

Fiery Furnace Candle

Materials

- ☐ Glass votive cups
- ☐ Votive candles
- ☐ Orange, yellow, and red craft sand
- ☐ Toothpicks
- ☐ Plastic spoons and bowls
- ☐ Optional: small paint brushes
- ☐ Optional: small plastic baggies
- ☐ Optional: scissors



Instructions

Prepare the sand by pouring each color into bowls for students to share. Or pour a small amount of each color into plastic baggies, three colors per student. NOTE: If using the baggie method, you will clip a very small portion off the bottom corner of each baggie to pour the sand into the votive cup. (This method is faster, but takes more dexterity to control the sand flow.)

Pass out one votive cup and one votive candle to each student. Using plastic spoons (or baggies), have students pour a small amount of sand in the bottom of the cup then push the candle into the sand, centering it in the cup. Next have students pour sand evenly around the candle to make colored layers, carefully shaking or tapping to keep it even. Use a small paintbrush to brush the sand off the top of the candle. Continue adding sand to about ½ inch from the top of the candle. The top layer will be the color that makes the “flame” pattern.

Gently poke a toothpick down through the sand layers at the outer edge near the glass. As the toothpick is gently raised up and down (may take several times in each spot), the top sand layer will fall into the hole. When the design is finished all the way around the cup, finish pouring sand evenly to the top edge of the candle and brush off any excess with a paintbrush.

Suggested Discussion

We made these candles to remind us of the amazing power God showed when he protected the men in the fiery furnace.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego chose not to bow down to an idol. They knew God would not want them to worship Nebuchadnezzar’s golden statue. But even when they were faced with the choice of worshipping the statue or going into the fire, they chose to trust God and be obedient to him. They weren’t sure what God would do exactly, but they knew they could trust him.

Whenever you see your candle, think about how these men chose to obey and ask him to help you trust in his amazing power, too.