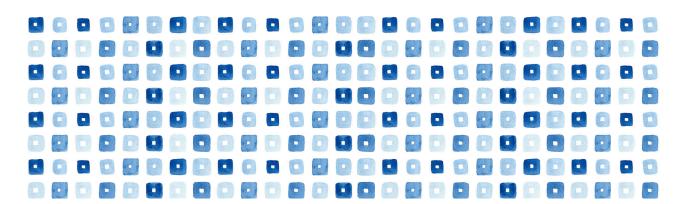
A MONTH OF



BY



ERIN WALKER, M.S. CCC-SLP & MONICA WOOTEN, M.S.





WELCOME!

Teachers,

We are honored for CB&J to be a part of your classroom. This curriculum was purchased exclusively for the students at your current school. If you love this and want to share or forward to your family members, friends, or colleagues please direct them to our website, characterbuildsjoy.com where they can purchase a Parent's Guide or request a free Teacher's Guide. Please DO NOT share or forward the contents of this Teacher's Guide. Your integrity will help keep costs low and affordable and allow all children to benefit from Character Builds Joy.

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Nothing excites us more than to see CB&J in action. Please tag us in posts or photos of activities you implement and want to share with others! We are excited to be on this journey with you!

With gratitude,
Erin and Monica
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TEACHER INSPIRATION

Encouragement Resources

If shopping for a new paper planner to kick off the year is something you look forward to each January, we are kindred spirits. I LOVE a plan, and it brings me peace and joy to be able to glance at the month ahead and anticipate the fun activities that are to come and, yes, prepare for the appointments and meetings that must exist to keep life running smoothly as well. I truly enjoy writing down as many details as possible each week!

However, as we look at Noah's life, the thing that stands out most to me is how his faith allowed him to be obedient to God and not get hung up on the little details that he did not know. How would he wrangle all of those wild animals onto the ark? Would the lions and tigers really cooperate and not attack Noah and his family? How would the animals not devour each other? And, if the animals all actually did get on board, how would Noah shut the door to the ark to keep them safe?

So many questions, yet Noah's obedience and faithfulness seem to be intertwined. God didn't give Noah every detail, but he gave him enough. And, Genesis tells us over and over that, "Noah did everything just as God commanded."

I wonder if our desire to know every detail about the future may be a red flag that we want to be in control rather than living by faith?

What is God calling you to? Is it unsettling that you don't have every detail about how it will be accomplished? Perhaps (like Noah) this is a golden opportunity to grow in faith as you trust God to take care of every detail big and small in ways that are too great for you to even imagine!

Biblical references

Deuteronomy 7:9 Lamentations 3:22-23 Galatians 3:1-9
Psalm 57:10 Mark 11:22-24 Hebrews 11

Psalm 86:15 Romans 10:17
Proverbs 3:3-4 2 Corinthians 5:7

Resources

Hope Heals, A True Story of Overwhelming Loss and an Overcoming Love by Katherine and Jay Wolf



CALENDAR

WEEK 1						
W.O.W. Word Faithfulness	Bible Verse Hebrews 11:1	Bible Story Noah Builds the Ark Genesis 6-9:17				
WEEK 2						
Language + Literacy Booklist	Soul Food Dinner Conversation Cards	STEM Wind Streamer				
WEEK 3						
Makerspace Mustard Seed Faith	Ready, Set, Play Shield of Faith	Brain Building Ark Animals				
WEEK 4						
Let's Be Social The BIG Game	Language & Literacy Noah's Ark Story Map	C.I.A Faithfulness Book				



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W.O.W. Word

W.O.W. words direct our focus to shape our hearts to be more like Jesus.

Grab your Faithfulness card.

- **Step 1:** Post character trait in the classroom.
- **Step 2**: Reveal the W.O.W. word, identify the letters in the word, count the syllables and ask students what they think this word could mean.
- **Step 3:** Faithfulness may be a big, new word for most kids so breaking it down by syllables is an easy way to introduce this word.

