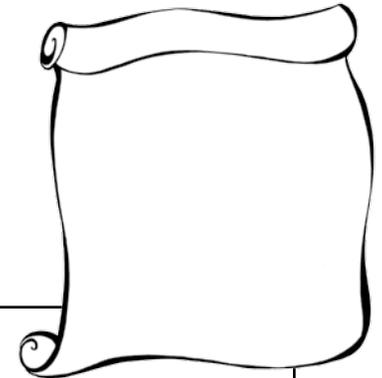
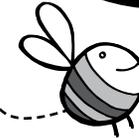


Phylacteries

Activity: Children make a scroll to carry with them, based on Deuteronomy 6:4–9.

Where did I put my phylactery?



Content Connections

Writing, Fine Arts

Faith Focus

- Describe the law as God's Word, which we keep in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts

What You Need

- photocopies of side B
- Bibles
- writing paper (8.5 x 5.5 in. strips); colored markers

Inclusion

Have children with fine-motor-skill issues type the text on a computer in a decorative font and then print out their scrolls.

	Grade 7	Grade 8
1	Read aloud Matthew 23:1–5. Explain that a phylactery is a small box in which tiny scrolls of passages from the Law of Moses are kept. Then read aloud Deuteronomy 6:4–9 and connect this to the previous Scripture passage. Tell children that some Jewish people bind a phylactery to their left arm (near their heart) and another on their forehead (near their mind) during prayer.	Ask a volunteer to read aloud Matthew 23:1–5. Explain that a phylactery is a small box in which tiny scrolls of passages from the Law of Moses are kept. Then have a volunteer read Deuteronomy 6:4–9 and discuss it. Tell children that some Jewish people bind a phylactery to their left arm (near their heart) and another on their forehead (near their mind) during prayer.
2	Distribute photocopies. Have children read the directions and complete the activity.	Distribute photocopies. Have children read the directions and complete the activity.
3	Explain that before the Gospel Reading at Mass, we pray that the Word of God will be in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts as we sign our forehead, lips, and chest with the Sign of the Cross. Remind children that the Sign of the Cross strengthens us in temptations and difficulties.	Have partners discuss how the tradition of the phylactery connects with the Sign of the Cross we use at Mass. Then encourage children to research the history of the phylactery and how it is used. Ask them to present their findings to the class.

Go to www.loyolapress.com/expand for additional information and activities.



Expand the Experience
Faith Formation Activities

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