

## **At Home Lesson Jonah in the Pit (Jonah)**

Gather your family together. Start off in prayer. Pray for each other, the church, the leaders around the world, and people who you know are in need. Ask God to teach your family something during this time together. Tell the Bible story and discuss. Stay open and make sure kids are invited to participate however, they are comfortable.

### **BIBLE STORY**

Today's lesson comes from Jonah. You can read the verses from the bible you have at home, watch the video on <https://jcbc.org/jcbc-kids-online/>, and/or read the text below from The Message:

“One day, God told His prophet Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh and give them a warning. But the people of Nineveh were very wicked, and Jonah didn't want to go there. So he ran away to ship headed for Tarshish. So God sent a terrible storm against the ship. The sailors were terrified, and each cried out to his own god. Meanwhile, Jonah was asleep inside the ship!

The captain woke him up and Jonah admitted that he was the reason for the storm. Jonah told them to throw him overboard. When Jonah hit the water, the storm stopped! God sent a big fish to swallow Jonah. For 3 days and 3 nights Jonah was in the belly of the big fish! Jonah prayed to God. He asked for forgiveness and told God that he would follow God's call to go to Nineveh. God heard Jonah's prayers and told the fish to spit him out!

Jonah went to Nineveh and preached the Gospel. He told the people there that God wanted them to follow the ways of the Lord and do the right thing. The people of Nineveh asked for forgiveness and committed their lives to God! God saved them and Jonah was glad that he might the right choice to follow God!”

### **CONNECT AND DISCUSS**

Ask these questions and explain these things to your children. Break it down on their level and adapt to their age group. The older your kids are, the more they can explain and think outside the box. Instead of defining words, ask them what it means. For younger kids, make sure to explain in the simplest terms. No matter the age, let them answer before you do. Accept their answers and make sure they know you are proud of how hard they are thinking, even if they don't get the “right” answer.

### Bible Story Questions

- Jonah was a prophet. A prophet is someone who teaches about the dreams and desires of God. God has plans for the people God created, and prophets help the people see and understand God's plans!
- Why didn't Jonah want to go to Nineveh?
- What happened on the ship to Tarshish?
- How many days was Jonah in the belly of the fish?
- How did he get out?
- What happened when Jonah went to Nineveh?

### Connection Questions

- Have you ever had a hard time doing the right thing?
- What happens when you avoid doing the right thing?
- Sometimes it takes a lot of bravery to do what's right. How does God help you be brave?
- When we do the wrong thing, we don't have to run away from God. God loves us and wants to help us. We can ask for forgiveness, and then make the right choice.
- What happens when we ask God for forgiveness?

### **CLOSE IN PRAYER**

Pray and thank God for always forgiving us and helping us make good choices!

### **WORSHIP, CREATE, & PLAY TOGETHER**

- **Act** out the story!
- **Create** by doing the craft below!

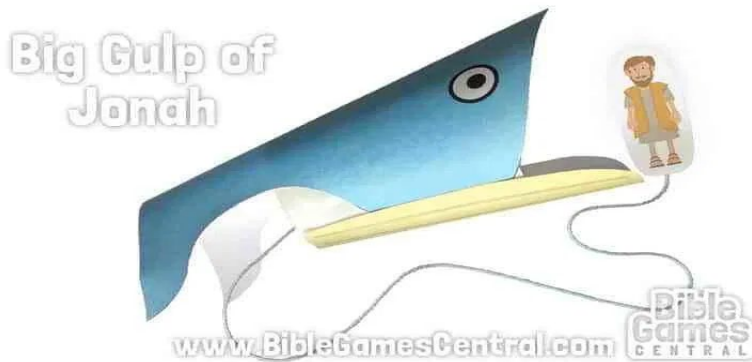
Sing and dance along to some of our kids' favorite songs!

[Knights of North Castle](#)

[Jesus Loves Me](#)

[Our God](#)

