

**FLiNTS!**

Creative Family  
Activities Inspired by  
Medieval Norwich  
and Beyond...

# STAINED GLASS

HISTORIC CHURCH EXPLORERS ACTIVITY BOOK #1

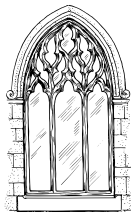
# USING GLASS TO TELL STORIES

Most churches and cathedrals have bright and colourful windows, using painted or coloured glass to make patterns and pictures.

Using stained glass in religious buildings is a practice that began around the 7th century. Before then, it was used by Ancient Egyptians and Romans to decorate small objects.

Having large windows in churches is a good way to let in lots of light. Stained glass was often used for decoration or, more importantly, to show pictures. During the Middle Ages many people could not read or write, and stained glass was one way they could see stories from the Bible.

During the Middle Ages, churches would have been richly decorated. As well as stained glass there would have been lots of carvings and paintings covering nearly every wall.



# DISCOVER STAINED GLASS AT HOME

St Martin at Palace is a historic church in Norwich which is looked after by the Norwich Historic Churches Trust. The stone work dates back to the 1500s but much of the stained glass is Victorian.

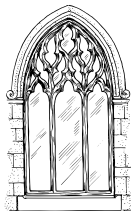
Click the link to explore St Martin through a 360 degree tour: [www.nhct-norwich.org/our-churches/#Tour](http://www.nhct-norwich.org/our-churches/#Tour)



Try and find as many stained windows as you can!

**How many of the following things can you see?**

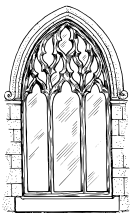
- A Roman Soldier (Saint Martin)
- A slain dragon
- An angel
- Coat of arms



# BEAUTIFUL BREAKAGES

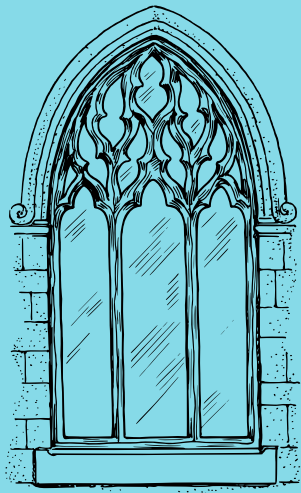
Norwich has many surviving medieval churches. Glass is a very fragile material which means many of the original windows have been lost. Some were broken as recently as World War Two when Norwich was bombed.

This picture shows fragments (tiny pieces) of medieval stained glass, put together for safe keeping. It is in St Gregory's on Pottergate, Norwich, now and Antiques Centre.



**Can you guess what the original picture might have been?**





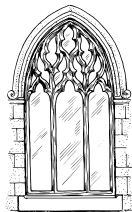
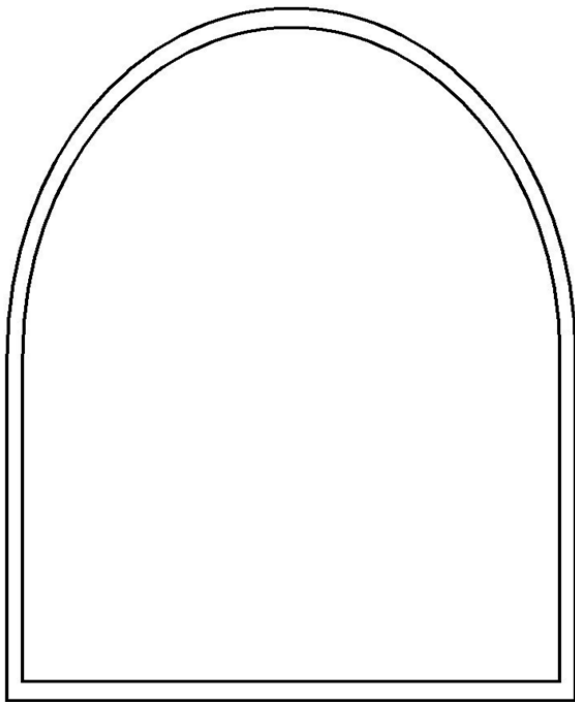
STAINED GLASS ACTIVITIES TO TRY AT HOME

