



**Aim: to remember how God loves us to talk to him and protected Daniel for doing just that!**



Even from a tender age jealousy can cause problems when it rears its ugly head. In this story we see jealous guys plotting the demise of Daniel, the king's favourite servant who seems to get all the attention and perks. The trouble was that Daniel hardly seemed to put a foot wrong. His enemies noticed that Daniel was devoted to God and decided to see if they could use jealousy to drive a wedge between Daniel and the king. They duped the egotistical king into making a decree that would provide Daniel with a real dilemma and although the king despaired when he realised the outcome, a decree was a decree and he had to stand by and watch the scene play out. Daniel has to choose between not keeping in touch with God through prayer and staying safe, or worshipping God and being thrown to the lions. Was there any hope that Daniel would survive Hungry Lion café? As Daniel was soon to discover, there is always hope when our trust is in the Lord.



Sing 'Here we go round the Mulberry bush' song together. Ask everyone to suggest other things or places you could 'go round' e.g. Here we go round the snack table, or Here we go round the Christmas tree.

*Today in our story we will hear about a den full of hungry lions. For our last verse let's sing: Here we go round the lions' den! Then we will be ready for our story!*



*Who has a pet lion? No-one? I guess it could be tricky. Daniel in the story went to spend time with some hungry lions. Let's read about what happened...*

Read the story : Daniel prays to God, pg. 104. Use the Makaton sign for prayer - palms together finger tips pointing up every time Daniel talks to God.

At the end of the story encourage the children to cheer and clap together.

*Some people were very mean to Daniel because they wanted to be the king's favourites. Even when they tried to get Daniel eaten by the hungry lions God still looked after Daniel. God takes care of each of us too. Let's give God an even bigger cheer!*

Sing Lions are in the Den song to Farmer's in the Den tune (see take home sheet)



- *I wonder what made the people so cross with Daniel*
- *I wonder how Daniel felt when he was in the lion's den*
- *God looked after Daniel in the den. I wonder if he is looking after me, too.*



Daniel and the Lion's Den - Candle Playbook (Board book) by Juliet David Play grandmother's footsteps with 'grandmother' being a lion and roaring every time they turn around unexpectedly, or by trying to sneak up on Daniel to catch him praying. Talk about what it must have felt like to be in a cage with the hungry lions and what God might have done to kept Daniel safe that night.



- **Role play:** Provide a den out of a play tent or similar. Have a sign with an image of lions on to put outside the den. If you have soft toy or puppet lions add these.
- **Make lion masks** out of paper plates with eye holes. Offer a selection of yellow, orange and brown strips of paper to stick around the mask for a mane.
- **Lion handprint painting.** Make yellow, orange and brown handprints with painted hands rotating the paper as you go. When the paint is dry draw or stick on a nose, eyes and whiskers to make a lion face
- **Print pictures of the story** and see if everyone can put them in the right order <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lv-daniel-lions/>



*Let's practice the sign for 'love' then join in with me for today's prayer. (Cross arms over chest)*

<https://youtu.be/hnhJTzOr-yY>

*Dear God,*

*Thank you that you loved Daniel.*

*Thank you that you love me.*

*Thank you that you love it when we talk to you in prayer*

*Thank you that your love kept Daniel safe*

*Your love keeps me safe*

*Help us to love you*

*Help us to love one another*

*Amen*



- Our God is a great big God
- Be Bold, be strong
- Nothing's too big
- Who's the king of the Jungle?



Try making more lion themed crafts from this web page: [sweet and lovely crafts: lions, lions everywhere](#)

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Watch the story in song on this video clip <https://youtu.be/j0R0VaRYOTI>

An action song: [https://youtu.be/1\\_d\\_eLGamLY](https://youtu.be/1_d_eLGamLY)

**Lions in the Den (to the tune of The Farmer's in his Den)**

The Lions wants some food... E I Addy O they're in a hungry mood

The angel's in the den... E I Addy O its sleepy time again

The lion's fast asleep (get quieter) ... E I Addy O we can't ear a peep

Daniel is okay... E I Addy O Let's all shout HOORAY!

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