



Twist the pipe cleaner around the pencil top. Make sure it's tight.



Put the pipe cleaner through the pinwheel center. Wrap the end of the pipe cleaner around itself making a ball, but leave space to allow the pinwheel to spin.



Now give it a blow!

9. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: "Dear Holy Spirit, we ask that you fill our hearts with your love, peace, and joy. Amen." 15 min.

Unit Four: Celebrating Jesus: The Church Year

Lesson Seven: Transfiguration

Key Concepts

1. Jesus' glory was revealed in his transfiguration on Mt. Tabor before his disciples Peter, James, and John.
2. The Armenian Church celebrates the Feast of Transfiguration (also known as Vartavar).

Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. Read and discuss the account of Jesus' transfiguration based on Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; and Luke 9: 28-36.
2. Explore Armenian Church Transfiguration traditions.
3. Design an invitation for his/her family to attend the Transfiguration Feast Day Liturgy.
4. Make a paper rose as a symbol of *Vartavar*.

Materials Needed

Crayons, markers or colored pencils

Green stem pipe cleaners (one for each student)

Copies of Transfiguration coloring page for invitation

4" x 4" red paper spiral template squares (see below) – one for each student

Scissors

Light colored construction paper for students to write invitation message

Option: Spray water bottle to spritz class (you may add a drop of rose water if available) See Procedure #4.

Refreshments for end-of-year party

Procedure

1. Greet students warmly and open class with the prayer in **We Pray Together**.
2. Tell the class: “It’s been a great school year; this is our last lesson together! Summer is around the corner and we won’t be together for some very special feast days that we celebrate as a church family. Both of them are Major Feast Days of our church, the *Assumption of the Virgin Mary* and the *Transfiguration*.” Write them both on the board. Say: “On the major feast day or *dahgavar* called ‘The Assumption’ we remember when Mary was taken up into heaven by God – a very amazing event and a beautiful day to remember. Today we’re going to talk about the one coming up in early summer: the Transfiguration.”
3. Read **God’s Word** and **We Learn About God** and discuss. Ask: “Who was changed? How? What does ‘transfigured’ mean? Which two men appeared with Jesus when he was transfigured? (Explain that we can read about both men in the Old Testament - Moses gave the laws of God and Elijah was a prophet. Jesus had told his disciples that he had come to complete the work that such servants of God had begun.) Whose voice did the disciples hear coming out of the bright cloud on the mountain? What did God tell the disciples to do? How do you think the disciples felt when they witnessed Jesus’ transfiguration? What if you were there, how would you have felt?” 10 min.
4. Introduce the **Faith Word**. Have them practice saying Ay-la-gerb-oo-tiun and Var-ta-var in Armenian. Read **Our Armenian Way**. Ask if any of the students are familiar with any of these traditions. Explain that in Armenia and the Middle East, people have buckets or bottles of water ready to splash people. It’s a lot of fun and perfect for a hot summer day. If you feel it’s appropriate, lightly spritz the class with water so they have an idea of the experience.
5. **Handmade With Love**. Have students color the Transfiguration sheet and then trim and glue onto construction paper. Either inside or on the back of the construction paper have them write the invitation text. A sample wording could be:

*Dear Mom and Dad,
You are invited to attend the Feast of Transfiguration Liturgy on Sunday, (insert date) at (insert church name). It’s a very special celebration of our church!
Love (insert name)*

For the paper rose, have students cut out the spiral. Then starting on the OUTSIDE, they roll the spiral and keep rolling until there’s no paper left. They may add a green pipe cleaner as a stem. 20 min.

6. **Clean up/Celebration Party**. Enjoy refreshments and conversation! Close with the prayer: “Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for this amazing school year, keep our students safe over the summer. Help them to remember all that they have learned and to serve you. Amen.” 30 min.

