

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL ROTATION OVERVIEW SEPTEMBER 2020**

**MONTHLY THEME:** NOAH AND THE ARK

**BIBLE REFERENCE:** Genesis 6:11-9:17

**OBJECTIVE(S):**

- Children learn the story of Noah and the Ark.
- Children learn what Righteousness means, and why it is important in our life.
- Children learn about the promises God has made to his people.

**WEEKLY LESSON FOCUS**

- September 6 – Telling the Noah Story
- September 13 – The Long Wait in the Ark
- September 20 – Noah's Righteousness
- September 27 – The Promise in the Rainbow

**ROTATION STATIONS**

- September 6 – Science Station – Foil Boats
- September 13 – Art Station - Rainsticks
- September 20 – Music Station – Remake a Classic
- September 27 – Kitchen Station – Rainbow Fruit Skewers

<b>SCIENCE STATION</b>
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Station Overview: The children explore the challenges faced by Noah by making foil boats to see how many "animals" they can float before the boat sinks.

Supplies Needed:

- A bucket, tub, or other container in which the boats can float
- Water to fill the buckets
- Aluminum Foil, cut into equally sized pieces for each participant
- Animal Crackers, dried beans, or coins for each participant

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are talking about the story of Noah and the Ark.
2. Share that we are going to do a little experiment to see how we would do as "ark builders". Explain that we are going to make boats out of the aluminum foil, and then see how many "animals" they will carry without sinking.

3. Give each participant a piece of the foil. Allow the participants to fold/mold the foil to make their own "ark". As the participants finish, allow them to put their boat into the bucket to make sure it floats. NOTE: If you are working with younger participants, you may need to demonstrate some ideas about how they could make a boat.
4. Once the participants finish their boat designs, have them put their boats into the buckets. Give each participant a supply of animal crackers, dried beans, or coins. Explain that these items will represent the animals we need to put on the ark.
5. Have the participants place one animal cracker/bean/coin on their boat to see if it still floats. Continue adding weight to see which boat is able to carry the most "animals".
6. After the activity talk about the following:
  - a. How did you come up with your boat designs? Was it difficult to make a boat without any special instructions or a model?
  - b. While God gave Noah some instructions about the ark, like what wood Noah needed to use and the overall size of the ark, there was no model or example for Noah to use. How would you feel if you were the one God told to build the ark? Why?
  - c. God asked Noah to undertake a really difficult task, but Noah was able to complete the work. How did he do it? What character traits or beliefs do you think Noah had that helped him to complete such a big assignment?
  - d. Do you think that God still asks people to do big or difficult things? Why does God ask people to do these things? What are some examples of a big or tough job that God may ask us to do?
  - e. In what ways are you ready to take on a big job for God? What traits or characteristics do you have that make you like Noah?
7. After the conversation, share that one of the jobs we do not read about in scripture is cleaning up after the animals on the ark...but you know that was a big job! Invite the participants to make the clean-up job a little easier by helping you to clean up after this activity.

## ARTS & CRAFTS STATION

Station Overview: The children make rain sticks to remind them of the 40 days of rain that flooded the earth in the Noah story.

Supplies Needed:

- A paper towel tube or other long cardboard tube for each participant
- Aluminum foil
- Small dried beans (like lentils), unpopped popcorn, dry rice, or tiny pasta.
- Brown paper (from a grocery bag) or construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers
- Clear Packing Tape (optional)

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are talking about the story of Noah and the Ark.
2. Share that we are going to make something that will remind us of the sounds Noah and his family heard for 40 days and nights...Rain! Explain that we are going to make rain sticks so we can make the sound of our own rainstorm.
3. Making the Rain Sticks (<https://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/music/rainstick/>)
  - a. Hold your tube perpendicular to the brown paper or construction paper, and trace around the end of the tube to draw a circle.
  - b. Draw a bigger circle around the first one. Then draw in some lines between the two circles, so that they look like spokes on a wheel.
  - c. Cut out the large circle. Then cut along the "spokes", but not into the smaller circle.
  - d. Lay the cut spoke circle down. Put glue on all of the spokes. Hold the tube perpendicular to the paper so that the opening of the tube covers the little circle. Then fold up the spokes to glue them onto the tube.
  - e. While the glue is drying, cut out a piece of aluminum foil that is 1.5 times the length of your tube. Then cut this foil in half lengthwise to make 2 long, thin sheets.
  - f. Crunch each piece of aluminum foil into a long, thin snake shape. Then twist each foil snake into a tight spring shape.
  - g. Gently slide both spring-shaped pieces of foil into the tube.
  - h. Pour some beans, popcorn kernels, rice, or pasta into the tube. It won't take much! Only fill about 10% of the tube.
  - i. Repeat steps A through D to make a cap for the open end of the rain stick. NOTE: If you are working with a child who is an "aggressive shaker", you may want to secure the end caps with clear packing tape in addition to the glue!
  - j. Tightly wrap the tube with brown paper or construction paper, and glue to secure it to the tube.