Faith: Our memory verse explains Faith perfectly. Faith is being sure of what we hope for. (Our hope is Jesus!) It is being sure of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1. Even though we cannot see Jesus, we believe in him. That's faith!

Ful: When we are full, we are filled up with something. Faithful means we are filled with faith!

Ness: Is used at the end of words to describe the way something is. For example, happiness means you are happy. If we smash all of those syllables and meanings together, we see that Faithfulness means someone who is full of faith!

Faithfulness says we believe in God even though we can not see Him. It is a fruit of the Spirit, which means we need the Spirit of God to help grow this in us!

*This month, relate the WOW Word to faithful people from the Bible.

Hebrews 11 gives examples of people who were filled with faith. Raise your hand if you have heard of any of these people: Noah, Abraham, Issac, Rahab, Moses, Samson, and David. Of course, Jesus was the perfect example of faithfulness, and when we are faithful, our hearts look more like him.

STANDARDS

 $\textbf{Critical Thinking:} \ \textit{Actively inquire and reflect about new ideas and activities.} \ \textbf{Communication:} \ \textit{Actively engage in conversations with adults and peers.} \ \textbf{Foundational literacy, Phonological Awareness:} \ \textit{Understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds.} \$

Faithfulness



Faithfulness





Bible Verse

Pictures help preschool students to write God's word on their hearts.

Grab your scissors and glue!

- **Step 1:** Read the Bible verse to your class and have children repeat it back in small chunks.
- Step 2: Identify each picture.
- Step 3: Students will cut out each picture along dotted lines and glue in the correct space to complete the verse. For younger children, have pictures already cut out and give them directions such as "find the picture of someone using a magnifying glass."
- Step 4: Children will write the book, chapter, and verse in the box Hebrews 11:1.
- **Step 5:** Read the verse together with children saying picture words. Post in the classroom and read each day, gradually fading the amount of prompts you give to the students.
- Verse: "Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see." Heb. 11:1 NIRV

STANDARDS

Foundational Literacy Standards Print Concepts: Understanding organization and basic features of print. Fine Motor: Demonstrate eyehand coordination and dexterity needed to manipulate objects.

Name: _____

Character Builds Joy

Faith is being



of what

we



for. It is being



of what we do





Hebrews 11:1

FAITHFULNESS BIBLE VERSE

"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see."

Cut. Match. Glue.

Step 1: Cut out each picture along the dotted line.

Step 2: Match each picture to the correct box in the verse.

Step 3: Glue the picture in the correct box.

Tip: If you post this verse and read it every day, you can see how character builds joy!













Noah and the Ark

Grab nine peg people (God, Noah, his wife, their three sons and their wives) ,an ark, animals, dove, rainbow.

Introduction

Our story today is from God's true word the Bible, in the book of Genesis. Is that in the Old Testament or New Testament? Remember, it's in the Old Testament because Genesis is the very first book of the Bible! Listen for ways Noah showed faithfulness to God and how God was faithful to Noah.



Bible Story

Refer to the Bible Story Script.

Wonder Questions

- I wonder if it was stinky on the ark?
- I wonder if some people laughed at Noah for building such a big boat in the middle of the desert?
- I wonder if faith can help us do big things like Noah?
- I wonder if you've ever seen a rainbow and thought about ways God has been faithful to you?

Application

Have you ever asked your mom or dad "Why?" when they ask you to do somthing? Kids like to know lots of details, but Noah shows us that even when we don't have every detail we can still be faithful! Noah knew how to build the ark and what kind of wood to use, but God didn't tell him what animals should live next to each other and what kind of food they needed, yet Noah was faithful. Can we believe and be obedient and faithful even when we don't have all of the details?

STANDARDS

Speaking and Listening Comprehension: Participates in collaborative conversation: listening, speaking, answering questions, and wait time. Critical Thinking: Actively inquire and reflect about new ideas.

