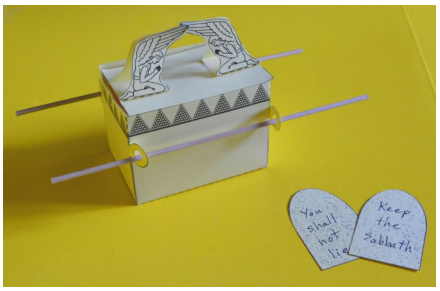
Learn by Doing

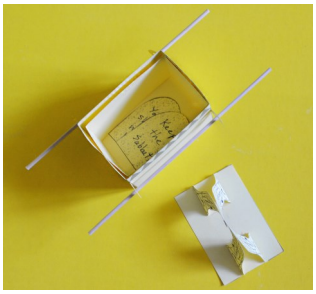
Choice

Ark of the Testimony



The Ark of the Testimony was a special box that the Lord commanded Moses to make to hold the Ten Commandments.

The box was made of wood and covered with gold. The lid, which is called the mercy seat, was made of pure gold. It was here, between the two cherubim, that Moses spoke with the Lord. Students will create models of the ark.



1. Show pictures of the ark (p. 2) and discuss.
2. Hand out copies of *Ark of the Testimony Templates* (pp. 3-4), wooden skewers trimmed to 8" (20cm), and copies of *Ark of the Testimony Assembly Directions* (pp. 5-6). Help students to follow the step-by-step directions.
3. After the models have been assembled, read the short version of the Ten Commandments below aloud slowly. Ask each child to choose two commandments that are particularly important to him or her right now. You might ask for volunteers to say which ones they chose and why.
4. Remind children that all the commandments are important and they all go together, but we may focus on different ones at different times in our lives as we work to keep them.
5. Have children write their chosen commandments on their two tables of stone and place them inside their ark.

1. You shall have no other gods.
2. You shall not take the Lord's name in vain.
3. Remember the Sabbath.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness (lie).
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
10. You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor's.

Materials Needed for Each Child

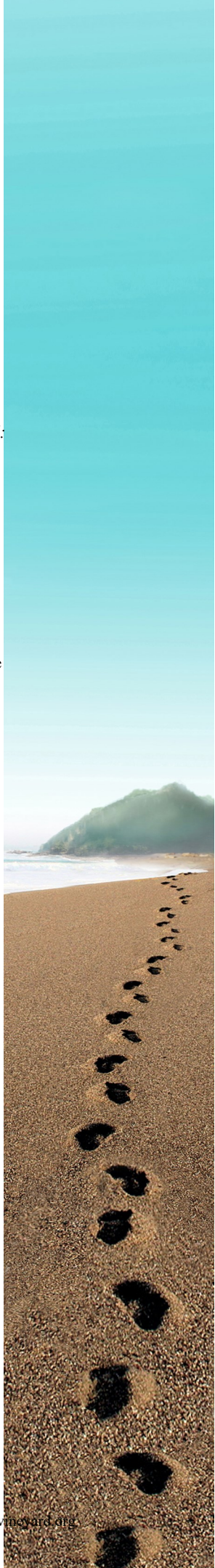
copy of *Ark of the Testimony Templates* pp. 3-4 printed on stiff yellow paper, 2 wooden skewers, scissors, tape, pen, single hole punches to share, copies of *Ark of the Testimony Assembly Directions* pp. 5-6 to share *optional*: markers or crayons

Prepare in Advance

Copy Ark of the Testimony Templates pp. 3-4 on stiff yellow paper. Make copies of Ark of the Testimony Assembly Directions pp. 5-6. Cut wooden skewers to 8" (20cm) length. Make a sample ark so you can help students with the directions.