## Jonah Big Gulp Craft



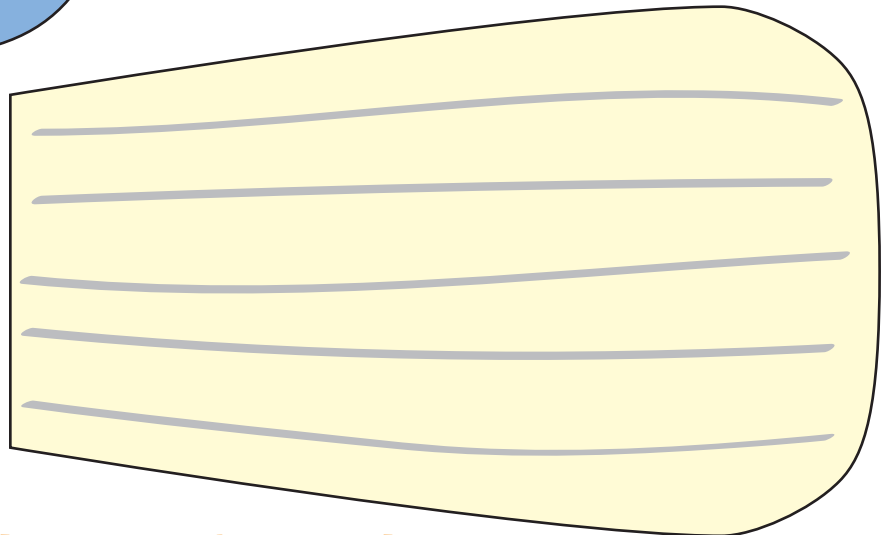
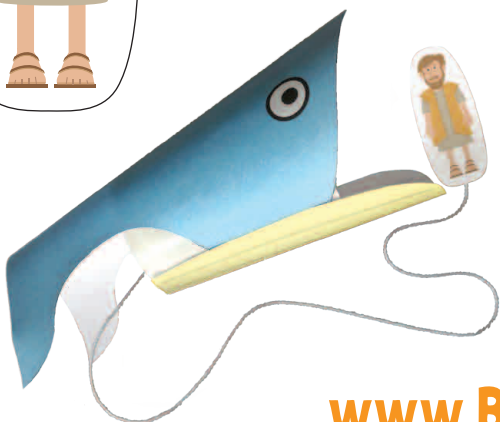
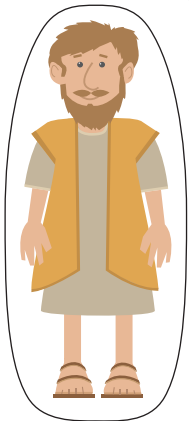
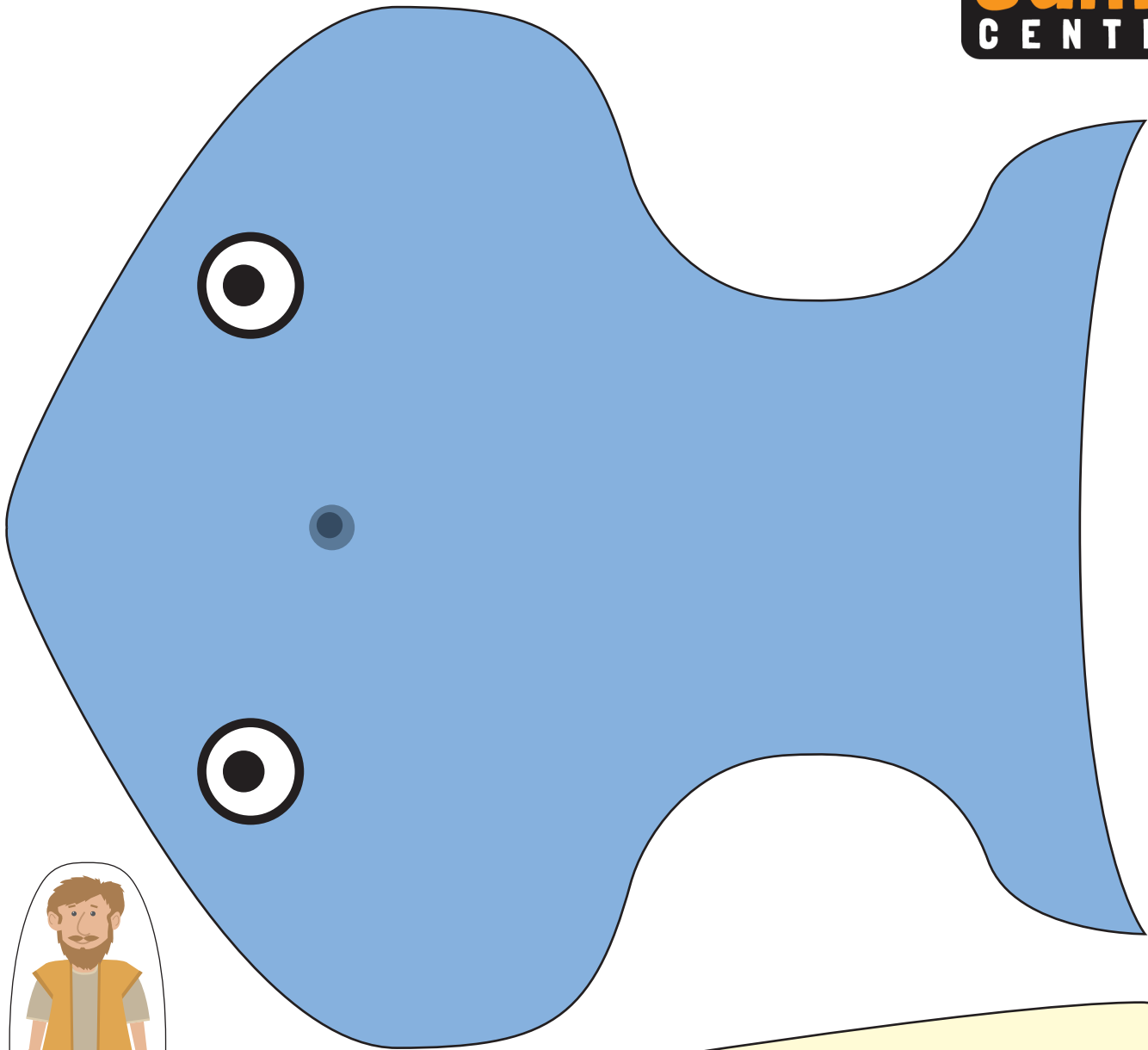
### What you Need:

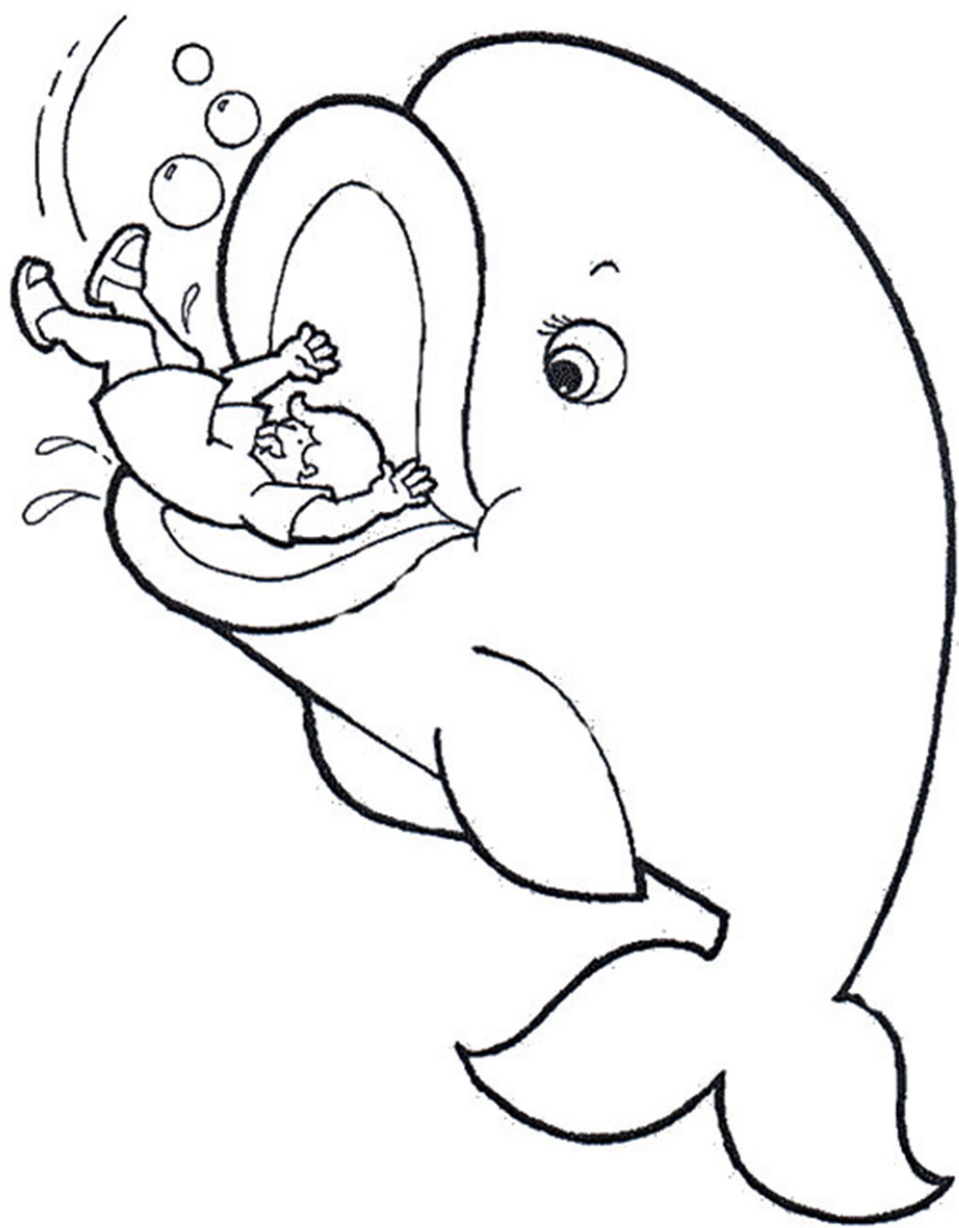
- Paper cups
- Scissors
- Sticky Tape
- String
- Clothes Pegs
- Erasers
- Crushed Aluminum Foil
- Big Gulp of Jonah Printable

