

Battle Scene Introduction

The purpose of this activity is to set up the scene after David's fight with Goliath and have the students work backward like detectives, examining the evidence to fill in what happened in their Battle Reports (Class Notes).

Choose the option that best fits your space, class, and time:

Option 1:

You will show an illustration of the battle scene and pass out evidence cards.

Option 2:

If you have the room, you will create an actual "crime scene" of the event for students to visit and examine.

Option 1

Materials

- ☐ One Battle Scene Illustration (next page)
- ☐ One set of Evidence Cards (following pages)

Instructions

Print one copy of the Battle Scene Illustration and one set of Evidence Cards. You will show the illustration in the introduction and either pass out the cards or hide them in class for students to collect.

Discussion

Today, you have a detective mission to view a battle scene and see if you can figure out what happened. I'll show you a picture of the scene then you'll collect/receive evidence cards that we'll use to solve the case. Show the Battle Scene Illustration and discuss. Pass out evidence cards or have them hidden in the room for students to collect.

Option 2

Materials

- ☐ One Battle Scene Illustration (next page)
- ☐ One set of Evidence Cards (following pages)
- ☐ One or more sets of Footprints (following pages)
- ☐ Masking tape or chalk to create Goliath outline
- ☐ Measuring tape or meter stick
- ☐ One smooth stone in a plastic "evidence" baggie
- ☐ Optional: crime scene tape or yellow streamers and tape for barrier

Instructions

Print one copy of the Battle Scene Illustration for your reference. Print and cut out one set of Evidence Cards and one set of footprints.

Before class, in another room, hallway, or outdoors, use the Battle Scene Illustration and measuring tape to create a tape/chalk outline of a headless giant on the ground. Or, if you have a tall volunteer, you could have him/her lay down so you can make an outline. Make sure it is about 9 feet (2.75 meters) from feet to shoulders. Place the stone in an evidence baggie next to the outline. Lay the printouts of the footprints so they are moving away from the body.

Hide the evidence cards in the area for students to find but place cards 7–9 next to the evidence they match (footprints, stone, and body outline).

Optional: attach crime scene tape/yellow streamers to chairs, walls, or other objects to mark off the area.

Discussion

Today, you'll be detectives and investigate a battle scene to see if you can figure out what happened. I will lead you there so you can examine everything you see. You'll also search for evidence cards at the scene. There are 10 cards to collect. After you find one, you may help others find the rest, but don't keep more than one card. Then we'll come back to class to review the evidence together. Lead students to the scene. Give them time to look around and collect the evidence cards. When finished, lead students back to class and discuss what they saw at the scene.



Card #1

Evidence: Tents and supplies were found in two camps on both sides of the valley where the body was found.

Support: And the [redacted] stood on the mountain on the one side, and [redacted] stood on the mountain on the other side, with a [redacted] between them. 1 Samuel 17:3 (ESV)

Card #2

Evidence: Several Israelite soldiers admitted they were terrified of a giant.

Support: And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a [redacted] named [redacted] of Gath, whose height was six [redacted] and a span. 1 Samuel 17:4

All the men [redacted], when they saw the man, [redacted] from him and were much [redacted].

1 Samuel 17:24 (ESV)

Card #3

Evidence: Fresh crumbs of bread and pieces of cheese were found near the supplies in one camp.

Support: And Jesse said to [redacted] his son, "Take for your [redacted] an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten [redacted], and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers. Also take these ten [redacted] to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them." 1 Samuel 17:17–18 (ESV)

Card #4

Evidence: Several Israelite soldiers recalled that a young man was asking about the Philistine champion.

Support: And David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall be done for the man who [redacted] this Philistine and takes away the reproach from [redacted]? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should [redacted] the armies of the living [redacted]?"

1 Samuel 17:26 (ESV)

Evidence cards: *Print and cut out one set.*

Card #5

Evidence: An Israelite soldier reported that his youngest brother came to watch the battle.

Support: Now [redacted] his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's [redacted] was kindled against David, and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few [redacted] in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the [redacted] of your heart, for you have come down to [redacted] the battle." 1 Samuel 17:28 (ESV)

Card #7

Evidence: Footprints matching those leaving the body were found at a nearby brook.

Support: Then he took his [redacted] in his hand and chose five smooth [redacted] from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His [redacted] was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine. 1 Samuel 17:40 (ESV)

Card #6

Evidence: A servant of the Israelite king said a young man volunteered to fight the giant.