New Church Concept Ark of the Testimony

The ark was most holy because it represented the Lord's Divine Human in respect of the Divine Law. Since the ark represented something so holy, the mercy seat with the cherubim was placed over the ark, and next to it were the lampstand and the table of gold, both of which were signs of the Divine Love. *Arcana Coelestia* 6723.4

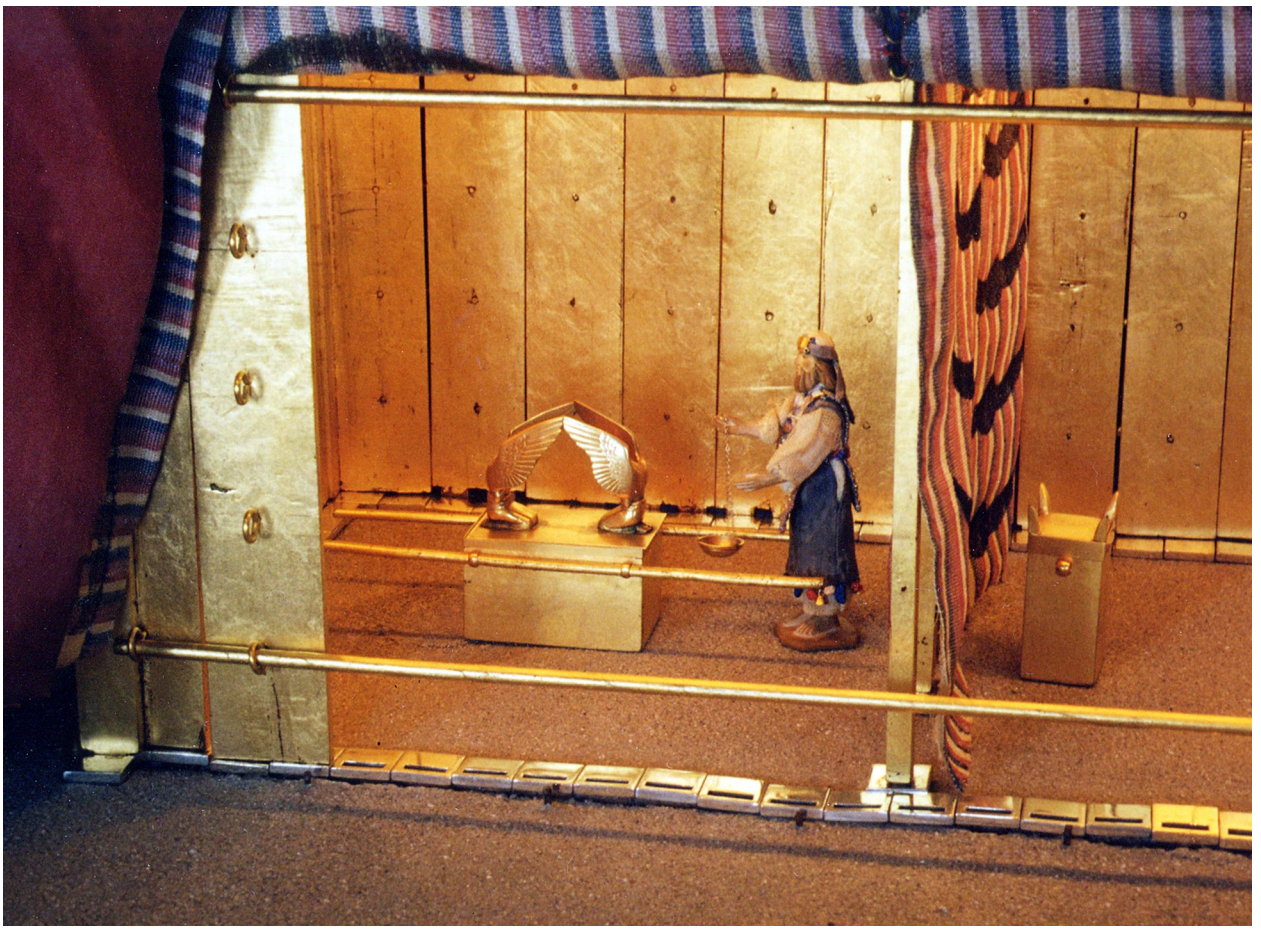


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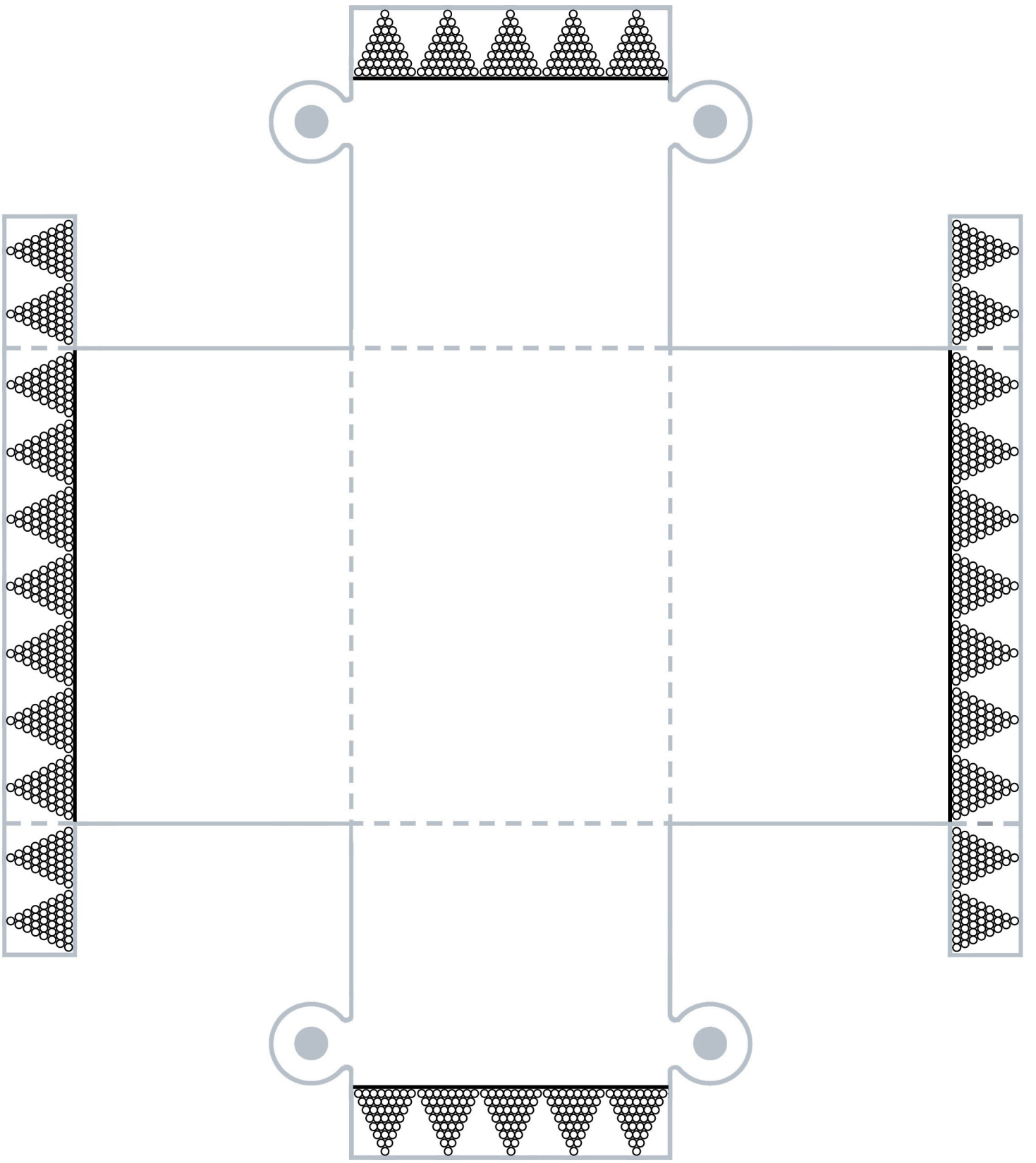
Pictures of the Ark

Photos of Glencairn Museum's model of the Tabernacle. (See www.glencairnmuseum.org.)



