

Barley Loaves and Fishes (I wrote)

Today I am going to tell you a story about a little boy who shared his lunch with Jesus.

This story is found in the Bible. In fact, it is found in 4 different books in the Bible; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

If this story is found in the Bible, is it a true story or a pretend story? It is a true story, that's right, because every word in the Bible is true! The Bible is God's Word, and God does not lie does He? NO!

In our story today, Jesus and His disciples are rowing a boat across the Sea of Galilee.

For many, many days Jesus has been busy teaching and healing people and He was in need of some rest. So He and His disciples get on a boat and set sail.

BUT when Jesus was nearing the shore on the other side of the Sea of Galilee, the people recognize Him immediately and they too began to run towards Him.

When Jesus reached the shore, He climbed up to a mountain and sat down to rest.

BUT it wasn't long before the people found Him and began to race after Him.

You see, these people had heard about how Jesus could heal the sick and they wanted Jesus to heal their friends too.

As Jesus looked down from the mountain, He saw a GREAT multitude of people gathering below.

And it wasn't long before they began to climb the mountain after Him. They climbed and climbed and climbed, and finally, right there is front of them WAS JESUS!

Many of the people brought friends and family members who were crippled or blind, people who deaf or unable to speak.

They brought them and laid them down at Jesus' feet; and He healed every single one of them.

As Jesus healed each person, the crowd became more and more amazed. They couldn't believe their eyes.

People who had been crippled were now walking.

People who were blind could now see.

People who were deaf were now able to hear.

Again and again Jesus healed those who were sick.

IT WAS AMAZING!

For **THREE WHOLE DAYS** Jesus taught and healed the sick.

And finally He called to His disciples and said “I feel compassion for the people, they have remained with Me for three days and have had nothing to eat; I do not wish to send them away hungry. Least they faint on the way.”

Now in the Bible times, there were no McDonalds or Burger King or Pizza Huts to run to. There were no Arby’s or KFC restaurants either. In fact, there were no restaurants AT ALL.

Jesus and His disciples did not carry food with them when they traveled from place to place so they had no food to give the people.

And the people had not brought food with them either, so where do you think they were going to find enough food to feed over 5000 men, women and children?

The disciples didn’t know either; in fact they asked Jesus “Where would we get so many loaves in a desolate place to satisfy such a great multitude?”

And Jesus said to them “How many loaves do you have?”

The disciples didn't know the answer to this question so they began to ask each person in the crowd “Did you bring any food along?” “Have you anything to eat?” Time and time again each person said no.

Finally, Andrew; one of Jesus disciples found a small boy who had brought along 5 small loaves of barley bread and two small fishes.

The little boy was happy to share his food with Jesus. BUT he had no idea just how many people he would be sharing with.

When Andrew brought the 5 little loaves and 2 small fish to Jesus, Jesus said “Have the people sit down.”

Jesus took the loaves and after giving thanks to God, He distributed the bread to those who were seated.

He did the same with the fish.

Every time Jesus broke off a piece of bread, there was still more and more and more left over.

In fact, there was so much bread that Jesus fed EVERY SINGLE PERSON in the crowd. They ate and ate and ate until they were completely full.

Jesus had taken those 5 little loaves and 2 small fishes and multiplied them over and over again. So much so that He was able to feed all 5000 people.

And not only that, when the people were finished eating, Jesus sent His disciples around to gather all that was left over.

When they had gathered all the leftovers, there was enough left to fill TWELVE whole baskets.

Now how could that happen? It happened
because Jesus blessed the food and HE
performed a MIRACLE!

Can you perform miracles? No!!! Only Jesus can
perform a miracle.

Jesus is special!!! He is awesome!!! He is God's
son!!!

Jesus loves us and will take care of us, Just like
He did each of those 5000 people.

Let's pray and say thank you to God for loving
us and taking good care of us.

Dear gracious and living Father, we thank You
for this time together where we can gather and
hear Your Word. We thank You for loving each
of us and for providing for all of our needs. I
thank you for allowing me to share Your Word
with these children and I pray Your blessings
and protection upon each of them.

These things I pray in Jesus' name Amen.