Support: And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart [redacted] because of him. Your servant will go and [redacted] with this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a [redacted], and he has been a man of war from his youth." 1 Samuel 17:32–33 (ESV)

Card #8

Evidence: One smooth stone was found by the body.

Support: And David put his hand in his bag and took out a [redacted] and slung it and struck the Philistine on his [redacted]. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his [redacted] to the ground. 1 Samuel 17:49 (ESV)

Card #9

Evidence: The outline of a giant body (without a head) was found in the valley.

Support: Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his [REDACTED] and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off [REDACTED] with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was [REDACTED], they fled.

1 Samuel 17:51 (ESV)

intentionally left blank

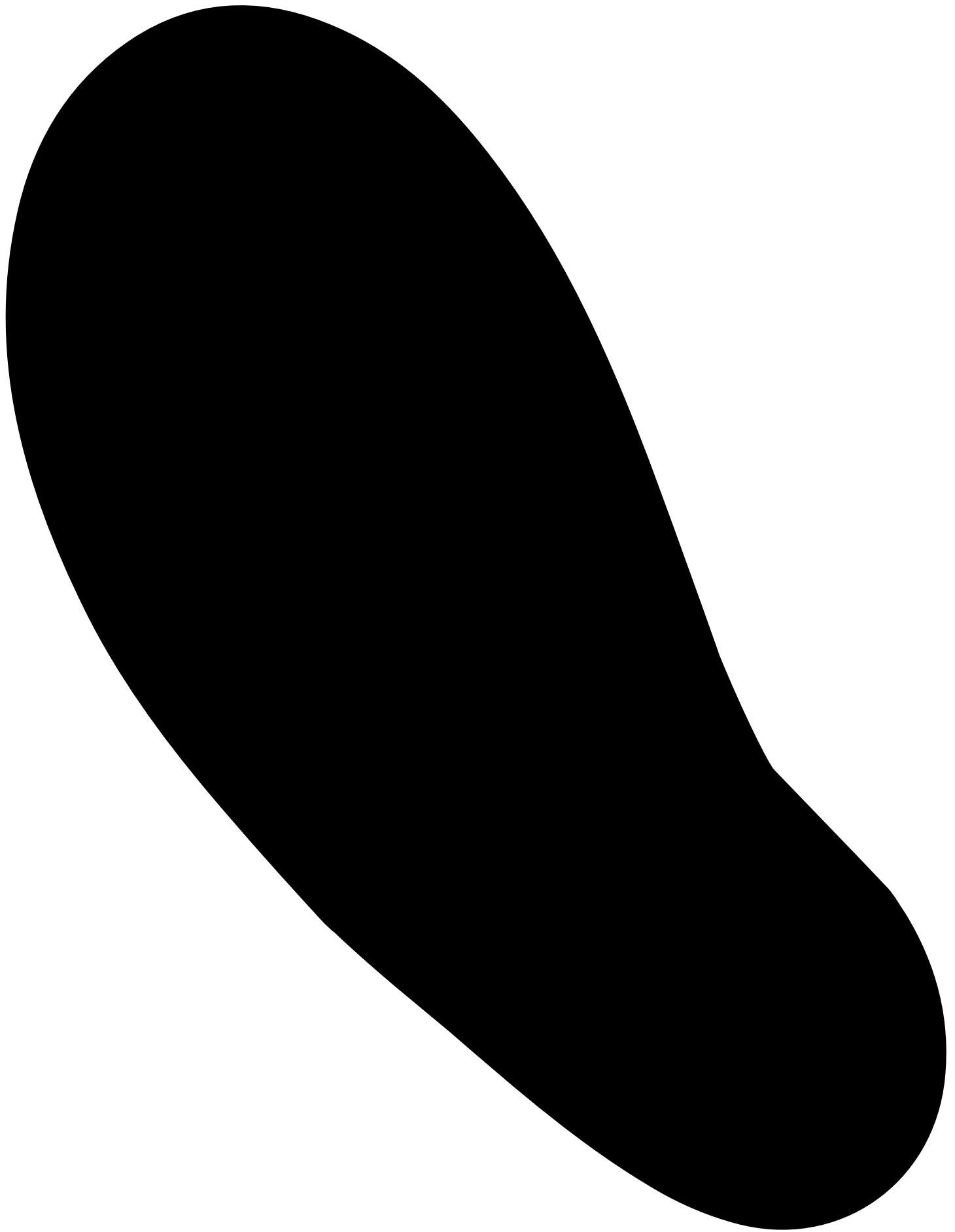
Card #10

Evidence: Thousands of footprints crossed the valley and continued in the direction of Ekron.