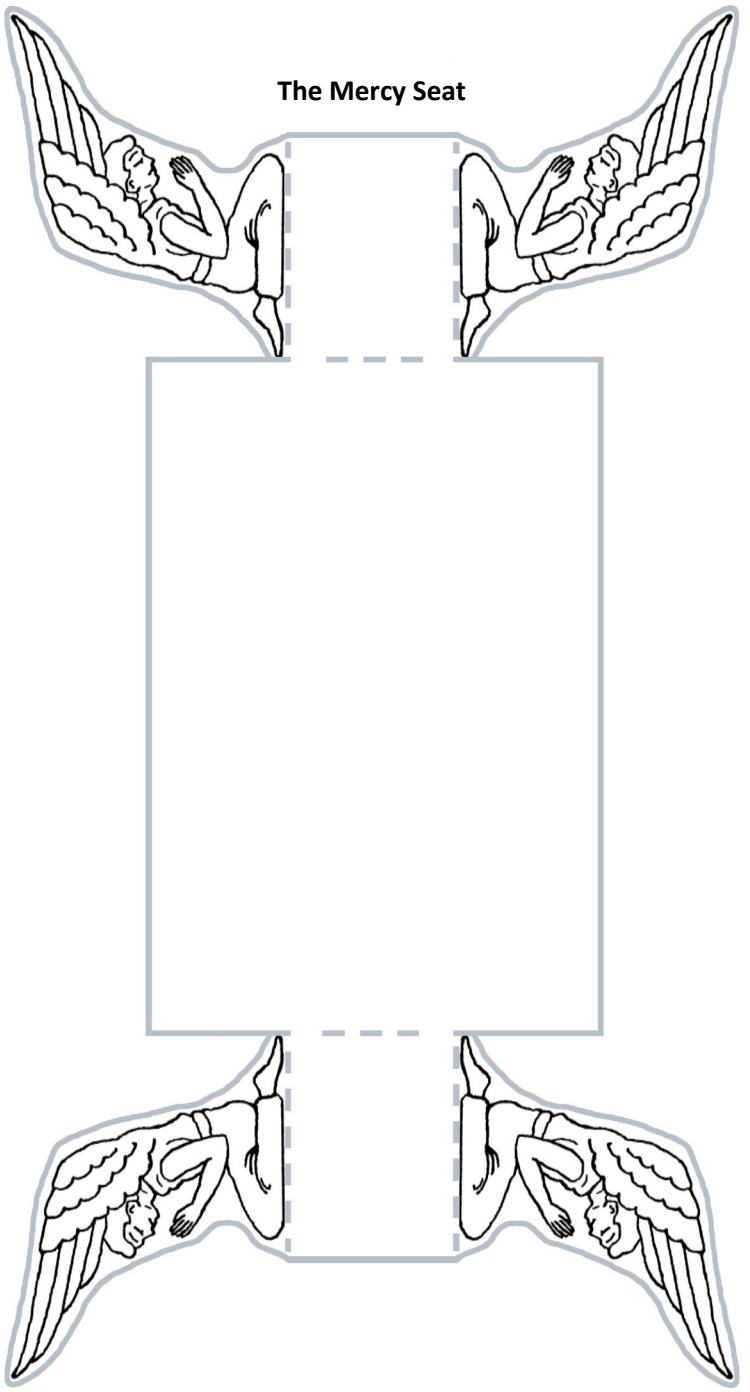


The Ark of the Testimony

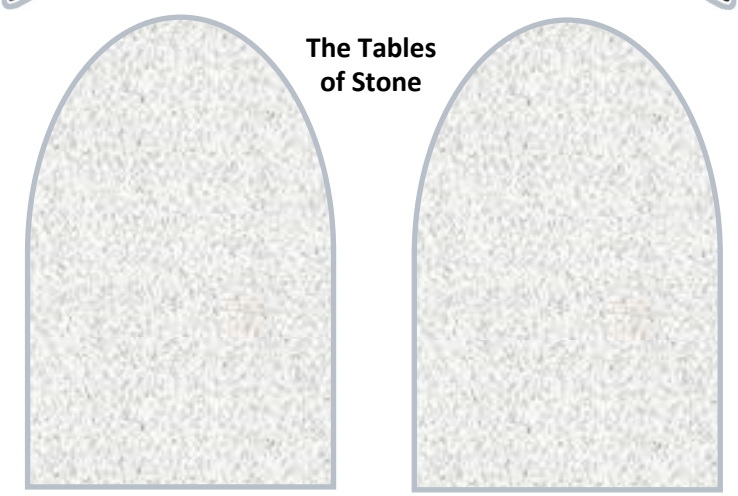


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The Mercy Seat



The Tables of Stone

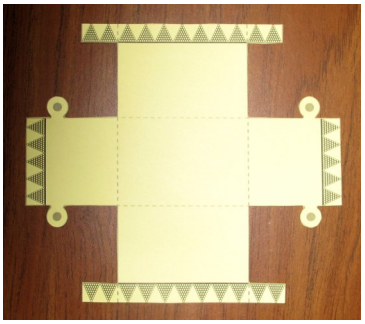


Reinforcement Strip for the Ark

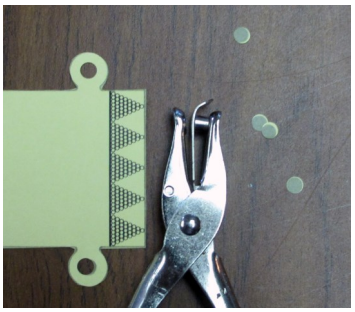
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Ark of the Testimony Assembly Directions

1. Cut out the *Ark of the Testimony* on the solid gray lines.



2. With a single hole punch, punch out the gray circles in the centers of the four rings.



3. Fold ark along the four center dashed gray lines to make a box.