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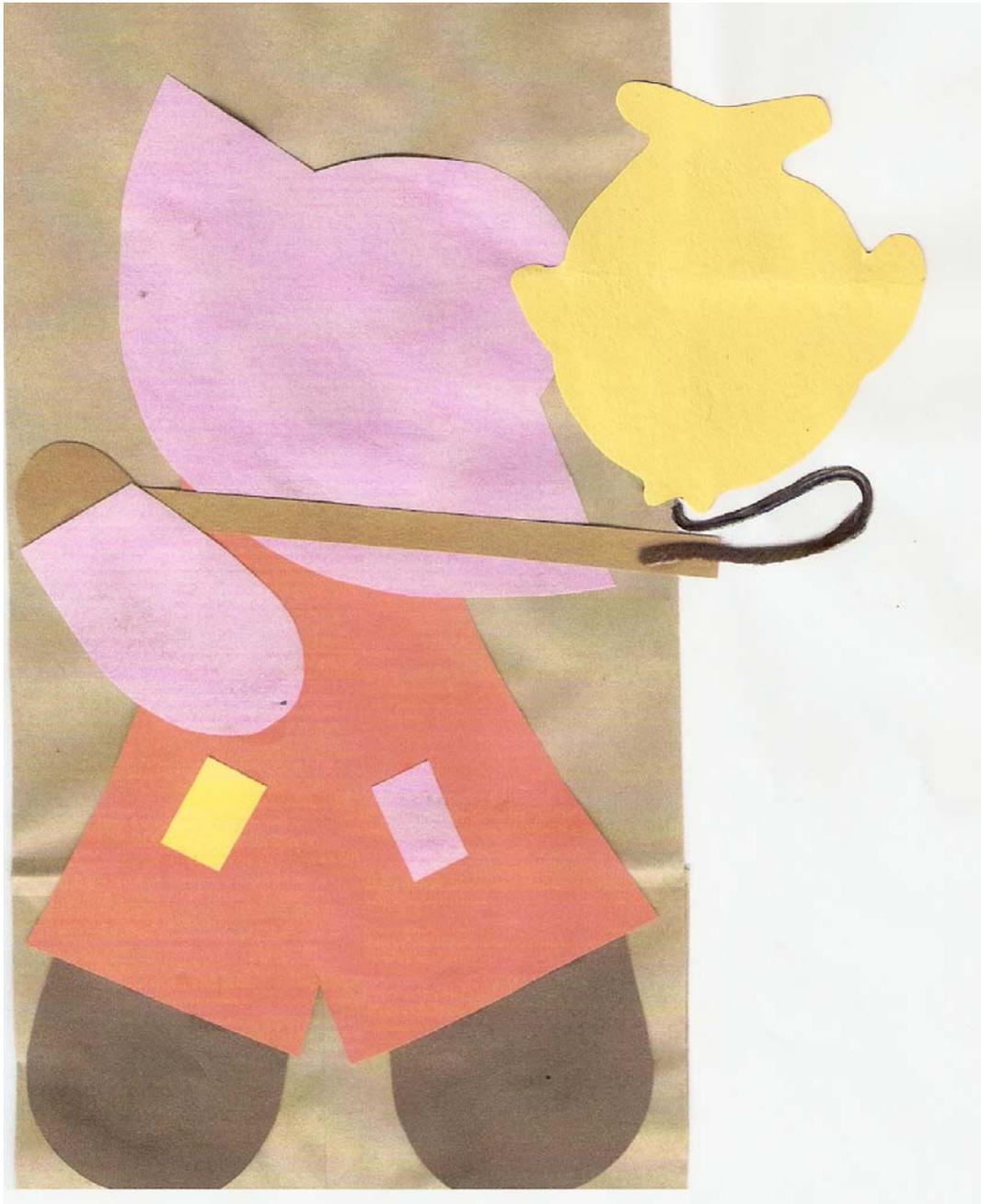