NOAH'S ARK • GENESIS 6:9-9:16



Set Up

Using the picture as a guide, set up the ark and water. Place Noah near the ark and line up small animal figures, 2 by 2.



Movement	Script
	This is a story from God's true word, the Bible. In the beginning God created everything and he said it was very good!
Hold up Noah peg person.	As years went by, people started doing mean things. They were not faithful to God, they forgot about him and this made God sad. God decided to destroy every living thing on the earth with a flood. BUT, God rembered Noah!
Move Noah and God peg person like they are walking together.	Noah did what was right and walked faithfully with God. That means Noah talked to God and worshipped him even when no one else did. One day, God told Noah to build an ark where he and his family would be safe. An ark is another name for a big boat.
Move Noah around as if building a boat.	Noah got busy building the ark just as God had told him. Can you believe it took Noah over 100 years to build this huge boat?
March the animals onto the ark.	When the ark was finished, God told Noah to bring on two of every animal: a boy and a girl. Two giraffes, two tigers, two snakesand don't forget the food!
Close the door on the ark.	After all the animals and Noah and his family were on the ark, God closed the door.
Wiggle fingers and move hands up and down as if it is raining.	And then the rain started. Drip, drop, drip, drop. It rained for forty days and forty nights! But God was faithful and everyone inside of the ark was safe even though the earth was flooded.
Make a blowing sound then show the dove flying around.	After the rain stopped, God sent a wind to dry up the water. Then Noah sent out a dove to see if it was safe to come off of the ark.
Show the dove flying and then hide.	First, the dove returned with an olive leaf! The earth wasn't ready for Noah yet. So they waited. Then, Noah sent the dove out again and this time it did not return. Noah, his family and all of the animals came off of the ark!
Place rainbow in the sky area.	God made a promise to never flood the earth again, and he put a rainbow in the sky to remind Noah and you and I of his faithfulness even today!

Wonder Questions

- I wonder if it was stinky on the ark?
- I wonder if some people laughed at Noah for building such a big boat in the middle of the desert?
- I wonder if faith can help us do big things like Noah?
- I wonder if you've ever seen a rainbow and thought about ways God has been faithful to you?





Faithfulness Booklist

Grab the bookmark.

Select a story to read from the bookmark. As you read, ask students 2-3 age appropriate questions from the back of the bookmark.

Focus Books

2 Year Old Goodnight Ark by Laura Sassi
3 Year Old Hooray for Hat by Brian Won
4 Year Old Bat's Big Game by Margaret Read MacDonald
5 Year Old Twitch and the Invisible Wind by Julie Boto

STANDARDS

Reading: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and with support ask and answer questions about a story read aloud. Foundational Literacy: Recognize rhyming words in spoken language.



BOOK LIST

Bat's Big Game

Margaret Read MacDonald

Don't Forget to Remember

Ellie Holcomb

Goodnight, Ark *Laura Sassi* (board book)

Hooray For Hat *Brian Won*

How To Spot a Best Friend Bea Birdsong

I'm Sticking With You Smriti Prasadam-Halls

Maybe God Is Like That Too

Jennifer Grant

Noah's Ark Jerry Pinkney

The Marvelous Mustard Seed Amy-Jill Levine

Twitch and the Invisible Wind *Julie Boto*

BEFORE YOU READ

What letters do you see in the title?

Where can I find the author's name?

Look at the cover. Do you think there will be a problem? Why?

What kind of character do you think might be in this book?

~

WHILE YOU ARE READING

As you turn to the first page, ask students to use their finger to show where to start reading and which direction to read.

What is the setting for this story?

What is the problem?

I wonder how the characters are feeling?

If you were writing the story, what would happen next?

~

AFTER YOU READ

Did the problem get solved?

How would this story have ended if the characters had NOT used our W.O.W. Word?

Tell me about a time you were faithful.

What question would you like to ask the author?

