

# Noah and the Flood

Genesis 6–9

Age 2–3

## Step 1: Get Ready

Gather the following story props:

- ❖ A Noah's ark play set including: Noah and family (use other dolls to make up a family if necessary), an ark (or blocks/box that can be used to build an ark), and as many pairs of animals as you can pull together
- ❖ Rainbow-colored stickers, ribbons, washable markers, or face paints
- ❖ Gift bag
- ❖ Illustrated Bible storybook

Ahead of time, set the pairs of animals all around the room in plain view; place the ark (or materials for building an ark) near the storytelling area; and put the rainbow items in the gift bag.

## Step 2: Tell the Story

Gather in a circle and welcome the children to story time. Show them pictures of Noah, the animals, and the ark from an illustrated Bible storybook. **Do you know this story? Who is this man? (Noah) What kinds of animals do you see? Do you know what a flood is?** (*Lots and lots of rain—so much that the dry land disappears.*) **Let's learn more about Noah!**

**God told a man named Noah to build a boat.**

**Not a little boat.** Use hands to show something little.

**Not a big boat.** Use hands to show something bigger.

**But an enormous boat!** Stretch arms as wide as you can.

**A boat bigger than this room.**

**Bigger than your house.**

**Bigger than this church maybe!**

**The special enormous boat was called an ark.** Bring out the ark (or build an ark) and talk about how much room it has.

**God told Noah to go out and find two of every kind of animal and put them on the ark.**

**Can you help Noah find the animals?** Have the children gather the animals and bring them back to the story circle. If you have “pairs” spend some time making pairs, if not, just march them into the ark when they are “called.”

**Noah called out to the animals: “Get on the ark! There's going to be a flood. Calling all tigers and hippos and kangaroos and \_\_\_\_\_!”** Call out the names of all the animals the children found and march them into the ark as they're called.

**Calling Noah and his family!** Invite learners to move Noah and his family into the ark.

**When all of the animals were on the ark, and when Noah and his family were on too, God shut the big doors and the rain started.**

**It rained and it rained.** Make “rain” by fluttering your fingers down. Encourage the kids to help you make rain.

**It rained and rained. The wind blew and blew.** Invite kids to make the wind blow.

**But the animals and Noah and his family were safe inside the ark.**

**For a very long time it rained and the waters covered the whole earth.**

Finally, the rain stopped.

When the flood waters were gone, there was dry land again. God told Noah to take his family and all the animals off the ark. March Noah, his family, and the animals off the ark.

Then God made a beautiful rainbow in the sky, and God said, “This rainbow is a sign. It is a reminder of how much I love everyone and every living thing on the earth and it is a sign that I will never flood the whole earth again. It is a gift for you.” Bring out the gift bag of rainbow-colored items, and distribute them (or draw rainbows on hands and cheeks). Remember, rainbows are a reminder that God loves you and everyone and every living thing.

- ❖ What other animals might have been on the ark? (List animals not in your Noah’s ark set.)
- ❖ I wonder what it sounded/smelled like on the ark with all those animals....
- ❖ Have you ever seen a rainbow in the sky?

### **Step 3: Play and Pray**

Gather the following supplies:

- ❖ Rainbow sherbet
- ❖ Animal crackers
- ❖ Bowls
- ❖ Spoons
- ❖ Napkins

*\* Food allergies: Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for learners who have food allergies. Provide alternative, if necessary.*

Have a Noah's ark snack. Serve animal crackers and rainbow sherbet! Offer a prayer of thanks. Then enjoy a conversation about rainy days, puddles, rainbows, and favorite animals while you eat.

Close with the following prayer:

**Thank you, God, for Noah and his family.** (Point to Noah and family)

**Thank you for all the animals.** The \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ (Point to the animals, as you name them).

**Thank you for rainbows!**

**AMEN**