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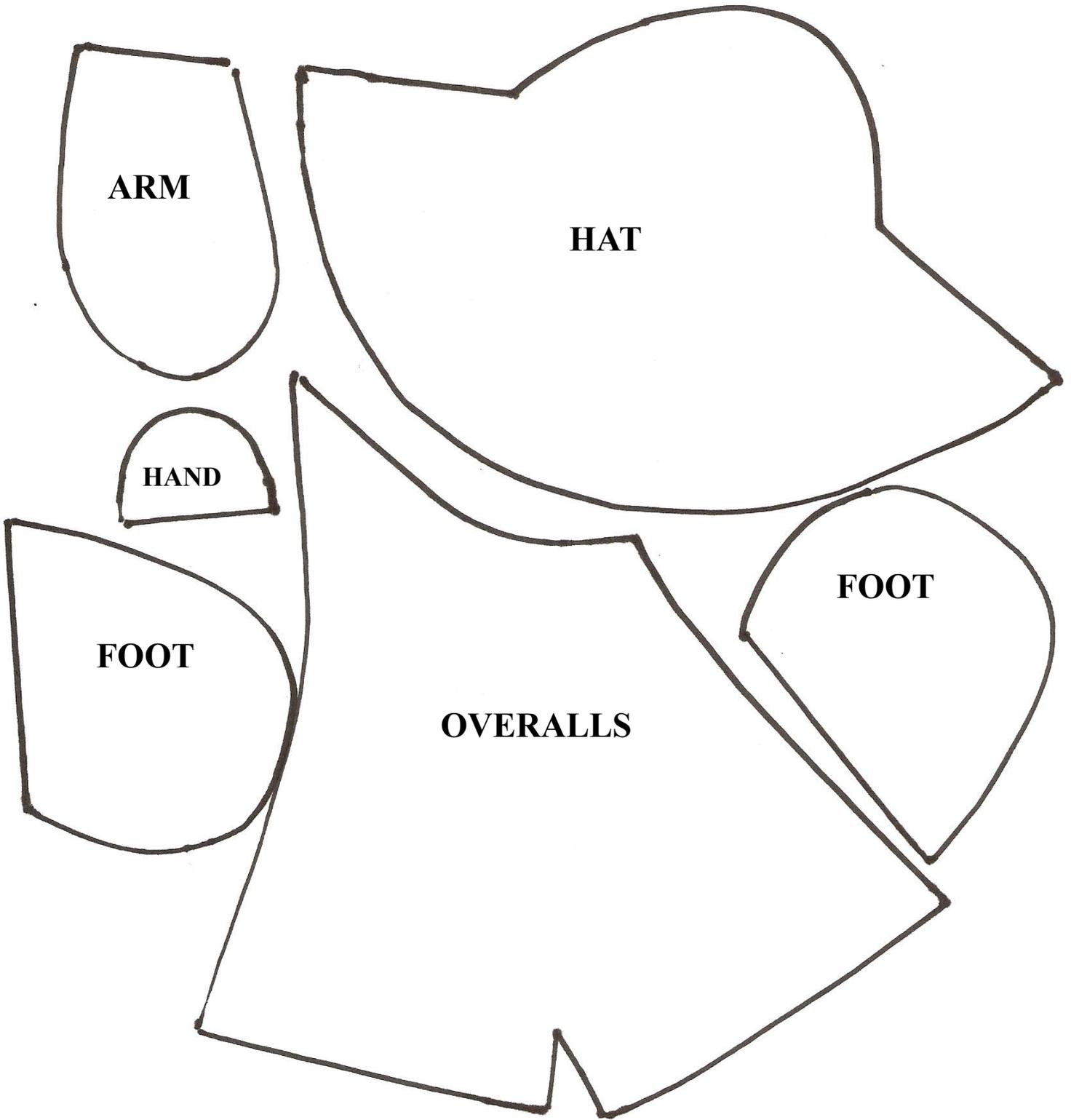
“He (Jesus)
careth for you.”
1 Peter 5:7