~

DID YOU SEE OUR W.O.W. WORD IN THIS BOOK?

Chryster Builds Joy



Soul Ford

Dinner Conversation Cards

Dear Parents,

This month our class has been learning about faithfulness. Our memory verse is Hebrews 11:1 which describes faith in God. We have also been talking about how to be a faithful friend and teammate. Faithfulness may be a challenging word for preschoolers to grasp, but the more they hear it and say it, the more their ears become attuned to it!

To encourage conversations around faithfulness, print and cut apart the cards below and use during mealtimes.



If you could ask God one question, what would it be? What makes a faithful friend?





Where have you seen God's faithfulness this week?

What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17:20







Wind Streamers

Children create a wind streamer to illustrate God's faithfulness.

Teacher Prep: Cut 15-inch crepe paper streamers (4 per child) and a 5 x 8 piece of cardstock for each student. (Fold each piece of cardstock in half.)

Grab: glue, pipe cleaners, and crayons/markers.

Introduction

"The waters flooded the earth for 150 days. But God remembered Noah and all the animals that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth and dried up the water." -Gen. 7:24-8:1

God showed his faithfulness to Noah by sending the wind to dry up the water. The wind can be a powerful reminder of God's faithfulness to us today. Because, even though we cannot see the wind, we can feel it and see the way it moves the leaves on the trees. This is like our faith in God. Even though we cannot see Him, we can see all the things He has made like a beautiful sunset, our favorite animals, our families and His answers to our prayers.



Activity

Today, we are making a wind streamer.

- First, distribute the folded cardstock and encourage students to illustrate one of their favorite things that God has created.
- Next, place a pipe cleaner in the inside fold of the cardstock. Then, bend the ends of the pipe cleaner together and twist. This forms the hanger for your windstreamer.
- Last, glue streamers to the inside of the card. To secure card, add a piece of tape (or glue) to each side of the card, directly under pipe cleaner.

Application

Hang this wind streamer outside. When the streamers move in the wind, remember that the wind is like our faith. We can't see it, but we know it's there, just like God!

STANDARDS

Visual Art: Create artistic works with intent and purpose using varying tools, texture, color, and technique. **Fine Motor:** Demonstrate eyehand coordination and dexterity needed to manipulate objects. **Earth Science:** Observe and discuss changes in the weather using weather-related vocabulary.



Makerspace



Mustard Seed Faith

Children will create artistic works to illustrate how a little faith can be powerful.

Teacher Prep: Cut white cardstock into 5×5 inch squares, cut construction paper (use a variety of colors) into 3.5×3.5 squares then cut each square in half, then in half again, making three different sizes triangles. Each child will need 3-4 triangles. Print copies of the Bible verse on the following page.

Grab glue, tape, white crayon/colored pencils, and mustard seeds.

Introduction

How much faith do you think we need? A handful? A cupful? A bucketful? Jesus gives us the answer and I think it will surprise you. In Matthew 17:20, he said,

"I tell you the TRUTH if you have FAITH as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. NOTHING will be impossible for you." (Show students a mustard seed.) How can something this small and tiny move a mountain? This doesn't mean that a mountain will actually move. This is Jesus' way of helping us understand that even when we have just a little faith we can do big and powerful things! *Teachers, consider sharing a personal example of when a little faith helped you accomplish something big.

Activity

Show children the triangles for the artwork. Have students work together to identify the shape then brainstorm what we see in nature that is this similar shape. (Mountains!) Just like the mountains in the verse we just read.

Give students time to manipulate triangles to create different shapes and objects!

Now, we will use these triangles and a real mustard seed to create art about faithfulness! (Show the class a completed example as you distribute materials needed for this project.)

Extension

Each child will be proud of their unique design. Begin a discussion using the following prompts:

- Tell me about your artwork.
- What do you like best about it?
- Where did you glue your mustard seed and why did you choose that place?

Display squares individually or arrange them together in the shape of a quilt to show that something small can make a big difference.