4. Fold the tabs over the outside of the short ends of the box and tape them flat.



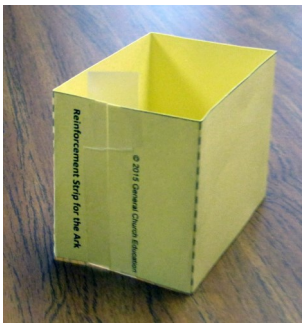
5. Tape the four corners of the box together in the area under the rings.



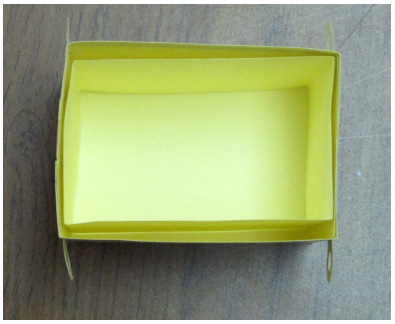
6. Cut out the *Reinforcement Strip for the Ark* on the solid lines. **Cut to the edge of the page**. Do not trim the ends off. Fold it into a rectangle on the dashed lines so the writing shows on the *outside* of the box.



7. **Tape the ends of the strip together. Do not overlap the ends.**



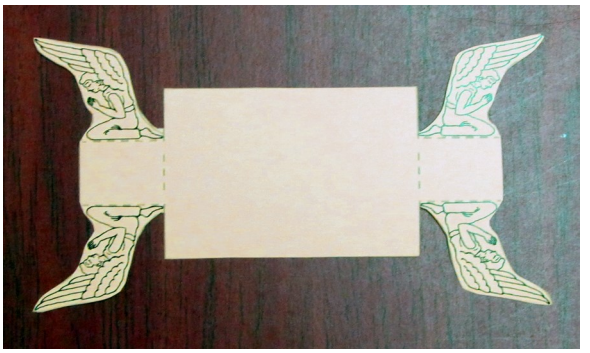
8. Put the *Reinforcement Strip* inside the ark. It will hold up the mercy seat. No writing should show on the inside of the ark.