Bag-

Use different colors for each piece to make each bag unique.

Add a longer fishing line with a little bobber or rubber worm to make it a little more appealing.





POCKETS



A small boy shared his lunch with Jesus.



*Jesus fed many hungry people with five little loaves of bread and two fishes.
John 6: 1-14*



Using brown construction paper – Duplicate one basket for each child.

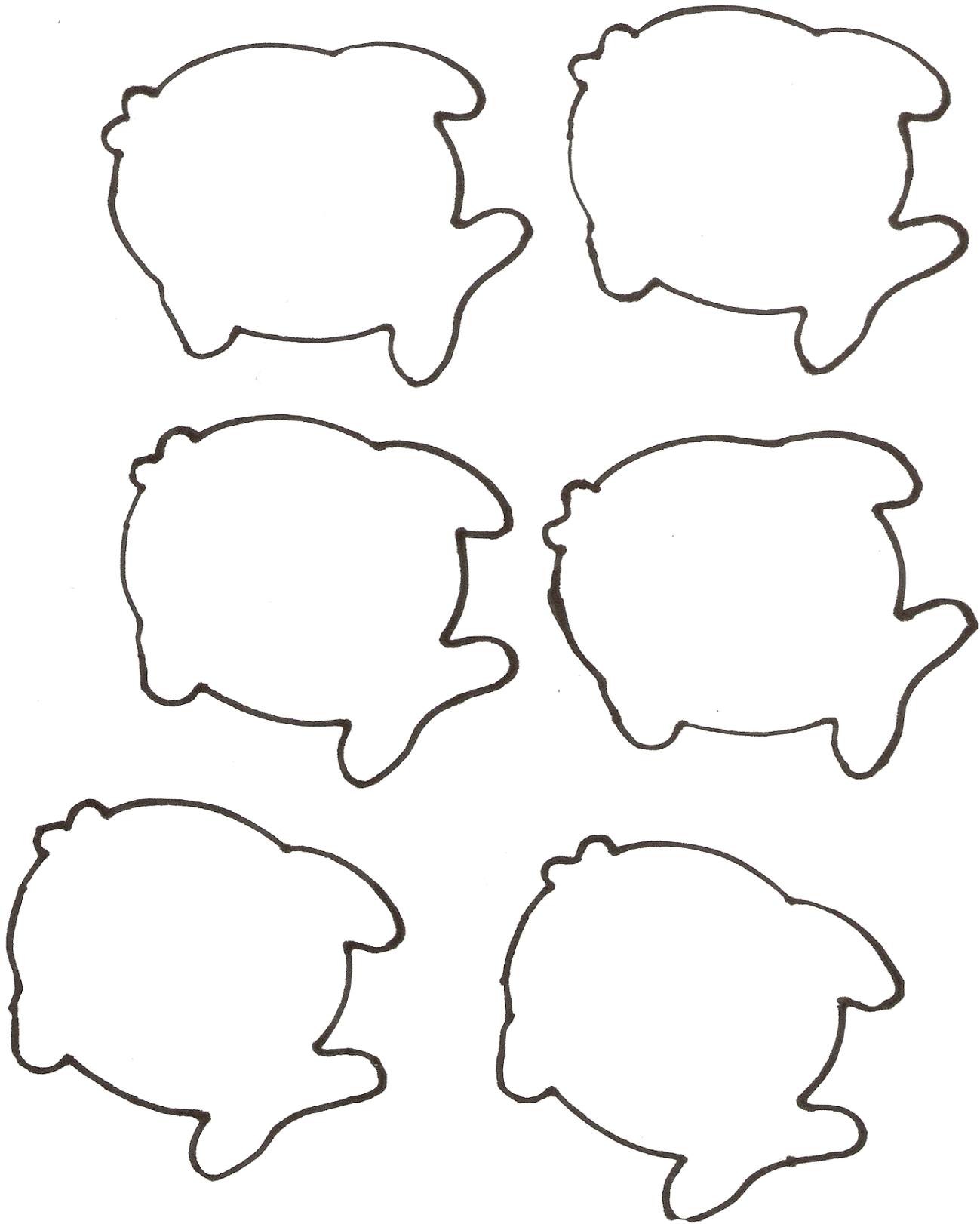
Using light brown or manila construction paper – Duplicate 5 loaves for each child.