STANDARDS

Geometry Correctly name some 2 dimensional shapes. Begin to describe objects in the environment using names of shapes. **Visual Arts** Present and respond to visual art created by self and others.

"If you have FAITH as small as a mustard seed NOTHING will be impossible for you." Mt. 17:20	seed	seed 17:20	seed 17:20
"If you have FAITH as small as a mustard seed NOTHING will be impossible for you." Mt. 17:20	mustard	"If you have FAITH as small as a mustard seed NOTHING will be impossible for you." Mt. 17:20	"If you have FAITH as small as a mustard seed NOTHING will be impossible for you." Mt. 17:20
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Shield of Faith

Through play, students learn that faith can be a powerful weapon used against the enemy!

Teacher Prep: Choose a location and plan a path for kids to run during the game.

Grab: Large baking sheets and plenty of squishy (soft) balls. Or, if weather permits, play outside using water balloons!



Introduction

Pretend you are going to have a battle with some friends. What would you use to protect yourself? (Allow children to share their ideas.) Do you think a shield would help guard and protect you?

The Bible tells us that we already have a shield. It's part of the armor of God! Our FAITH provides a shield around us protecting us from the flaming arrows of the enemy. -Ephesians 6:16

Flaming arrows of the enemy! What's that? Well, we know Satan is the enemy. And, flaming arrows are things that distract us and stop us from trusting Jesus. For example, when it's dark at night and we're afraid there's a monster under our bed, that's a flaming arrow! We've been distracted by the enemy and forgotten that Jesus is always with us. This is why our shield of faith is so important!

Activity

Today we are using these as our shields of faith! (Display baking sheet for kids to see.) Your job is to get from here to there without being hit by the flaming arrows! These balls will be our flaming arrows. Don't forget to move your shield around to protect yourself from being hit.

As children take turns running along the path, throw balls/water balloons towards them. The game will look **similar to this.**

Reflection

What can we do to help us remember we always have our shield of faith with us?

- · Repeat our memory verse.
- · Sing "Jesus Loves Me"
- Pray

STANDARDS

Gross Motor: Develop body strength, balance, flexibility, and stamina to move self through space in a variety of ways. **Creativity:** Choose materials/props and use novel ways to represent ideas and objects in symbolic play.





Ark Animals

Animals from the ark provide practice for students in sorting and counting.

Teacher Prep: Print and laminate ark animals. This activity may be set up as a file folder game for older children or used as a group activity for younger students.

Introduction

Have you ever wondered what animals may have been on the ark? What are your ideas? Today we will use some of these same animals to practice our math skills!

Activity

Use the ark animals on the following pages to complete the three sorting and counting activities

- · Sorting land and sea animals
- · Sorting big and small animals
- · Counting to tell the number of animals