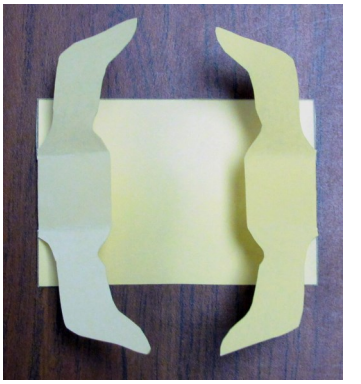
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Ark of the Testimony Assembly Directions, *continued*

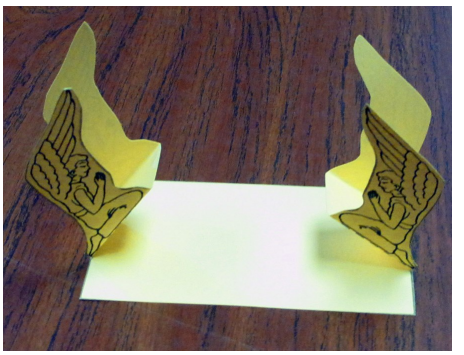
9. Cut out *The Mercy Seat* along the solid gray lines.



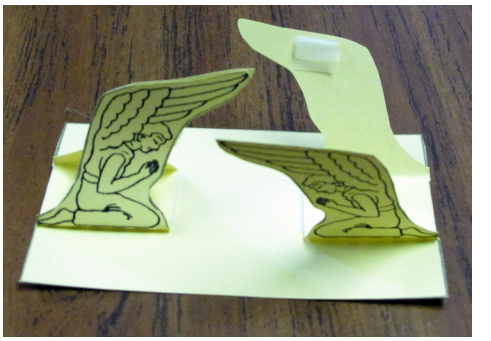
10. Fold the two sides of the cherubim and the tabs in between them over the lid. The cherubim will face downwards.



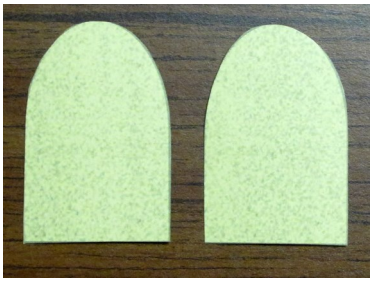
11. Fold the sides of the cherubim up. You may need to clip the cherubim's feet so they bend all the way down.



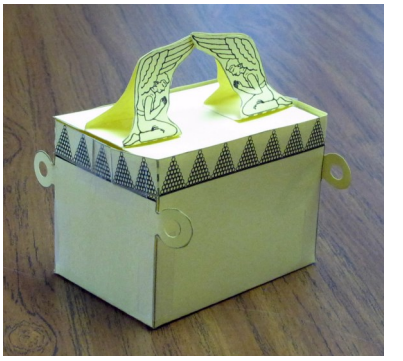
12. Tape the ends of the tabs down flat on the lid (between the cherubim). Tape the tips of the wings together.



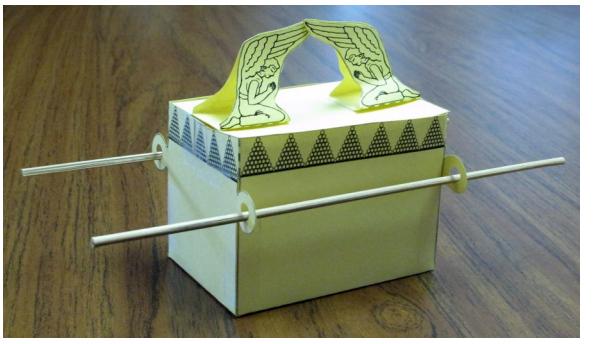
13. Cut out the *Tables of Stone.*



14. Put the *Tables of Stone* inside the ark and place the *Mercy Seat* on top of it.



15. Insert wooden skewers cut to 8" (20cm) through the holes for carrying the ark. (See picture at right.)



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