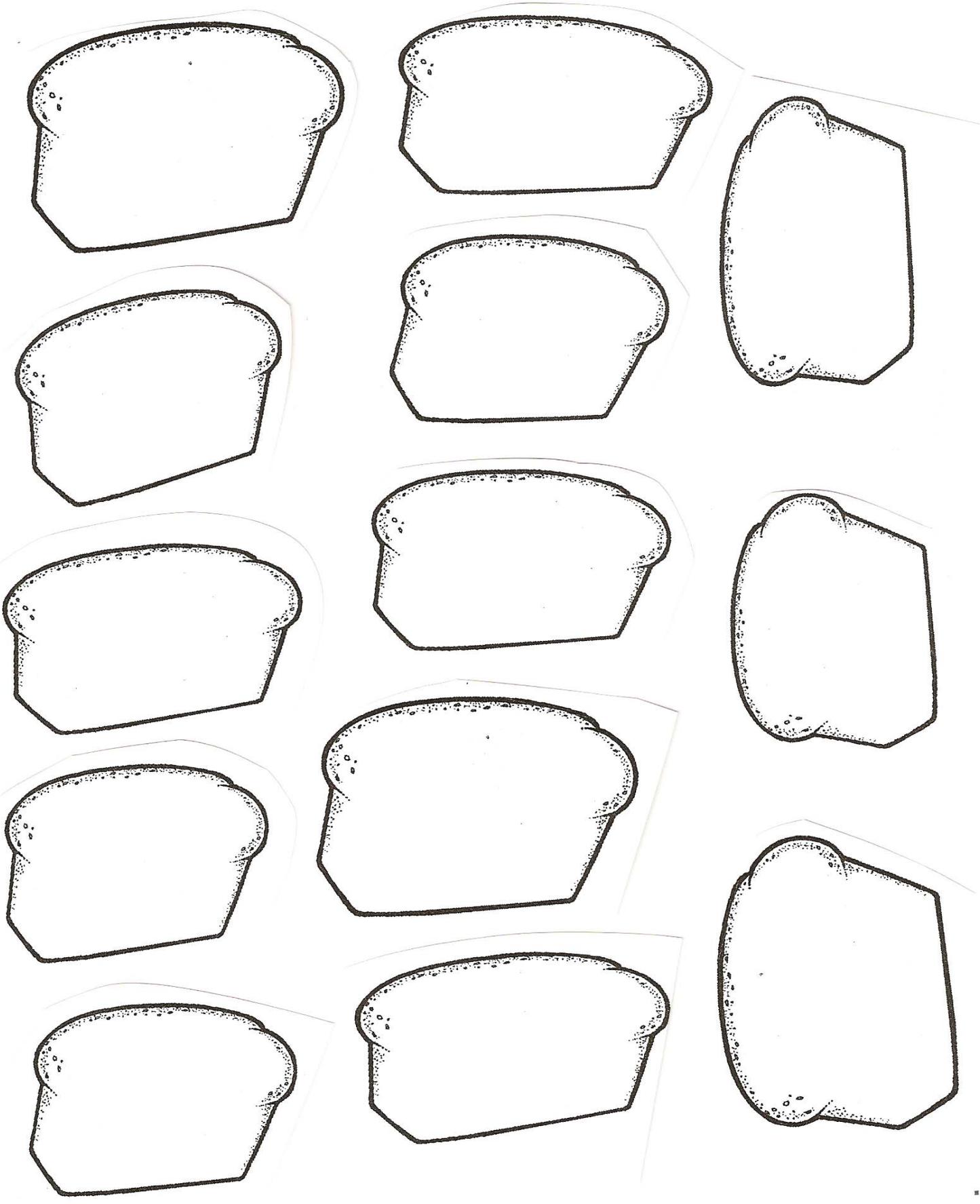
Using orange construction paper– Duplicate 2 fish for each child.