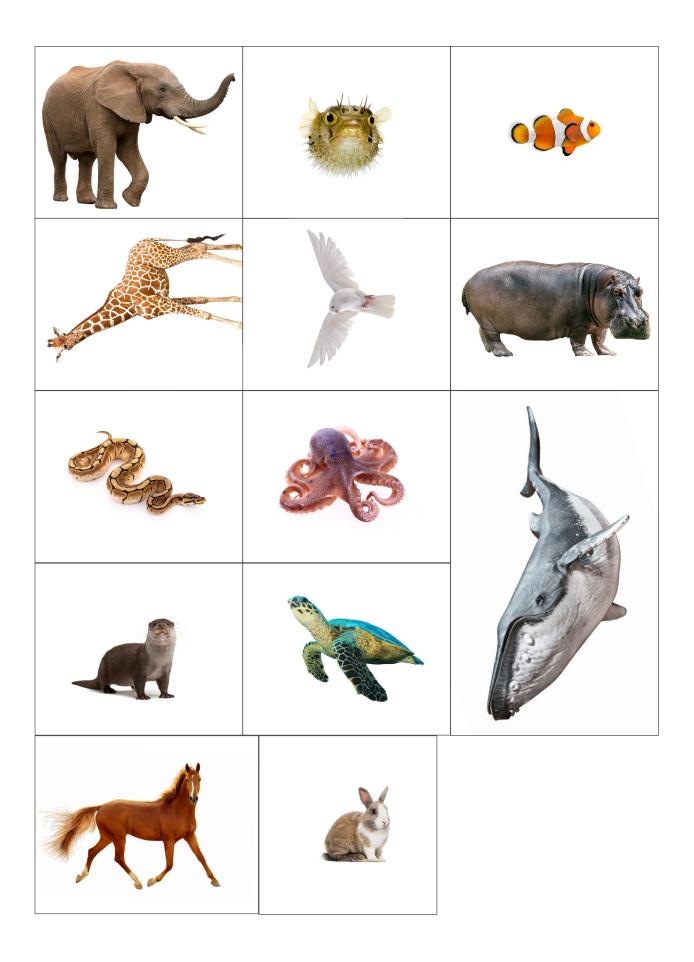
File Folder Directions

On the front of the folder, glue an envelope to store animal pictures. Inside the folder, attach the Counting page to one side and the Big/Small page to the other. On the back of the folder, attach the Land/Sea page horizontally.

*To make it easier for students to sort and count, Velcro may be used to attach each animal to the file folder.

STANDARDS

Counting and Cardinality: Understand that a number represents a corresponding quantity. Operations and Algebraic Thinking: Show through the use of objects, the number needed to make up to 5. Measurement and Data: Sort a collection of objects into given categories. Physical Science: Describe and categorize objects based on their observable properties..



Big

Small

Counting Animals



Ly's Be Social

The BIG Game

Students actively engage in a card game to practice being a faithful teammate.

Teacher Prep: Print number visuals for students found on the following page.

Grab: A deck of playing cards (only number cards are needed) and divide into two stacks.

Introduction

Read Bat's Big Game and discuss the following questions:

Was Bat a faithful teammate? Did he stick with the same team when they were winning and losing? No, he only wanted to be on the winning team. When you're a faithful teammate, your team can count on you to not give up, even when you're losing. Is it hard for you to be a faithful teammate? Let's play a game and see!

Activity

Divide the class into teams. Allow students to select a team name. Then, explain how to play the game. One person from each team will turn over a card and the greater (bigger) number gets a point! If the numbers are equal, both teams get a point. Keep score with tally marks. After each player has a turn, the team with the highest score wins.

Distribute number visuals and share strategies for teams to use to determine which number is greater. For younger children, use a card to show them that counting the number of objects will be the same as the number on the card.

As the game is played, remind students to offer positive encouragement whether their team is winning or losing.

Reflection

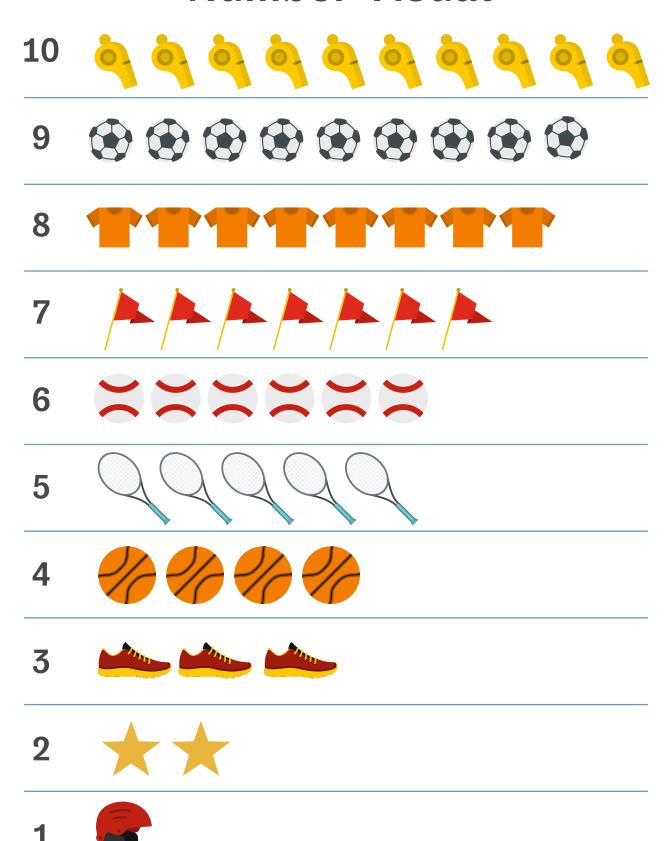
Ask students, "Was it hard for you to be a faithful teammate?" Share teacher observations!