- k. Decorate the tube with crayons and markers.
- 4. After finishing the tubes, have the children use the rain sticks to make a “storm” that starts slowly and quietly, then builds in intensity, and then slowly tapers to silence.
- 5. As time permits, have a conversation about how it would feel to be stuck in a small cabin of a ship for 40 days and nights. What would you do to keep from being bored or going stir-crazy while it was raining?

## MUSIC STATION

Station Overview: The children make re-write and/or re-mix the lyrics to a favorite song in order to tell the story of Noah and the Ark.

Supplies Needed:

- Paper
- Pen or pencil
- Optional: device and/or speaker to play music

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are talking about the story of Noah and the Ark.
2. Share that there are a few children's songs written about Noah and the Ark; however, none of those songs has really caught your interest. So today, we are going to pick a song that we like, and write new lyrics to that song to make it about the Noah story!
3. Using a song that your participants will know, provide them an example of how the words can change to make it about Noah. (NOTE: The song you choose will vary depending on the age of your participants.)

a. Example 1 – Sung to the tune of "Baby Shark"

Build an Ark, do do do do dee do  
Build an Ark, do do do do dee do  
God told Noah, do do do do dee do  
Build an Ark.

Gonna rain, do do do do dee do  
Gonna rain, do do do do dee do  
For 40 days, do do do do dee do  
Gonna rain.

b. Example 2 – Sung to "You'll Be Back" from Alexander Hamilton

I've got a job  
You won't believe  
What our God has just asked of me  
Build an Ark  
Strong, Sturdy  
Before the whole earth becomes a sea  
Oceans rise, rains will fall,  
My trusty boat will get us through it all  
But right now, wish I knew  
where to find two lions, llamas, bears, and gnus!  
Da da da da da Da da da da di ya da da da di ya da  
Da da da da da Da da da da di ya da da da da di ya

4. Give the participants time to pick their song, and help them re-write the lyrics.
5. Share the songs as time permits. Talk about how each participant captured different elements of the Noah story.
6. Optional: After practicing the songs a bit, make a video to share the song with Mr. Matt and others!

## **KITCHEN STATION**

Station Overview: The children make “rainbow” fruit skewers to remind them of the God’s promise that was marked with a rainbow in the sky.

Supplies Needed:

- Wooden skewers
- Fruit, cut into bite-sized pieces, in a variety of rainbow colors:
  - Red – Watermelon, strawberries, OR cherries
  - Orange – Oranges, Peaches, OR Cantaloupe
  - Yellow – Pineapple, Lemon, Starfruit, OR banana
  - Green – Grapes, Kiwi, OR Honeydew
  - Blue – Blueberries
  - Purple – Purple/red grapes OR Blackberries
- Bowls for Fruit
- Plate
- Napkins

Lesson Plan:

1. Remind the participants that we are talking about the story of Noah and the Ark.
2. Ask the participants to explain the meaning of the rainbow in the Noah story.  
Honor their answers.
3. Share that today we are going to make some Rainbow Treats to remind us of the rainbow in the Noah story.
4. Give each participant a plate, napkin, and wooden skewer.
5. Starting with your red fruit, and proceeding through the colors of the rainbow, have the participants put the fruit bites onto their skewers.
6. After all the participants finish their skewers, enjoy your snack! You can talk about other kinds of fruit that you could use in the rainbow skewers, which fruit the participants like the most, etc.
7. When everyone is done, invite the participants to help clean-up.