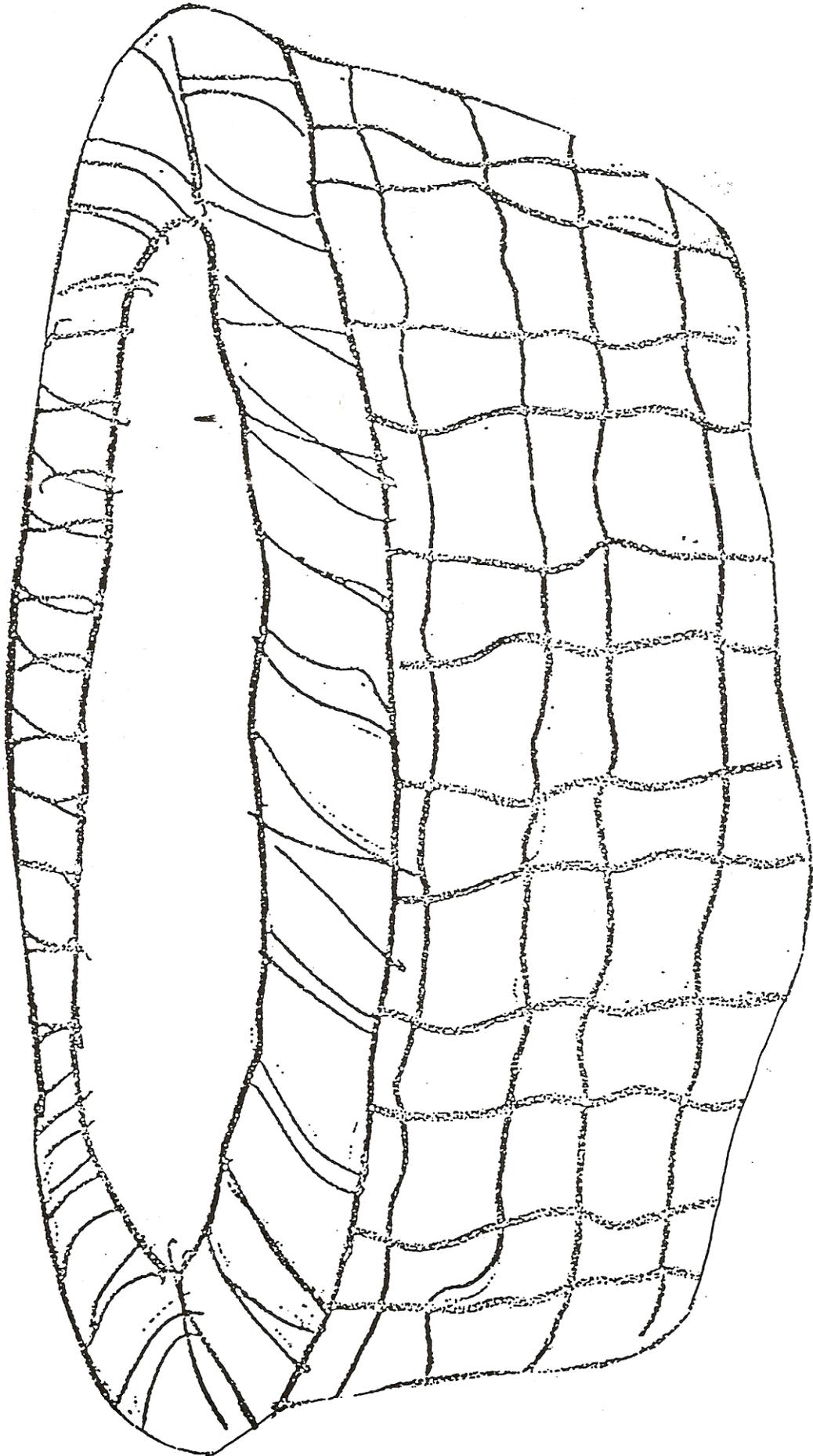
For small children, cut out all patterns and supply the children with glue.

For older children, supply them with scissors, and glue.

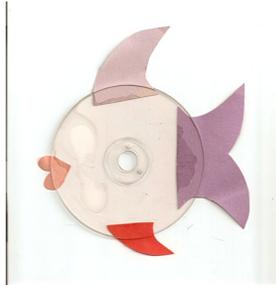
Instruct the children to cut out and glue their 5 loaves and two fishes onto their baskets.







CD FISH



Version One

Supplies:

2 CD's Per Child

Fins and lips cut out from various colors of construction paper (use attached template)

Glue

Version Two

2 Hard Clear CD Disk (come from the bottom or a spindle of disk. Check with an audio company or anyone who uses a lot of CD's/DVD's)

Fins and lips cut from various colors of construction paper

Glue

For both versions, glue the fins and lips to one disk and then place glue between the two disk and stick together,

Note: I use the clear disk and squirt a little paint (just a few drops will do. Use 2 or 3 different colors) onto the one disk, then we place the second disk on top of the first and press down. This process makes our fish look like stained glass. No glue is necessary between the two disk. The paint will act as glue.

To hang the fish:

I use a dremel or drill and make a hole in the top of the clear disk (Place a piece of masking tape on the disk to prevent it from cracking when you drill. Drill right through the tape. Then remove the tape from the disk. Drill the hole before taking disks to class) The kids will line up the holes and run a piece of fishing line through the hole.



Purchase very small little baskets from the party section.
Place 5 croutons and two fish crackers into the basket.
Wrap with netting and give to each child as a visual
reminder of the lesson.