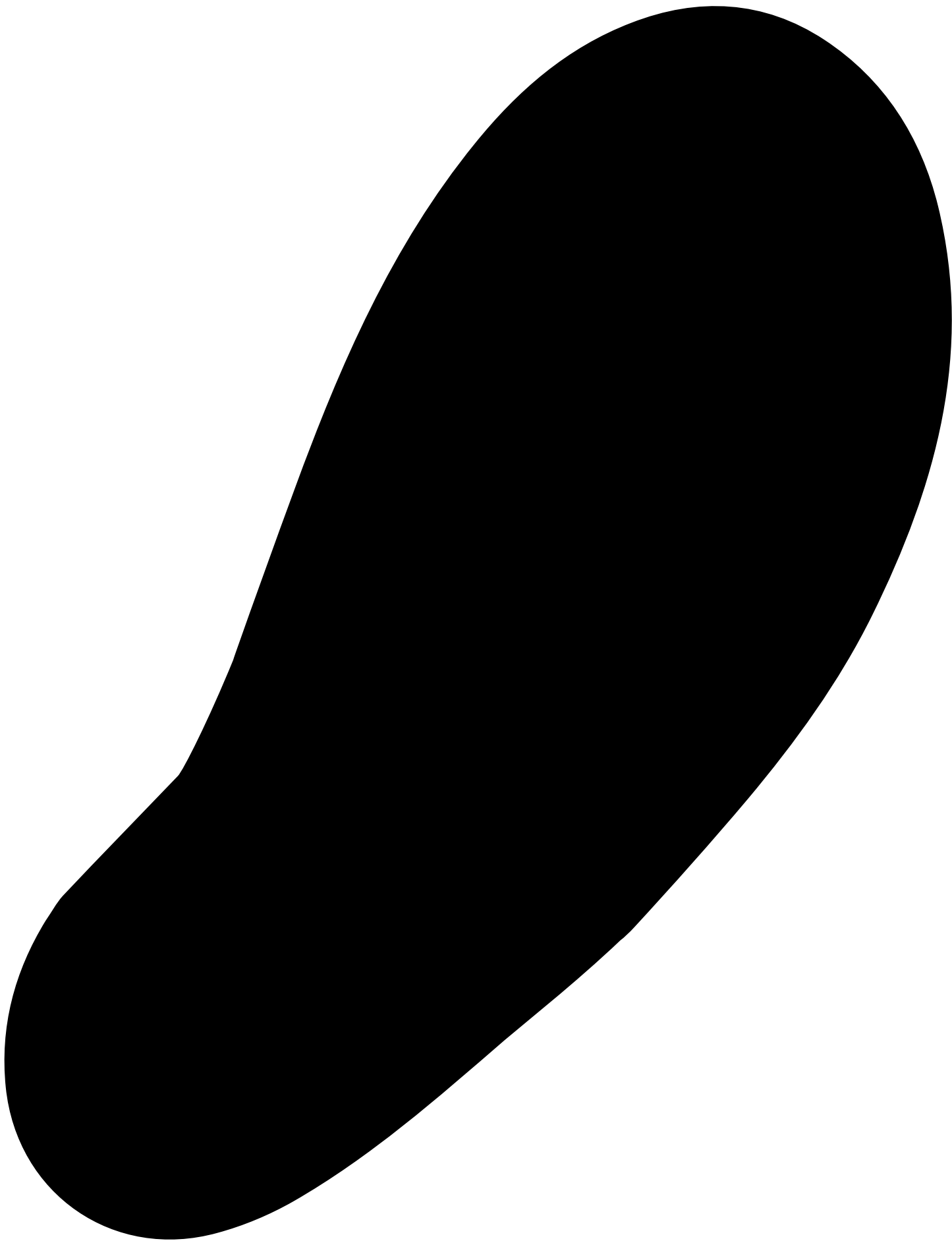
Support: And the men of [REDACTED] and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the [REDACTED] as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the [REDACTED] Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron.

1 Samuel 17:52 (ESV)

intentionally left blank



Left Footprint: *Print and cut out two or more footprints to place at the scene.*



Right Footprint: *Print and cut out two or more footprints to place at the scene.*