



The Mini Page

Next Week:
Our states:
Maine

Issue 47, 2024

Founded by Betty Debnam



Mini Fact:

This stained glass window at Evreux Cathedral in Evreux, France, was made in the 16th century.

photo by Walwyn

Stained glass artists have been creating beautiful windows for many hundreds of years. This week, The Mini Page celebrates the season by learning more about the art you may enjoy as you attend holiday church services.

An ancient art

The earliest examples that scientists have found of glass and lead cut into specific shapes date back 1,200 to 1,400 years.

Since that time, many styles of art have been seen in windows. But the process of creating stained glass has not changed much over the centuries.

The first windows with patterns of glass were set into wooden or plaster frames, but these frames limited the shapes the artist could use.

Later artists began to use a metal called lead (led) to hold the glass. It is malleable (MAL-ee-uh-bul), or workable into different shapes.

Telling a story

As Christianity spread and became more powerful between the fifth and 15th centuries, stained glass became a popular way to tell stories and honor important figures from the Bible and the church.

For religious leaders, stained glass images were more than just illustrations. They were symbols of faith. For example, the white light of the sun shining through colored glass was seen as God revealing himself to people.

The first words in the Old Testament of the Bible describe the heavens and the Earth.



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The interior of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City features the pointed arches and large stained glass windows typical of Gothic architecture. Building of this church began in 1858 and finished in 1878.

The third and fourth verses read: "And God said, Let there be light; and there was light. And God saw the light, and it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness."

People in the Middle Ages thought of light as being good and darkness as being bad or evil, so they wanted to bring light into their churches.

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It's all about chemistry

Glass is made when sand, soda ash and a mineral called lime are heated to high temperatures. The mixture becomes a liquid, and as it cools, it becomes more and more stiff. Finally, it becomes a transparent solid: glass.

Colored glass is usually made by adding powdered metals to the glass while it is still liquid. Different metals result in different colors:

- Yellow = Cadmium sulfide
- Red = Gold chloride
- Blue = Cobalt oxide
- Purple = Manganese dioxide
- Green = Chromic oxide

The artist may also paint details on the glass with brown or black paint. Thicker paint will make more solid lines; thinner paint can be brushed after drying to give a shading effect.



A small panel of stained glass from York Minster in England is believed to date back to about 1150. It is one of the oldest surviving pieces of stained glass in England.

photo courtesy The Stained Glass Museum

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPwindows
- kids.kiddle.co/Stained_glass

At the library:

- "Stained Glass" by Aidan McRae Thomson

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of stained glass windows are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



- ARCH, ARTIST,
- CHEMISTRY, CHURCH,
- COLOR, FRAME, GLASS,
- GOTHIC, LEAD, LIGHT,
- LIME, MALLEABLE,
- METAL, PAINT, SAND,
- SODA, STAINED, STORY,
- WINDOW.

H R V H C R U H C C V B J Q U
 P A I N T D E N I A T S F E T
 E F D S S S A L G W O D N I W
 M A R T I S T M E T A L S D W
 I Z L T A D O S T C I H T O G
 L M E S Y R T S I M E H C I F
 X F A M A L L E A B L E I B R
 O P D Y S E A M C R O L O C A
 L T H G I L G Z K A R C H C M
 W D M Y R O T S G X S A N D E

Cook's Corner

Chocolate Chip Walnut Bars

You'll need:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons coconut oil
- 1/3 cup white sugar

- 3/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 2 egg whites
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1/3 cup chopped walnuts



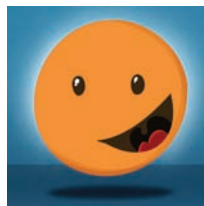
* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

What to do:

1. Combine flour, baking soda and salt in a medium bowl.
2. Use an electric mixer to blend coconut oil with the white and brown sugars.
3. Add egg whites, one at a time, beating mixture well after each addition. Add vanilla and mix well.
4. Gradually add flour mixture to wet mixture; stir to combine. Stir in chocolate chips, then walnuts.
5. Coat a 9-by-13-inch baking dish with cooking spray. Press dough into dish.
6. Bake in a 375-degree oven for 15 minutes. Allow to cool; cut into bars. Makes 48 small bars.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



1. smartphone programs (4) _____
2. metal made from iron (5) _____
3. path for people walking (8) _____
4. a place to work (6) _____
5. covered with grime (5) _____
6. keep safe (5) _____
7. book of things to buy (7) _____

ICE	GU	EL	PS
CAT	EWA	AL	DIR
TY	AP	OFF	STE
SID	ARD	OG	LK

Answers: apps, steel, sidewalk, sidwalk, office, dirty, guard, catalog.

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Mini Jokes



- Willy:** Why shouldn't you tell a joke to a window?
- Wendy:** It might crack up!

Eco Note



New research suggests that air pollution may contribute to more severe lightning storms, particularly in some urban areas. Scientists from James Madison University found that when polluted air is drawn into a cloud through updrafts, the particles become separated, creating a difference in electrical charges, which increases the potential for lightning. The researchers found that more lightning occurred downwind from cities, with urban pollution intensifying lightning that often triggered ground fires.

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For later:

Look in your newspaper for items about holiday church services.

Teachers: Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



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