

DAVID FIGHTS THE GIANT GOLIATH

1 Samuel 17

The people of Israel formed an army to fight against the Philistines. David the shepherd boy was sent to take food to his older brothers in the army. He saw the giant Goliath, a great big tall man, asking for someone to come and fight him. But all the Israelites were frightened of Goliath.

David told King Saul that he would fight this giant Goliath. David knew that God would be with him to help him. So David took his staff and his sling and chose five smooth stones out of the brook. Then he went out to meet Goliath, who laughed at David because he was not wearing proper soldiers' armour. David was not afraid of this giant, even though he had a shield, a spear and a sword.

David knew that although the giant was much bigger than he, God would help him kill Goliath because he trusted in God. He put one stone in his sling, swung it round, and the stone went flying through the air and hit Goliath on the forehead. He fell down dead and the Philistines ran away.

ACTIVITY

Decorate the illustration, using sequins and glitter for Goliath's armour. Cut five small stones out of sandpaper and glue four in David's bag. Glue the fifth as it flies through the air towards Goliath.

FURTHER SUGGESTIONS

Make a miniature scene of two army camps, on a kitchen tray. Use cardboard circles, slit to the centre and overlapped by stapling (see pattern on back page) to make tents. Construct a double-sized one for Goliath and a fancy one for Saul. Cut a sword, shield and armour out of foil and place in Goliath's tent. Make smaller ones for Saul's tent. Make a sling for David using a bandaid and hat-elastic. Make a thin blue crepe paper (or ribbon) brook to meander across the scene, making sure that five stones (grains of rice) are obvious in the brook.

Find five smooth stones and show the class.

Using playdough, make all the pieces of armour which Goliath had - spear, sword, shield. Then make the shepherd's staff, sling, and five stones which David had.

Use a sandtray to act out the story, with the two camps on either side of the tray. Place a large pipe cleaner man in the "valley" between the camps and bring out a smaller figure as the story progresses, for David.

God was with David as he swung  
the stone towards Goliath.

