The Lord Is My Shepherd Diorama

A simple representation for young children to make and enjoy.

Motivation:
Read your child the 23rd Psalm.

Materials
- shoebox for diorama backdrop
- cotton balls (cut in half) OR salt ceramic (recipe below) to make sheep
- picture of the Lord as our Shepherd (print enclosed picture or make your own)
- blue poster paint or construction paper
- glue
- grass
- Optional: Blue ribbon or a strip of blue fabric for stream

Procedure:
1. Make the salt ceramic unless you are using cotton balls for the sheep.
2. Paint the shoebox with blue poster paint or cover with blue construction paper.
3. Sheep can be cotton balls cut in half. Or use the salt ceramic to mold some sheep for the representation. Round lumps or balls will suggest some sheep. If desired, the child can add ears, legs, or a tail.
4. Children can draw the Lord holding a lamb in one hand and His staff in the other or print out the picture of the Lord as our Shepherd.
5. Glue the picture of the Lord to the inside back of the shoebox.
6. Gather grass or herbs for the “pasture” and place in the bottom of the box.
7. Use blue ribbon or a strip of blue cloth to indicate a stream of water.
8. Set the sheep in the pasture with the Shepherd.
9. Make a title or “text slip” for the diorama: The Lord is my shepherd.

Salt Ceramic (or Homemade Play Dough)
- ½ cup salt
- 2 cups water
- 3 Tablespoons powdered Alum
- 3 cups flour

Mix salt and water together in a saucepan, and then bring to a simmer.
Remove from heat and add the Alum immediately.
Add the flour. Then knead together.
This play dough may be kept for a long time if tightly wrapped in a plastic bag.
Picture of the Lord as Our Shepherd

Cut out and glue on inside back of the shoebox unless you are drawing your own picture of the Lord.