Joan of Arc and glue it on the stained glass jar. Add more glue mixture to the area where the picture will be placed. If the picture does not stick, then use glue that is not watered down.
  6. Let dry.







**St. Joan of Arc**

Appropriate for:  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

# CD Holder Relief Project

- Supplies**
- Used CD cases with all paper liners removed, one per child
  - Colored poster board cut to fit inside the CD case, one per child
  - Scrap book double stick foam squares, 9 per child
  - 2-inch x 3-inch picture of St. Joan of Arc, one per child
  - Horse piece, one per child
  - St. Joan of Arc piece, one per child
  - Paper cups
  - Paint brush
  - Glue
  - Sequins and plastic gemstones
  - Black Permanent marker
  - Clear tape

- Set Up**
1. Pre-cut colored poster board to fit inside each CD case, one per child.
  2. Place paper cups with small amount of glue inside and paint brush at each child's work area.

- Directions**
1. Have each child write his/her name on the back side of the poster board.
  2. Give each child the 2-inch x 3-inch picture of Joan of Arc and have them glue it to the center of the poster board.
  3. Give each child the horse piece and 3 foam stickers. Have children apply the stickers to three spots on the back of the horse picture. Stick the horse in place over the horse on the background picture.
  4. Give each child the St. Joan of Arc piece with 6 foam stickers. Have children apply double layers of the stickers in three spots on the back of the St. Joan of Arc picture. Place this picture over the St. Joan of Arc part of the background piece. Each piece should appear to be popping off of the original picture.
  5. Have children decorate the poster board frame with sequins and plastic gemstones.
  6. Give children a CD case. Have children place the relief picture inside the case and close.
  7. Use clear tape to tape case shut.





***St. Joan of Arc***

# **Patron Saint**

*Music on Demo CD*

Pray for me, pray for me  
Pray for me, Patron saint

Soul live in Heaven  
With Christ so right.  
Ask him to help me  
With all of your might.

Pray for me, pray for me  
Pray for me, Patron saint

My parents gave me  
Your name so bright.  
With hopes you'll  
Watch over me day and night.

Pray for me, pray for me  
Pray for me, Patron saint

Body of Christ we are one so whole.  
Helping and praying for everyone's soul.

Pray for me, pray for me  
Pray for me, Patron saint

**Music**





***St. Joan of Arc***

# **Horse Snacks:**

## **Cinnamon-Apple Crunch**

- Ingredients**
- 5 cups cereal
  - ¼ cup walnut halves
  - ¼ cup sugar
  - ½ tsp. ground cinnamon
  - ½ cup coarsely cut dried apples

- Directions**
1. Preheat oven to 250°
  2. Combine cereal and walnuts in 13-inch x 9-inch baking pan.
  3. Stir together sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle over cereal mixture, stirring to coat evenly.
  4. Bake for 45 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes. Gently stir in apples. Spread on absorbent paper to cool.
  5. Yield: about 6 cups (12 servings)

---

***Easy Alternative: Fresh Carrot Sticks and Veggie Dip***

---

---

***Easy Alternative: Fresh Apple Slices***

---



***St. Joan of Arc***

# Horse Sack Races

- Supplies**
- 2 Queen size pillow cases
  - Optional: Using permanent marker, draw horse heads on pillow cases

**How to Play** Designate a racing area with a starting line and a finish line. Two children race at a time.

## *Easy Alternative: Scooter/Skateboard Races*

**How to Play** Use 2 scooters or skateboards for racing to a finish line. For extra fun and safety, have children sit down on scooters and skateboards for the race! It's a blast! Make sure the children know the rules about sitting down to ensure no accidents.



**St. Joan of Arc**

# Memory Verse

**St. Joan of Arc**



*Psalm 1:6*

*"The Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked leads to ruin."*

*—St. Joseph Edition NAB*

**St. Joan of Arc**



*Psalm 1:6*

*"The Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked leads to ruin."*

*—St. Joseph Edition NAB*

**St. Joan of Arc**



*Psalm 1:6*

*"The Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked leads to ruin."*

*—St. Joseph Edition NAB*

**St. Joan of Arc**



*Psalm 1:6*

*"The Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked leads to ruin."*

*—St. Joseph Edition NAB*

**St. Joan of Arc**



*Psalm 1:6*

*"The Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked leads to ruin."*

*—St. Joseph Edition NAB*

**St. Joan of Arc**



*Psalm 1:6*

*"The Lord watches over the way of the just, but the way of the wicked leads to ruin."*

*—St. Joseph Edition NAB*