

# Building Babylon

## Quick & Easy Babylon Celebration Set -Walls

- large, flat sheets of cardboard
- scissors
- Babylon VBS Giant Decorating Posters\*
- clear packing tape
- utility knife
- Desert Sand Plastic Backdrop\*
- spray adhesive
- Cool Connectors\*
- drop cloth

Determine the size wall you wish to create and consider if there any corners or angles. Use Cool Connectors to attach multiple pieces of cardboard together.

Using tape or spray adhesive, attach the Desert Sand Plastic Backdrop to the wall pieces, allowing for a couple of inches to wrap to the backside. Note: The lighter yellow of the backdrop goes to the middle of the wall.

Trim borders out from the Babylon VBS Giant Decorating Posters.

Attach border to the backdrop.

Tip: For easy storage or hauling, consider covering each piece of cardboard individually. (Build and fit the wall pieces together, deconstruct, cover each piece, and reattach.) Put the carpet tube on the stand.



## Windows

- cardboard box (a bit bigger than the poster that you are using for the window)
- pencil
- tape measure or straight edge
- utility knife
- scissors
- cutting mat
- palm tree from Babylon VBS Giant Decorating Posters\*
- clear packing tape
- Stone Wall Plastic Backdrop\*
- LED can light (a light that doesn't get hot)

Build the box . Leave the back open or cut an access hole in the back for the light.

Cut the palm tree poster to the edge of the printing. Center poster on top of the box and tape corners temporarily.

Trace the poster onto the box, then remove the poster. Measure 1 ½ inches in from the edge of the poster mark. This will be your cut line.

Wrap the box with Stone Wall Plastic Backdrop. Cut the plastic on the front side of the box. Center the poster and attach to the wrapped box using loops of clear packing tape.

Place the light inside the box.

\*Available at [group.com](http://group.com) or your VBS supplier

## Nearly Free Palm Tree



- cardboard
- utility knife
- cutting mat
- zip ties
- paint stirring sticks
- hot glue gun
- green paint
- dropcloth
- gloves
- paint roller
- carpet tube
- lunch-size paper bags
- scissors
- drill
- #8 x 1" self-drilling lath screws
- carpet tube stand
- Palm Leaf template (download from [group.com/vbsTools](http://group.com/vbsTools))

Put the carpet tube on the stand.

Cut a hole in the bottom of each paper bag.

Cover the carpet tube with paper bags by sliding them onto the tube and crumpling them.

Cut leaf shapes out of cardboard.

Cut V shapes in the leaves to give them texture.

Hot glue 4 or 5 paint stirring sticks together, creating one 90-degree angle and a couple of smaller bends. (need picture)

Paint the leaves and paint sticks green on both sides. For added detail, add white paint "veins" to the leaves.

Hold the paint sticks on the leaf, and poke two holes along the stick.

Score the cardboard, where the stick bends. The scored side is the top side.

Insert zip ties into the holes.

Zip tie the sticks to the leaves. Cut off the excess "tails."

Insert palm leaves into the top of the carpet tube. Attach the last leaf on the outside of the tube by using a drill and screw or a large zip tie to attach the paint stick of the leaf to the carpet tube.



## Backdrop for Daniel's House

- flat cardboard for walls or boxes for stones
- 3 different colors of paint (we used white, dark brown, and tan)
- paint tray
- paint roller
- utility knife

Pour all three colors into a paint tray in three separate puddles.

Roll the roller through the puddles of paint in the paint tray, picking up a bit of each color. Then roll the surface you wish to paint allow the colors to muddle a bit. Be sure not to over roll or it will lose the marble appearance.

## Curtain for Daniel's House

- 2 yards solid-colored fabric, cut into two 48"x3' pieces
- scissors
- duct tape
- yardstick

Use the yardstick to measure out 3 feet of tape. Lay the tape sticky side up on a table, and lay the yardstick on the top half of the tape.

Working with one piece of fabric at a time, press the fabric onto the tape while you loosely gather it. When you reach the center of the yardstick, repeat the process with the second piece of fabric.

When completed, give the yardstick one turn under the fabric so the curtain can be taped to the wall without the tape or yardstick showing.

## Tribe Time Tile

- 5'x5' canvas tarp
- potatoes (washed and dried)
- paring knife and cutting board
- yellow and blue paint
- 2 paper plates
- toothpicks

Cut the potatoes in half. Using a toothpick, carve a design in each potato half (simple shapes work best). Then use the knife to cut the shapes about 1/4" deep into the potatoes, similar to carving a pumpkin.

Pour a small amount of paint on each plate. Press a potato half into the paint and then onto canvas. Create different patterns by alternating colors and shapes.





## Babylon Garden Topiaries

- large flower pots, urns, or baskets
- floral foam
- tissue paper vine
- green tissue paper
- artificial flowers and greenery
- 3' dowel or PVC pipe
- three 7" zip ties

Fill the base of the flower pot with floral foam, and cover the foam with green tissue paper. Put the dowel in the center of the flower pot. Wrap the dowel with tissue paper vine and greenery. Use the zip ties to attach the vine to the dowel. Press artificial flowers and additional greenery through the tissue paper and into the floral foam to finish the topiary.



