Learn by Doing

Choice Path Through the Red Sea



The east wind is usually a destructive force in the Word. In today's story, the east wind is a Divine force that blows away false thinking (the Red Sea), and opens a new path toward heavenly life. The angels experience the Lord's Divine love as a gentle breeze. However, when the Lord's love descends into hell the evil spirits experience it as a fierce tormenting wind because it blows against their selfish and worldly loves (see *Arcana Coelestia* 7679). Children create a project where their breath is like a wind that can blow away selfishness, opening a path toward heaven.

1. Have you ever been out on a windy day? Perhaps you have tried to harness the wind to fly a kite? In what ways can wind help us? (wind energy) When is wind destructive? (e.g. very strong winds topple trees, blow sand away, etc.)
2. In today's story the Lord did an amazing miracle by means of an east wind. The wind blew so hard all night long that it opened a path through the Red Sea. The water stood like a wall on each side of a path so the children of Israel could walk through the sea on dry ground.
3. This story pictures the way the Lord's Word shows us a true path of how we should behave when we are struggling with anger or hatred.
4. Hand out copies of *Path Through the Red Sea* (p. 2) and brown or yellow crayons. Invite children to create a path on the page by coloring inside the two lines on the middle of the page. Take time to cover as much of the path as thickly as you can.
5. Each of us chooses a path in life. The Lord wants us to follow the path in His Word to heaven. We are not born as angels; we are born so that we can *become* angels, and we do this by running away from bad choices and making good and true choices.
6. I'm going to put some paint on your path of life, and you will use a straw and blow like the east wind to blow the paint off the path and make a wall of water on each side of it. Put a spoon of paint on each child's path and hand out straws. Children will blow the paint off their paths, clearing their way to heaven.

Materials Needed

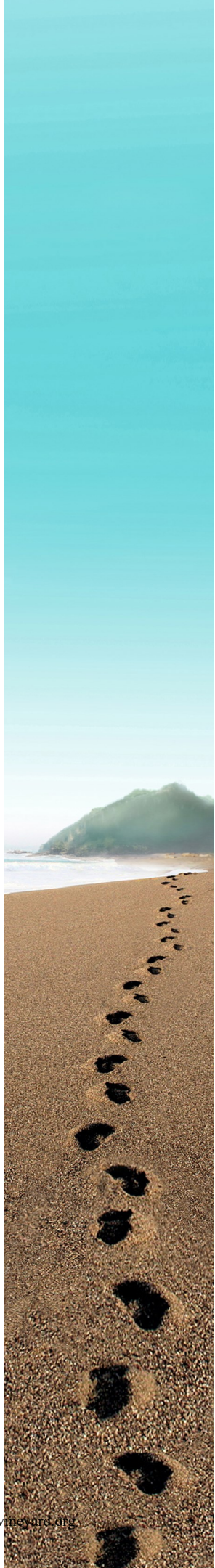
Path Through the Red Sea, p. 2 for each student printed on stiff paper if available, earth-tone crayons (e.g. brown, yellow), blue water based paint, teaspoon, straws, newspaper to protect table

Prepare in Advance

Make copies of project page on stiff paper. Mix water based blue paint. Experiment with blowing paint using a straw. ***Note***: For small spidery lines, blow in short hard bursts. For wider paint streams blow steadily and gently. You may want to demonstrate the ways to get different effects as you start the project.

New Church Concept
East Wind

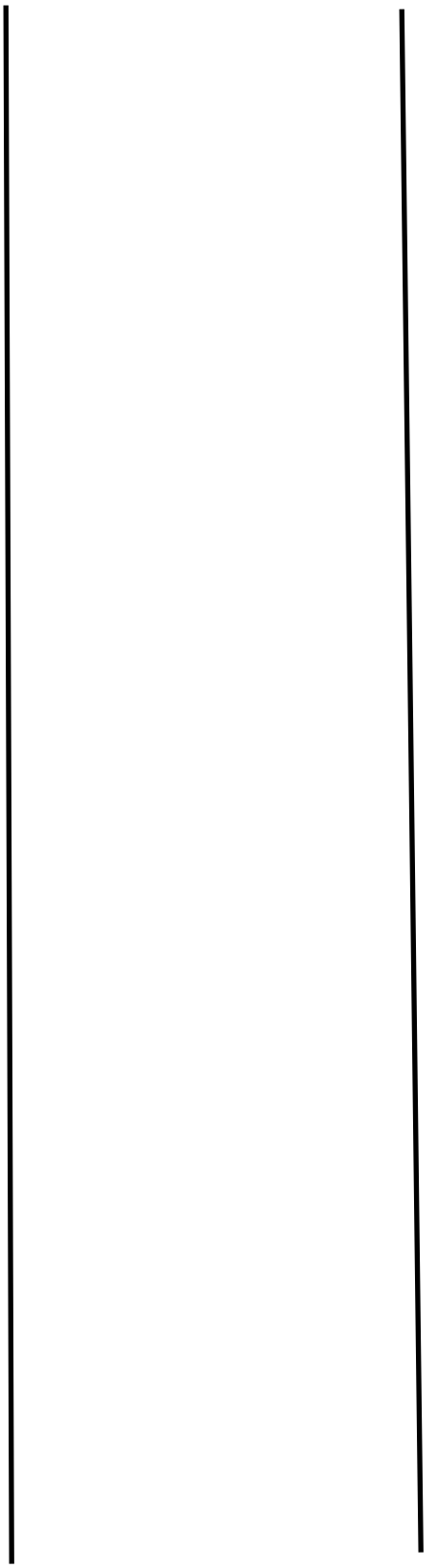
'The east' means the good of love and charity.... The good of love and charity is in origin very gentle, and consequently is also such in its movements when it passes into heaven. But when it comes down into hell it becomes rough and fierce, because the inhabitants of hell make it so. *Arcana Coelestia* 7679



© 2022 General Church of the New Jerusalem

You Will Show Me the Path of Life

Psalm 16:11



Path Through the Sea

© 2022 General Church of the New Jerusalem