

SHADOWS OF JESUS IN NOAH'S ARK

HOOK

Choose 1 activity just to break the ice. Get the kids to sit quietly and attentively and give clear, short explanation about the game. Keep the whole hook simple and short.

CALLING THE ANIMALS

If you have a Noah's Ark toy, get the kids to each hold one of the animals. And when you call out an animal, the kids holding the right animal should come forward to put them into the ark.



ANIMAL CHARADES

Have the children take turns acting like different animals and having the rest of the children guess which animal they are.

ANIMAL ACTIONS

Choose a few animals and give distinctive actions to each. Eg. Elephant → trunk
 The leader will shout out the names of the animals and the kids must do the appropriate action. The leader will call out the animal names with increasing speed. Those who do the wrong action have to sit down.

MEMORY GAME

First child says "Noah took a ___ on the ark." (animal name goes in the blank)
 Second child repeats what the first said and adds their own animal.
 "Noah took a ___, and a ___ on the ark."
 Each child must remember what has been said and add their own animal.

FIND YOUR PAIR

Print the names of animals on a piece of paper, two times. Cut the paper apart and have each child draw a name. Make sure that each name is in the bag twice and they are all chosen. The children must act out their animal (without any sound) to find their "pair."



SHADOWS OF JESUS IN NOAH'S ARK

LESSON (Gen 6-8)

STORY

Tell the story of Noah's Ark (Gen 6-8). You may want to sing out different parts of the story with simple actions for class participation.

God made the earth, and God made man, and He saw that His creation was good.

But when sin entered the world, and fallen angels corrupted the human race, man's heart was full of evil. The world became full of violence. And God was very sad. To save the beautiful world He created, He had to clear it all.

But one man found favour with God. His name was Noah. Noah was a righteous man. He followed God's ways. He had three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth.

God told Noah that He was going to clear the earth with a great big flood. He gave Noah a special task, with specific instructions on how to build an ark that will keep Noah, his family, and two of all living creatures safe.

The ark would have one door and only a one-and-a-half foot opening at the top, under the roof.

"Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you."

Even though it was pretty crazy, Noah did everything just as God commanded him. He brought all the animals into the ark.

[Song: Do you see the Animals]

And the rain came, and the floods covered the earth. Everyone and everything on land died, but Noah, his family, and everything inside ark was safe and sound.

[Song: The Ark Rocks]

Do you see the Animals
To the tune of "Muffin Man"

Oh do you see the animals
 The animals, the animals
 Do you see the animals
 Marching off the ark

God saved all the animals
 The animals, the animals
 God saved all the animals
 Saved them from the flood

The Ark Rocks
To the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell"

The ark rocks back and forth
 The ark rocks back and forth
 The wind blows hard
 The rain comes down
 The ark rocks back and forth



SHADOWS OF JESUS IN NOAH'S ARK

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For 40 days, the rain came down and the floods went up. And the waters flooded the earth for 150 days.

Then God sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded and receded and receded, and the ark rested on the top of Mount Ararat.

After 40 days, Noah sent a raven out to check if there was land yet. The raven kept flying back and forth. Then he sent a dove, but the dove returned because it couldn't find anywhere to perch. After seven more days, Noah sent the dove out again, and the dove returned with a freshly plucked olive leaf in the evening.

[Song: Noah sent the Dove]

After another seven days, Noah sent the dove out one more time, and this time, it did not return.

So Noah and his family and all the animals came out of the ark, and gave thanks to God for protecting them.

And God promised that He will never again destroy earth because of man, no matter how evil they were. And as a promise, He set His bow in the sky. So that every time we see this bow (or rainbow), we remember God's promise.

[Song: God made a Rainbow]

Noah sent the Dove

To the tune of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

Noah sent the dove outside of the ark to find dry land. It flew all around and then, It brought back an olive branch This meant that the storm was done God saved Noah from the flood

God made a Rainbow

To the tune of "Jesus Loves Me"

When a rainbow's in the sky Then we know it's dry outside Rainbow tells us of God's promise That He loves us always

God made a rainbow
God made a rainbow
God made a rainbow
And put it over the ark

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The rainbow tells me so

Adapted from <http://cdn.www.ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/Noah-And-The-Flood-Songs.pdf>



SHADOWS OF JESUS IN NOAH'S ARK

LESSON

The Ark is a picture of Jesus.