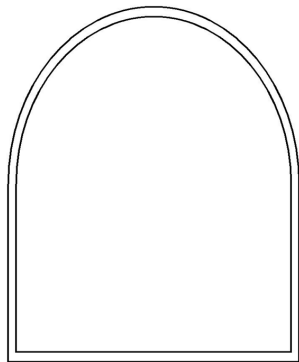
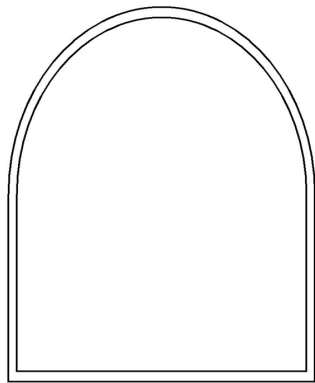
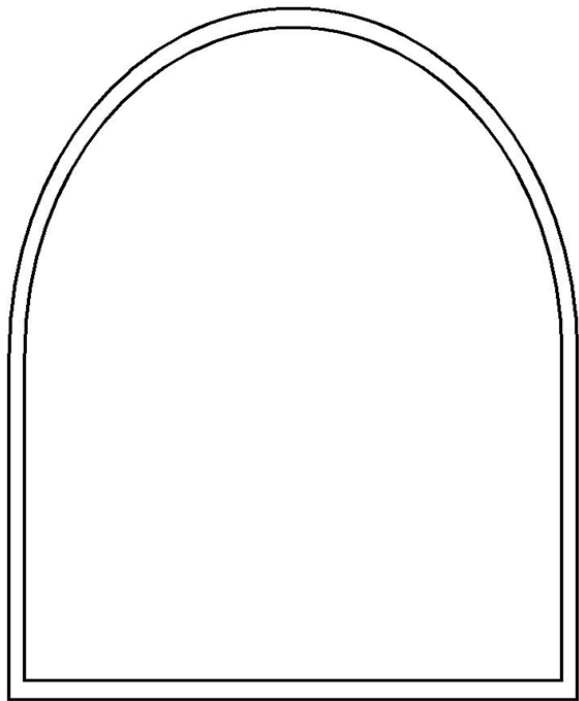
# TELL YOUR OWN STORY

Stained glass was used to tell stories.

Use the space to design your own window telling the story of your favourite day.

You don't need to use a printer! Draw your design on spare paper or cut the shape out of an old cardboard packet.



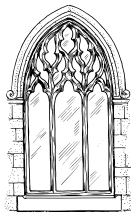


# STAINED GLASS CANDLE HOLDER

You can make a candleholder inspired by stained glass and its use of light and colour. Think about the colours, shapes and patterns you have seen in stained glass and use to help you come up with your own design.

What you will need:

- **A recycled jar** = soak this in warm water to remove any labels and sticky bits
- **Colourful tissue paper** - or any thin paper you can find, such as an old newspaper
- **Scissors**
- **PVA glue** - mixed with a small amount of water
- **A paint brush**
- **A tealight candle**





# INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut out lots of different shapes from the coloured tissue paper. Make enough to cover your jar but small enough to fit on lots of different shapes.
2. Think about your design and arrange the shapes how you want them.
3. Taking them one at a time, place the shapes on the outside of your jar and, using a paint brush, paint over them with a small amount of PVA glue. Use just enough to make them stick without becoming too soggy.
4. Leave your jar to dry.
5. Ask for an adult's help to light the candle and place it in the jar. Watch the colours change as the light shines through.

**Tip:** Try not to layer too many shapes on top of each other. The thicker the paper, the less light will get through.



