Noah's Ark *Bible lesson*

Genesis 6–9 · 30-minute core or 60-minute full lesson



BIG IDEA

God keeps His promises.

MEMORY VERSE · GENESIS 9:13 BSB

"I have set My rainbow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth."

LESSON AT A GLANCE

0–6	**Welcome** · Two by two	
6–10	**Hook** · Promises	
10–20	**The Story** · The Story	●
20–30	**Talk** · Talk	●
30–35	**Memory Verse** · Memory Verse	●
35–40	**Sing** · Sing	
40–50	**Activity** · Ark review	
50–55	**Respond** · Promise journal	
55–60	**Pray & Send Home** · Pray & Send Home	●

● Core step. Teach just these for the 30-minute version.

Leader prep

Bible background

Genesis 6 tells us the world had filled with violence and people had turned away from God, and it grieved Him. Noah was different: he walked with God (Genesis 6:9). God told Noah to build an ark, a huge wooden boat, because a flood was coming, and promised to keep Noah's family safe (6:13–18).

Noah did everything just as God commanded (6:22). The animals came to the ark, God shut the door (7:16), and it rained forty days and forty nights. After the waters went down, Noah sent out a raven and a dove; the dove came back with an olive leaf (8:6–11).

When Noah came out, he worshipped God, and God made a covenant, a forever promise, never again to flood the whole earth. The rainbow is the sign of that promise (9:8–17). The point of the story is God's faithfulness: He judges evil, He rescues, and He keeps His word.

Where is Jesus in this story?

God made a way for Noah's family to be safe inside the ark when judgment came. Jesus is the way God makes for us: when we trust Him, we are safe with Him. And just as God kept His rainbow promise, He kept His biggest promise by sending Jesus.

Supplies

- A large cardboard box or a blanket for an 'ark'
- A spray bottle of water (optional, for the 'rain')
- Masking tape
  Prep: Tape a big rectangle on the floor for the ark before class.
- Printed story cards, verse poster, coloring pages and parent pages
  Prep: Print from the Classroom resources section.
- A screen for the story video (optional)

Questions kids might ask

"Did all the other people and animals die in the flood?"

Yes. Be honest and calm: the Bible says God judged a world full of evil. Then point to what God did: He made a way to be safe, and He promised never to flood the whole earth again.

"How did all the animals fit?"

The ark was huge, about as long as one and a half football fields (Genesis 6:15). God sent the animals, and He took care of them.

"Is a rainbow really God's promise?"

Yes! Every rainbow is a reminder that God keeps His promises (Genesis 9:13–16).

If a child shares something serious

When kids share what scares or worries them, some may mention something serious, like someone hurting them or a big fear at home. Listen, thank them for telling you, and don't promise to keep it secret. Tell your ministry leader the same day and follow your church's child-safety policy. Some kids in the room may have lost someone, or have someone sick at home. Watch for kids who go quiet or upset, sit with them, and let their parent know after class. Never promise that sick people always get better; say that Jesus is with us when people are sick, and one day He will make everything well, forever.

Teach it

SAY read aloud DO leader action KIDS SAY call and response

1 Welcome 6 min

Full lesson

Two by two

DO Whisper an animal name to each child (two kids get each animal). Without talking, kids act out their animal to find their partner, then sit together inside the taped 'ark'.

SAY Noah's ark had a lot of animals. Did everyone find their partner?

> Keep it fast and silly. Make sure nobody is left without a pair; a leader can partner up.

2 Hook 4 min

Full lesson

Promises

SAY Raise your hand if someone has ever made you a promise and then didn't keep it. How did that feel?

SAY Today we're going to meet Someone who has never broken a promise. Not once. Let's find out what He promised Noah.

3 The Story 10 min

Core

DO Play the Noah's Ark story video (3 min), or read it aloud with the story cards.

SAY Listen for what God promised, and what He gave as a sign.

DO After the video, have kids open their Bibles to Genesis 9:12–16. Ask a confident reader to read it aloud.

SAY God made a covenant, a forever promise, with Noah and with every living thing. And thousands of years later, God is still keeping it.

KIDS SAY **God keeps His promises!**

4 Talk 10 min

Core

What was Noah's big job, and why did he do it?
Listen for: To build the ark and bring in the animals. He trusted God and obeyed Him, even though it was a huge job and nobody else believed.

Who shut the door of the ark?
Listen for: God did (Genesis 7:16). God was the one keeping them safe.

What did God promise after the flood?
Listen for: Never again to flood the whole earth. The rainbow is the sign of His promise.

What is a promise from God you can hold on to?
Listen for: God is with us, He hears our prayers, and He forgives us when we come to Him.

OLDER KIDS Read Genesis 6:22 and Hebrews 11:7. What did Noah's faith look like? Where do we see Jesus in this story? (Jesus is God's way to keep us safe, like the ark.)

5 Memory Verse 5 min

Core

DO Write the verse on a whiteboard or hold up the poster. Teach the motions.

> **“I have set My rainbow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.”**
>
> Genesis 9:13 · BSB

MOTIONS

- **I have set My rainbow in the clouds,** Draw a big rainbow across the sky with one arm.
- **and it will be a sign** Hold up one finger, like pointing to a sign.
- **of the covenant between Me and the earth.** Shake hands with a friend: a promise!

PRACTICE IT THREE WAYS

1. Say it with motions.
2. Disappearing words: erase or cover one word at a time until kids say it from memory.
3. Say it fast, then slow, then in a whisper.

6 Sing 5 min

Full lesson

> The Little Lantern song for this story is coming soon. For now, sing a favorite worship song about God keeping His promises.

7 Activity 10 min

Full lesson

Ark review

DO Split into two teams. Ask a review question; the first team to answer correctly sends one ‘animal pair’ (two players) into the taped ark. Most pairs in the ark wins.

Who did God tell to build the ark?
Listen for: Noah.

How long did it rain?
Listen for: Forty days and forty nights.

What did the dove bring back?
Listen for: An olive leaf.

Who shut the door of the ark?
Listen for: God.

What is the rainbow a sign of?
Listen for: God’s promise, His covenant.

> Prefer a quieter room? Hand out the mini-book or a coloring page instead.

8 Respond 5 min

Full lesson

Promise journal

DO Kids write or draw: “God promised ____. I can trust Him when ____.”

OLDER KIDS Write down one promise from the Bible to remember this week, like Hebrews 13:5.

9 Pray & Send Home 5 min

Core

DO Pair kids up. Each one shares one thing they need to trust God with this week, then prays one sentence for their partner.

SAY Close: God, thank you that you always keep your promises. Help us trust you and obey you like Noah. In Jesus’ name, amen.

DO Hand out parent pages.