Salvation is found only in Jesus. When everything else outside is dying or destroyed, those who are in Jesus are safe in Him. We can all find salvation in Jesus if we choose to enter into a relationship with Him.

John 10:9 *I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.*

The rainbow reminds us of God's love and promise.

God made a covenant He will not "be angry" or "rebuke" us again. He will no longer destroy the earth no matter how evil man was. Instead, God put the punishment of sin on Jesus.

When a warrior returns from war, he hangs up his bow (same shape as the rainbow). The hung-up bow tells us that the war is over! All the arrows of God's judgment fell on Christ on the cross. Because of Jesus took all the punishment of sin for us with His finished work on the cross, we can now enjoy God's unfailing love and unending peace.



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SHADOWS OF JESUS IN ABRAHAM'S RAM

LESSON (Gen 22:1-19)

STORY

Tell the story of God telling Abraham to sacrifice Isaac from Genesis 22:1-19. You may want to get one kid to act as Isaac and another as the ram.

Abraham was a friend of God.

Remember all the promises God promised Him? One of them was that God promised Abraham as many children as the stars. And though Abraham had no children for many, many years, God finally gave him a son, Isaac.

One day, God told Abraham, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love ... Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering."

Abraham waited so long for his son. And now he had one, God was asking him to sacrifice him?

Abraham couldn't understand; but he knew God, he knew God loved Him, and he trusted God.

So the next morning, Abraham took his son Isaac and set off to the place where God told him to go. He carried the fire and knife, and put the wood for the burnt offering on Isaac's back.

As they walked up the hill, Isaac asked his father, "The fire and wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

Abraham answered, "God will provide the lamb."

When they reached, Abraham then built an altar and arranged wood on it. Then he bound Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.

How do you think Isaac felt? He definitely couldn't understand! But he knew his father, he knew his father loved Him, and he trusted his father.

As Abraham reached out his hand raised the knife high, suddenly the angel of the Lord called out, "Abraham! Abraham! Stop! Don't hurt the boy. I want him to live and not die. I know now that you love me because you would have given me your only son."

Abraham must have been so relieved. He looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. He took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son, and called that place, "The Lord will Provide."

God then blessed Abraham again, "Because you obeyed me, even when I asked you to do a hard thing, I will richly bless you. From you will become a great nation, and all people on earth will ask you to be blessed the way I have blessed you, all because you obeyed my command."



SHADOWS OF JESUS IN ABRAHAM'S RAM

LESSON

Abraham trusted God

Abraham knew that God loved him soooo much, He would never do anything to hurt him.

God promised him a son, and God provided.

When God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, Abraham trusted that God would provide a way out.

Hebrews 11:17-19 tells us, *"By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death."*

We can trust God!

Jesus is the Lamb

From this story, we see God's heart and a shadow of His redemption plan.

All of us have done bad things, sin. The result of sin is death. But God wants His people to live, not die. God loves us so much that He had a plan on how to save us.

With Abraham and the ram, God revealed a picture of what He would do, the sacrifice He would make, to show us how much He loves us.

One day, God took His son, His only son, Jesus, whom He loves, and sacrificed Him as a burnt offering.

He put the cross on His back and made Him walk up the hill.

Like the ram caught in the thorny bush, Jesus had a crown of thorns pressed on His brow as He took the punishment for our sin.

As John the Baptist said in **John 1:29**, Jesus is *"... the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"* (John 1:29)

God provided Jesus, the Lamb of God. Jehovah Jireh! The Lord will provide!

Let's pray: Thank you Jesus that You took our place as the sacrificial lamb. You took all our sins and sicknesses on the cross, You paid for them with your blood, and You defeated death when You rose 3 days later. Thank you that we have life and blessings because of You. Amen!"

