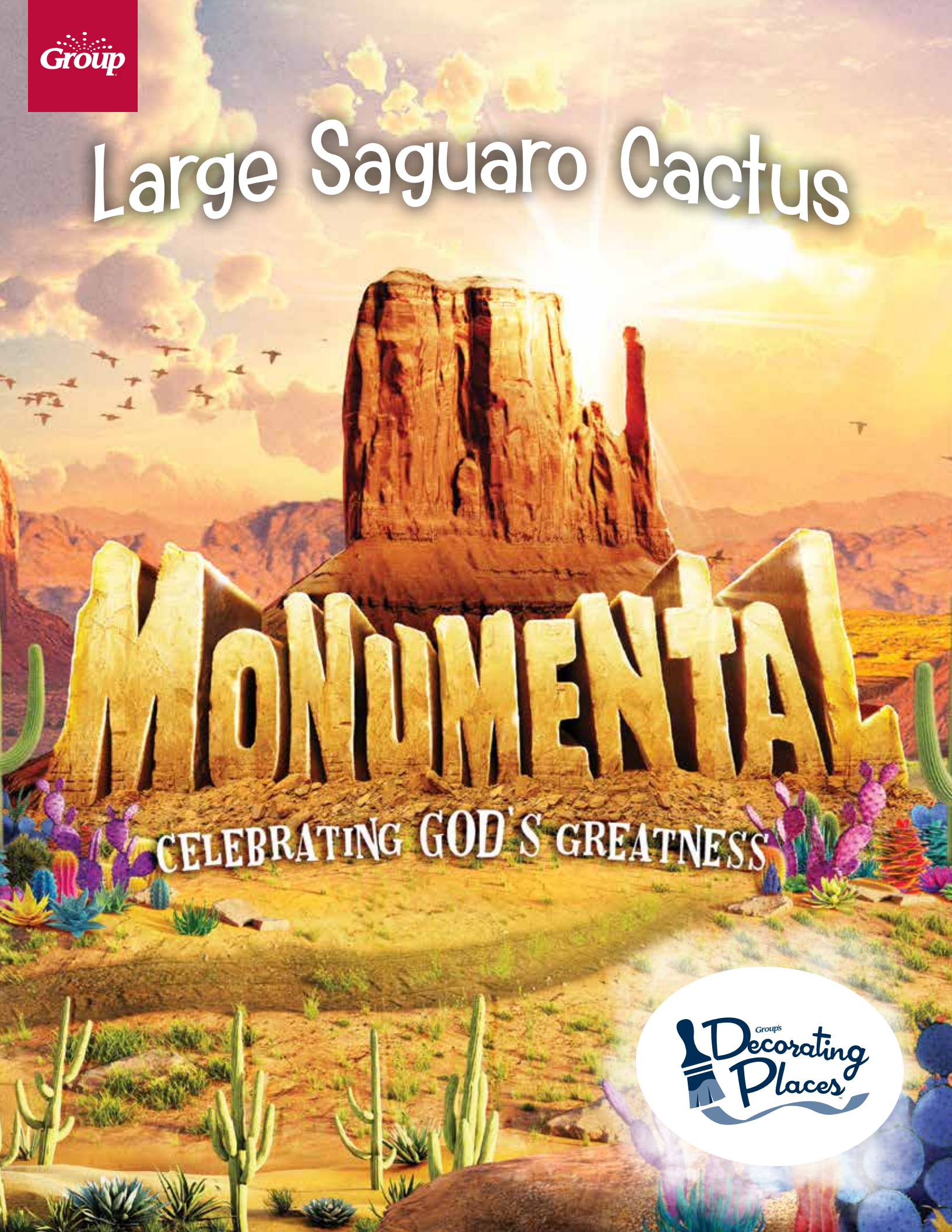


Group

# Large Saguaro Cactus

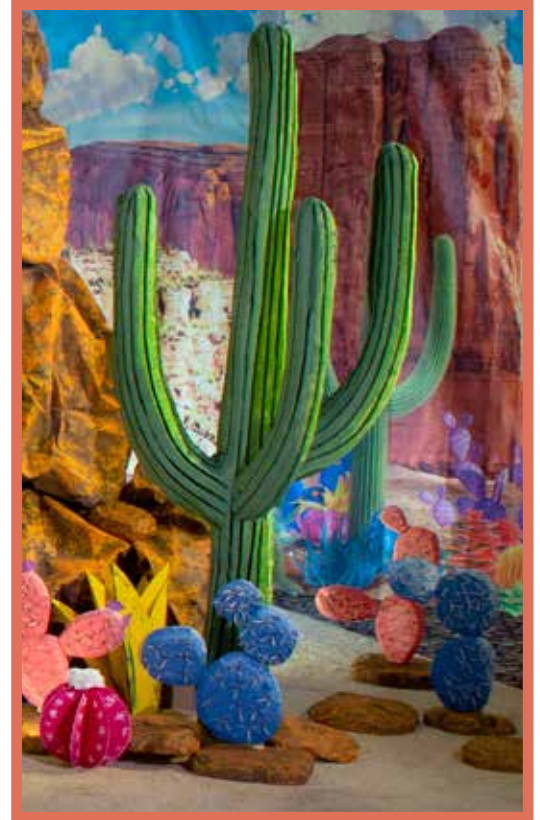




# Large Saguaro Cactus

## Materials:

- ♦ 2 sheets of 2-in. foam board (4 ft. x 8 ft. x 2 in.) or 4 sheets of 1-in. foam (\*see 1-in. foam instructions)
- ♦ marker
- ♦ Saguaro Cactus pattern
- ♦ 1 can of Great Stuff insulating foam
- ♦ 2 nails (4-in.)
- ♦ paint in the following colors (we used Behr):
  - ♦ Trailing Vine (dark green)
  - ♦ Bold Avocado (bright green)
  - ♦ bright yellow
  - ♦ white
- ♦ 3-in. paintbrush
- ♦ paint roller
- ♦ roller pan
- ♦ gloves
- ♦ tarp
- ♦ Crew sign stand and pole or other sturdy base
- ♦ duct tape or zip ties
- ♦ digital projector or overhead projector
- ♦ hot knife
- ♦ straight blade and curved carving blade for hot knife



## Directions:

**Step 1:** Project and trace 2 identical Saguaro Cactus bodies and 2 arm pieces onto foam. Trace the body as large or as small as you wish on the piece of foam, and then trace the arm in the margin so that both pieces fit on the 4x8 area (\* If using 1-in. foam, trace 4 of each.) Our large cacti measure 72 in. and small 53 in.

**Step 2:** With a hot knife, cut out Saguaro shapes.

**Step 3:** Glue the two identical body pieces together with Great Stuff. Be sure to weigh down the foam so it's not able to expand too much. Glue the two identical pieces of arm together with Great Stuff. Allow to dry. (If using 1-in. foam, glue 2 together, allow to dry, then glue those 2 together to create 4-in.