

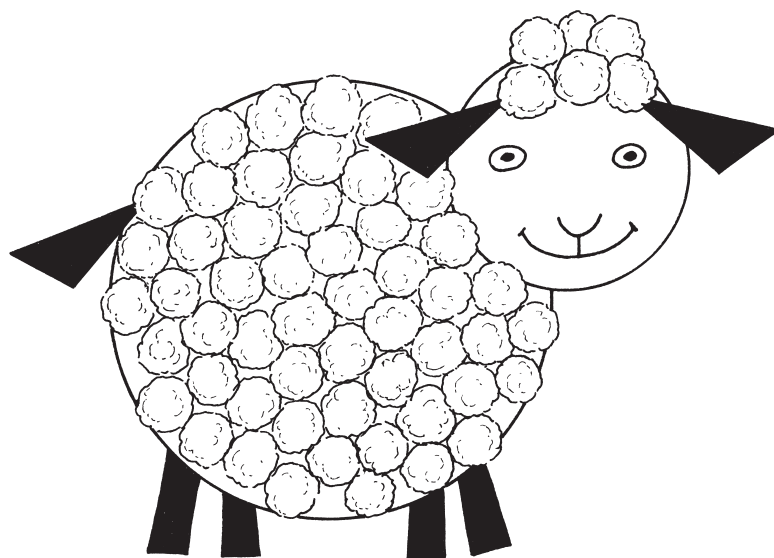


Paper Plate Sheep

Grades 1–4

Materials:

Paper plates, 1 dinner and 1 dessert plate for each child	A handful of cotton balls for each child
Black construction paper	Glue
Crayons or markers	Stapler
Patterns for ears, tails, and legs (see page 87)	



Before Class:

Prepare a sample of the completed sheep craft along with one set of materials for each child. Staple a dinner plate to a dessert plate to make the sheep's head and body. Out of black construction paper, cut triangles for ears and tails and rectangles for legs.

Directions:

1. Distribute the necessary materials to each child.
2. Help them glue the ears, legs, and a tail in place.
3. Have the children draw faces for their sheep on the small paper plate, using crayons or markers.
4. Have them glue cotton balls to the large paper plate to make the sheep's fleece.
5. Help the children write their names on their sheep.

FAITH CONNECTION

The Parable of the Good Shepherd (John 10:11–16) expresses the relationship of love and trust that is possible between humans and Christ. Although few children today have experiences with sheep or shepherds, this parable still interests them. It evokes a sense of peace and inner joy, indicating that the Christian message can satisfy deep needs. Children can relate God's love, as manifested through the Good Shepherd figure, to the love they experience through other people. Although the children will gradually appreciate the meaning of the parable, their eventual understanding of it is facilitated by their early appreciation of it.