STANDARDS

Counting and Cardinality: Understand that a number represents a corresponding quantity. Use comparative language such as more/less than or equal to, to describe objects. Relationship Skills: Develop friendship skills (help, take turns, give compliments) with increasing ease and comfort to sustain interaction.

Number Visual





language & literacy

Noah's Ark Story Map

Children will create and use visual cues to independently retell the story of Noah's Ark.

Grab: Story Map and your choice of crayons, makers or paint.

This Story Map may be utilized in three different settings.

Setting 1

After telling the story with the Peg People, retell the story on a different day and invite the students to draw pictures in each square of the story map. As you tell the story, pause to allow children time to add pictures.

Setting 2

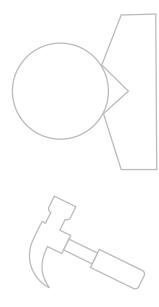
Students have the opportunity to tell the Bible story in their own words, using their story map as a guide and minimal teacher prompts. (e.g., How does our story begin? What's happening in this first square?)

Setting 3

Cut out each square from the Story Map, mix them up, and have students arrange them in sequential order and then retell the story!

STANDARDS

Foundational Literacy Standards Fluency: *Use illustrations to retell story events.* **Listening:** *Create representations of stories through drawing and discuss them with others.* **Reading:** *With prompting, orally identify characters, setting, and events of a familiar story.*



Noah's Ark

FAITHFULNESS

Genesis 6:9-9:16



People were mean and not faithful.

God was sad.

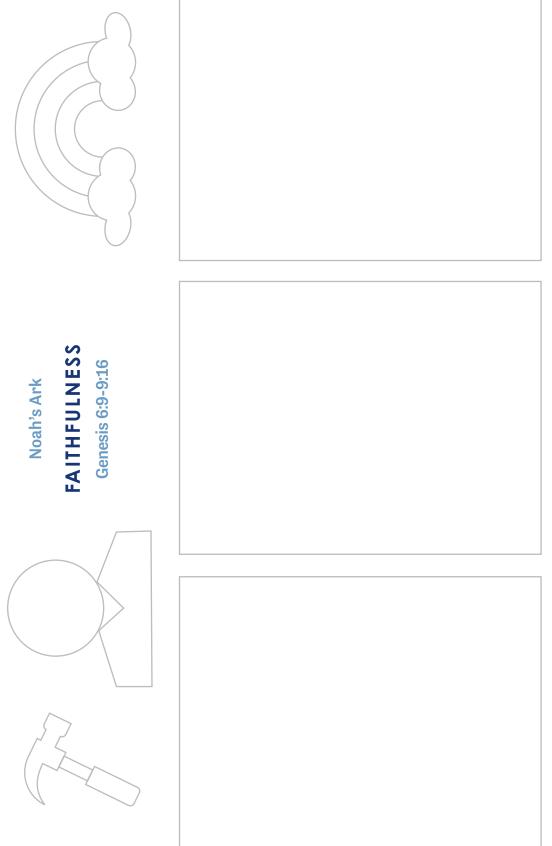
earth, and it was very good.