## Gold Toenail

- 12"x18" cookie sheet
- gold foil (found with the cake decorating supplies)
- scissors
- tape

Wrap the cookie sheet with gold foil and secure with tape.

**Note:** The Gold Toenail is used in Daniel's house on Day 3.

## Catapults

### Small catapult

- 1 lumber piece, 1"x4"x30"
- 1 lumber piece, 2"x4"x4"
- drill
- 4 screws, 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" long
- tape measure

Use screws to attach the 4" lumber piece 10 inches away from one end of the 1"x 4" Piece of lumber.

### King catapult

- 1 board, 1"x8"x5'
- 1 lumber piece, 4"x4"x8"
- drill
- 4 screws, 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" long
- tape measure

Use screws to attach the 8" lumber piece 20 inches away from one end of the board.



small catapult



## Babylonian Marketplace Shop

- pop-up tent
- 3 bedsheets (any size)
- zip ties
- safety pins
- pillows
- blankets
- baskets
- greenery
- pottery
- rectangular table (set low on the floor)

Set up the tent, and hang bedsheets around the frame of the tent on three sides. To do this, attach safety pins to the sheets and then put the zip ties through the safety pins and then around the tent frame. Hang the sheets so they touch the ground. Fill the tent with pillows, blankets, baskets, greenery, and pottery, and set a table low on the floor.



## Basic Babylonian No-Sew Costume

- 3 yards of natural-colored muslin fabric
- 2 yards of colorful fabric such as blue, burgundy, or dark brown
- large paper plate
- marker
- fabric scissors
- 1 bandura (optional)
- 6 feet of rope, cording, or scrap fabric (for a belt)

Fold the 3 yards of muslin in half to measure 4½ feet by 45 inches.

To create a neck hole: Find the center point on the folded edge of the muslin. Position the paper plate so that it is centered over the fold. Using the marker, trace the plate, creating a half circle on the fabric. Cut the half circle out of only the top layer of fabric. When you open the fabric, a half circle should be in the center of the fabric.

Next, fold the 2 yards of colorful fabric in half along the length of the fabric, creating a 6-foot by 22½-inch rectangle. Cut on the fold from the bottom halfway up (half the length of the total length of fabric). This fabric piece may be worn over the tunic or as a head piece with the bandura. Add a belt, if desired.

Customize tunics and fabric pieces for kids and adults by simply measuring from a person's shoulder to where you wish the garment to end. Double that distance to get the length of fabric needed, and follow the instructions above.



## Hedges and Leafy Things

- rectangular boxes
- brown craft paper (optional)
- Meadow Plastic Backdrop\*
- Tissue Paper Grass Mat\* (optional)
- scissors
- clear packing tape
- stapler



Build and tape boxes shut. Cut pieces of brown paper and tape the paper to the boxes to cover any logos. Tip: If you build the boxes inside out, you won't need to cover any logos.

Wrap each box with the Meadow Plastic Backdrop. You don't need to wrap the bottom of the box since no one will see it.

To add texture, staple the Tissue Paper Grass Mat to the box.

## Edible Locust

- miniature candy bars (1 per person)
- chocolate frosting
- pecan halves (2 per person)
- small pretzel twists (1 per person)
- tray or small paper plates for serving
- plastic knives
- plastic resealable bags to squeeze frosting

Position an unwrapped miniature candy bar on a tray or paper plate as the locust's body.

Use chocolate icing to attach a pecan half horizontally on top of the candy bar to look like a locust's folded wings. Attach the other pecan half to the other end of the candy bar to look like a head.

Break the small pretzel twist in half, and attach each piece to either side of the candy bar as legs.

Add two thick dots of icing as eyes.



\*Available at [group.com](http://group.com) or your VBS supplier



## Fez Hat

- white poster board, 22"x28" (makes 2)
- tape
- pencil
- string, 11-inch piece
- scissors
- felt, 22"x12" piece per fez
- hot glue gun
- stapler
- ruler
- a friend

Mark the center point on the short edge of the poster board.

Tape one end of the string to the pencil. Place the other end of the string on the center point of the poster board. Have one person hold the string on the center point while the other person pulls the string tight and the pencil straight up and down. Draw an arc on the poster board from one corner to the other. Cut 5 inches off the string, and place it back on the center point. Draw an arc inside the larger arc to resemble a rainbow. (You can make an arc on each end of the poster board.) Cut out the arc. On the inside small edge of the arc, cut 1-inch-deep tabs an inch apart. Cut a 3½-inch circle from the poster board scraps. Lay both pieces on the felt, and use them as a pattern to cut the pieces out of the felt. Use the hot glue gun to glue the felt to the poster board. Bend the 1-inch tabs down. Overlap edges of the arc to size the hat, and determine the correct size by fitting it to a person's head. Mark or hold the arc to keep the size, remove it from the person's head, and staple it together. Trim the circle as needed, and glue the circle on top.



## Tribe Sign

- Crew base and stand
- zip ties (2)
- utility knife
- Tribe Sign\* mounted on foam core

Poke 2 holes in foam core at the top and bottom.

Insert zip ties.

Attach the Tribe Sign to the pole, making sure the top of the pole is covered.