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

In smaller groups, get the kids to share about what it means to have Jesus take our place and our punishment of sin. Pray and bless each child.

CRAFT

Any sheep related craft with the words "God provided the Lamb" or "Jesus is the Lamb who took away the sin of the world" or "Jehovah Jireh! The Lord will provide!"





SHADOWS OF JESUS IN MANNA FROM HEAVEN

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

In smaller groups, get the kids to share about what it means to have Jesus as our Daily Manna. Thank Jesus for being our Bread of Life. Pray and bless each child.

GAME

Pick the manna

Scatter small cotton balls/white punched paper and get the kids to pick it up (either as a relay race etc). Older kids can use chopsticks or spoons to pick the 'manna'.

SNACK

Make "manna"

Use small wafer biscuits and get kids to add a dab of honey and eat together. Remind kids that this is just a representation. The real manna appeared on the ground and stopped appearing after the Israelites entered the Promised Land.



SHADOWS OF JESUS IN THE STRIKEN ROCK

LESSON (Exodus 17:1-7)

STORY

Last week we learnt that God provided miracle food for the Israelites. What did He give them? *Manna*? *Bread from heaven; like white coriander seeds and tasted like wafers made with honey.*

You'd have thought ... after ALL the miracles God performed to bring them out of Egypt, after ALL that manna, the Israelites would know how to trust God.

But the next time they set up camp, the grumbling started again.

This time it was, "WE HAVE NO WATER! WE ARE GOING TO DIE! WHY DID YOU BRING US OUT HERE TO DIE OF THIRST? WHERE IS GOD? IS HE WITH US OR NOT?!"

Moses went to God. "What shall I do? These people are going to stone me to death!"

God told Moses: *"Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink."*



And Moses did as God told him to. And the people had water to drink.

LESSON

We've been learning that we can see Jesus in the whole Bible. He's not just a New Testament person. Jesus is God, and part of His salvation plan for the whole world.

And in the Old Testament, through God's interactions with the Israelites, He would leave them clues to show them what He was going to do.

Jesus is the Ark that saves us from judgment and death.

Jesus is the Ram, the Lamb that was sacrificed on our behalf.

Jesus is the Bread from Heaven.

And today, we see Jesus as the Rock!



SHADOWS OF JESUS IN THE STRIKEN ROCK

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

In smaller groups, get the kids to share their praise and prayer points. Thank Jesus for being our Rock. Pray and bless each child.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

John 7:37 ... *Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."*

CRAFT

Related Craft with Memory Verse (John 7:37)

<https://www.pinterest.com/jennyj8/moses-water-from-the-rock/>

GAME

Rock Piñata

Prepare a simple rock-shaped piñata — fill a plastic bag with sweets and wrap with some large brown paper. Blindfold a kid and let him try to hit the balloon with a rolled-up paper stick. Gradually the “rock” will break and the sweets will come out.

Variation #1: Kids have to memorise the memory verse (or simplified version). Those who can memorise it will be given a chance to hit the piñata.

Variation #2: Kids have to say the memory verse while hitting the piñata.

LESSON (Judges 9)

Suggested Props: Create a tower out of a large cardboard box or stack chairs to create a "tower". Kids can take turns to go in it, or they can huddle inside while you tell the story, or it can be a good visual aid as you teach.

STORY

This is a little known story about a wicked king, called Abimelek, the son of Gideon, a judge of Israel.

He wanted to be king so badly, that he killed his 70 brothers (except the youngest who went into hiding).

After Abimelek was king for a few years, the people of Shechem began to revolt against him. There was war, and many people were killed.

Abimelek attacked a city called Thebez and captured it. Inside the city, however, there was a strong tower. And all the people of the city ran to the tower and locked themselves in it.

Abimelek went to the tower and attacked it. But as he approached and tried to set the tower on fire, a woman on top of the tower dropped a millstone on his head and crack his skull.

(Abimelek asked his armour-bearer to kill him with his sword because he didn't want it to be known that a woman had defeated him. But it's recorded in the Bible, so we all know now!)

When the Israelites saw that Abimelek was dead, they all went home.