-thick structures.)

**Step 4:** Trim edges of the cactus and the arms, giving the front of the cactus a rounded appearance.

**Step 5:** Carve grooves an inch apart in straight lines down the body of the cactus. (We found that the carving tool tip of the hot knife was too wide for the groove we wanted, so we took a straight edge and bent the end over on itself and smashed it down to create a narrow groove a bit wider than the straight edge alone would create.)

**Step 6:** Down each arm of the cactus, carve grooves following the bend of the arm.

**Step 7:** Using the 3-in. paintbrush, paint the grooves of the cactus first, then paint the entire cactus all with Trailing Vine green paint. Allow to dry.

**Step 8:** Determine where the arm of the cactus will go and the angle. Trim the end as needed for the angle and pitch you desire. Using Great Stuff and 2 nails, attach the arm by pressing 1 nail on each side of the arm into the main body of the cactus. Allow to dry.



**Step 9:** Add depth by using a roller to add a brighter green (Bold Avocado) to just the surface of the cactus. Load a roller with Bold Avocado, and roll excess paint off at the top of the roller pan so that your roller has very little paint. Softly roll the surface of the Saguaro.

**Step 10:** Add a few sunlit highlights with yellow by rolling over just the side or area to be highlighted with the lighter, brighter yellow color.

**Step 11:** Secure the cactus to a sturdy stand with tape or zip ties.



## Cactus Transparencies

