

Noah's Ark

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: God keeps His promises.

Bible passage: Genesis 6–9. Read Genesis 6:5–9:17 yourself before class.

Memory verse: "I do set my bow in the cloud" *Genesis 9:13 (KJV)*. The old word **bow** means rainbow.

You need: a Bible, toy animals in pairs (two of each kind), a box or laundry basket to be the ark, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child. If you have them: rainbow stickers.

Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Genesis 6. Hide the toy animals around the room.

1. Opening game: Two by Two (5 minutes)

Kids hunt for the hidden toy animals and bring them to the box "ark." Help them find each animal's partner.

Say: "Two lions! Two sheep! Today we will hear a true story about a big boat full of animals."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Genesis 6. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Long ago, people did bad things. God was sad (Genesis 6:5–6). *(Make a sad face.)*

But Noah walked with God. Noah obeyed God (6:9, 6:22). *(Walk in place.)*

God said, "Noah, make an ark." An ark is a big boat (6:14). *(Hammer with your fist.)*

Noah built and built. **Say it with me: "Noah obeyed God!"**

The animals came, two by two (7:9). *(Walk two toy animals into the box.)*

Noah and his family went in too. Eight people (7:13). *(Hold up eight fingers.)*

God shut the door (7:16). *(Clap once: shut!)*

Rain came down, down, down. Forty days and forty nights (7:12). *(Wiggle fingers down like rain.)*

The ark floated on the water (7:18). *(Rock side to side.)*

God remembered Noah (8:1). **Say it with me: "God takes care of me!"**

A dove brought back a leaf (8:11). *(Flap your arms like wings.)*

The water went away. Everyone came out (8:18–19). *(Walk the animals out of the box.)*

Noah worshiped God (8:20). *(Lift your hands up.)*

God put a rainbow in the sky. It is God's promise (9:13). *(Draw a big rainbow with your arm.)*

Say it with me: "God keeps His promises!"



3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. Who built the ark? (*Noah, Genesis 6:14, 6:22*)
2. Who shut the door? (*God did, 7:16*)
3. What did God put in the sky? (*A rainbow, 9:13*)

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "God said, 'I do set my bow in the cloud.' A bow is a rainbow." Teach the motion: put both hands together high over your head, then sweep them out and down in a big rainbow. Say the verse with the motion three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Genesis 9:13" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."

Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: Rainbow Ark (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a simple boat. Then they color a rainbow over it, or add rainbow stickers. While they color, ask: "Who shut the door? Who keeps His promises?" Kids who finish early can march the toy animals into the ark two by two.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:

"Thank You, God, for keeping Your promises.

Help me obey You like Noah. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving and let every child hold an animal. If they get wiggly, do the rain and rainbow motions again. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child asks about the people outside the ark: answer simply and gently. God was sad about the wrong things people chose (Genesis 6:6). God is always good and fair, and He wants everyone to come to Him.