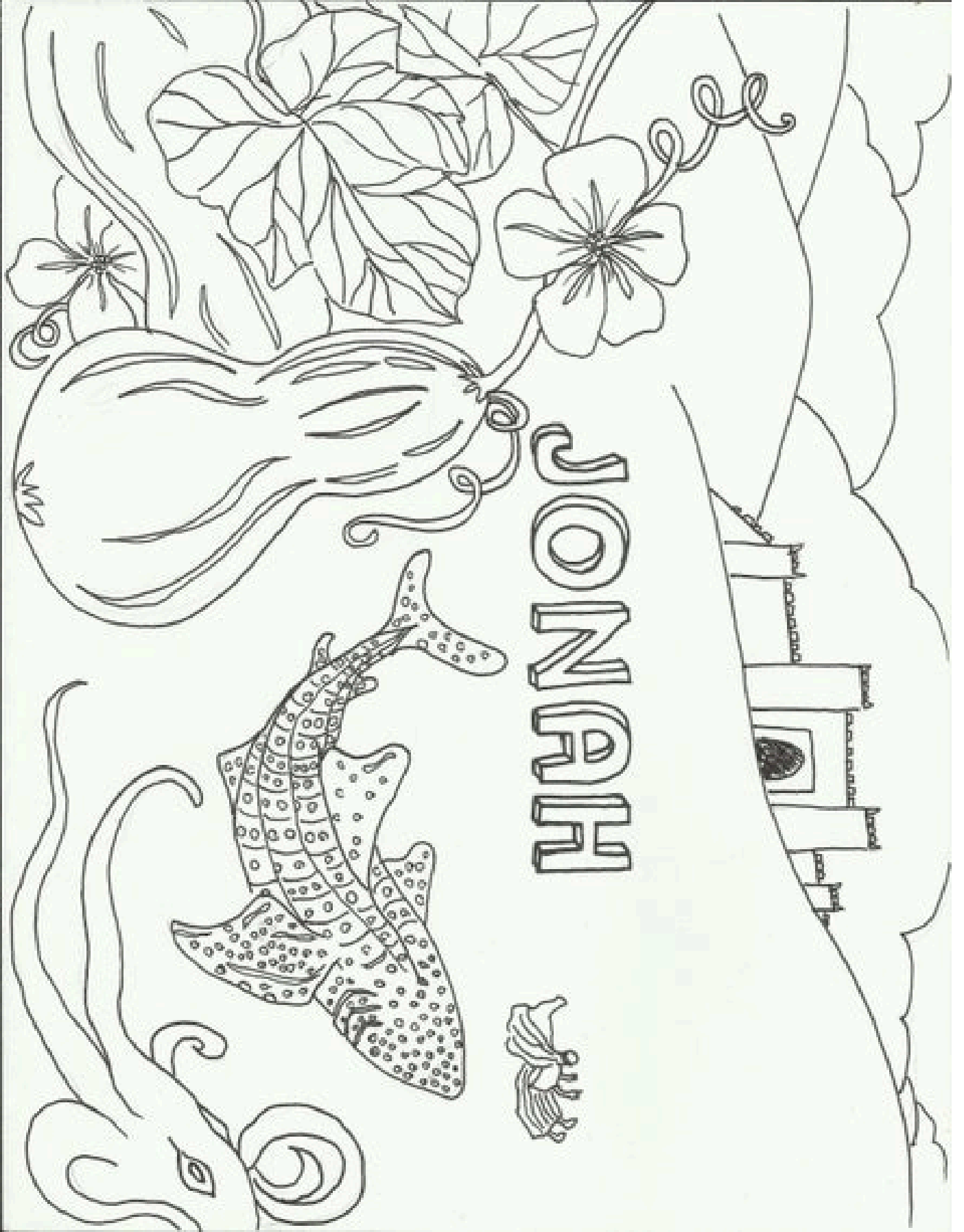
### What to Do:

- Cut out Jonah and the top and bottom pieces of the Whale.
- Paste the top piece of the whale on a paper cup, then the bottom piece (see picture below).
- Paste Jonah onto a clothes peg or eraser or small piece of crushed aluminum foil (or anything to give Jonah some weight).
- Cut a piece of string about 18 inches long.
- Paste one end of the string to the bottom of the paper cup; paste or tie the other end to Jonah.

# Big Gulp of Jonah







JONAH