In the beginning, God created the

God sent a wind to dry up the earth and put a rainbow in the sky.

family and the animals were safe inside the ark. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. Noah's

Noah built an ark, and the animals came on 2 by 2.





C.I.A.

(CHARACTER IN ACTION):

How to Show Faithfulness?

Children will illustrate a book about ways to be faithful.

Teacher Prep: Make a copy of the I Can Be Faithful book for each child and fold the paper into a book.

Grab: crayons/markers and pencils.

Introduction

Today, we will be making a book about ways to be faithful. You will be drawing the pictures, which make you the illustrator!

Activity

As you pass out a copy of the book to each child, share the title of the book. Next, read Psalm 57:10, which says, "God's love reaches to the heavens; His faithfulness reaches to the skies." Children will trace the dotted lines to create the clouds and the hearts.

Read the second page, "I can be a faithful friend." Proverbs 17:17 tells us, "A friend loveth at all times." Students will make a sad face on one of the children and a happy face on the other one.

Read the third page, "I can be a faithful teammate." That means I don't quit even if my team is losing, and I don't try to switch teams like Bat (from the book, *Bat's Big Game.*) Children will trace the numbers on the scoreboard and add color to the ball.

Read the last page, "I can be faithful to God." Even when I can't see Him. The Bible says, creation is evidence of God's faithfulness (Psalm 19:1). We see Him in the moon, stars, and animals. And, the wind reminds us that even though we cannot see God, we know He is there. Students will finish the picture of the night sky by adding a nocturnal animal (bat, owl, possum).

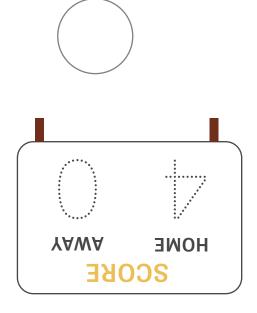
Application

Have the class "read" their books as a group with the teacher reading each sentence first and the class reading after.

STANDARDS

Reading: With modeling, prompting, and support, ask and answer questions about informational text read aloud. With prompting and support, orally describe the relationship between illustrations and the text in which they appear. **Writing:** With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from others and add details to strengthen drawing and/or emergent writing.

I can be a satisfield teammate.



I can be a faithful friend.





Psalm 19:1
I can be faithful to God.

Psalm 57:10
God is always
faithful.

I can be faithful too.



FAITHFULNESS RAINY DAY



Rainy Day Activities

Music Notes

Spotify Faithfulness Playlist

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/17OZ234DITx0l8kiHDG1mE?si=yXqTfTXsSDSRRDHFqLFQ3A

On screen, touch to visit our Spotify playlist

Listen on

Share A Hat



This book by Brian Won shows how a faithful friend can change a frown into a smile. After reading the book, provide supplies for children to create a hat to share. Fold a paper plate in half and cut like a pizza from the fold to the ruffle edge of the plate. Open up the paper plate to make the last two cuts (there will be 8 sections). Students may color and/or add stickers or pom poms.

Make a Rain Cloud

To create a sensory rain cloud experiment, fill a glass jar ¾ full of water. Add shaving cream on top of the water. What a fluffy white cloud! Now, mix a little blue food coloring with some water, then using a dropper, add a few drops of this water onto the cloud. The (blue)water will work its way through the shaving cream and looks like "rain" as it leaves the cloud. "It's raining, it's pouring!"



Walking With God

Genesis 6:9 says that, "Noah walked faithfully with God." Take a walk and observe and discuss what it means to walk with someone.



- · When you walk with someone you are going the same direction and stay close to each other.
- · When you walk with someone, you spend time talking and listening.
- You walk together on purpose (intentionally). You just don't happen to be at the same place at the same time.
- To faithfully walk with someone means you are committed to your walk. They can count on you and you can always count on them.

Application: We may not all be called to build a big boat like Noah or lead people through the wilderness like Moses, but we can all **walk faithfully** with God and join the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11.