



# God Floods the Earth

Genesis 7–8; 9:8-16

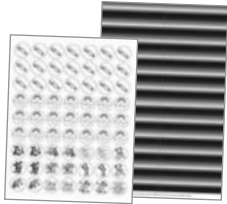
If you promise 5- or 6-year-olds anything, you'd better follow through! Kids this age still think of things in black-or-white terms, so promises made are promises to be kept. Use this lesson to remind children that while adults sometimes forget to keep their promises, God keeps all of his promises. God never lies.



**Bible Point**  
God never lies.

**Key Verse**  
“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deuteronomy 6:5).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will thank God for keeping his promises in daily life.

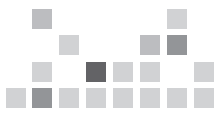
LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started <i>about 10 min.</i>	<b>Welcoming Song</b> Sing or listen to songs to welcome everyone to church.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i>	<b>Rainbow Reminders</b> Hunt for Rainbow Wrist Reminders to remember God loves them.	Bible, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Rainbow Wrist Reminders, sticker sheet 	Separate the Rainbow Wrist Reminders and hide them around the room.
<b>3</b> Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i>	<b>Theo's News</b> Find out what sunglasses have to do with the Bible.	Surprise Box (any box will do), Theo puppet, CD player, sunglasses <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	Put the sunglasses in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.
	<b>Bible Time: God's Promise</b> Learn about God's promise in a rainbow.	Bible; 1 piece each of brown, blue, red, yellow, and green construction paper; multiple colors of chenille wires twisted together; CD player	Shape the chenille wires into a rainbow shape, and hide it where it'll be easily accessible. Lay the sheets of paper on the floor around the room.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Weaving Faith Into Life</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>about 20 min.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p>	<p><b>Center 1: 3-D Rainbows</b></p> <p>Make 3-D rainbows on their My Bible Playground pages to remind them that God never lies.</p>	My Bible Playground, stapler, child-safe scissors, several animal crackers per child, antibacterial gel (optional)	Remove the Lesson 6 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.
	<p><b>Center 2: Rainbow Snacks</b></p> <p>Make rainbow pictures with fruit ring cereal.</p>	fruit ring cereal separated into small bowls by color groups, paper plates, antibacterial gel (optional)	
	<p><b>Center 3: Ark Animals Poem</b></p> <p>Pretend to be animals.</p>	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
	<p><b>Center 4: It's Raining Buckets!</b></p> <p>Play a game to reveal a surprise.</p>	2 large bowls (or buckets), water, plastic cup, small towel, markers, index card, tape	Draw a rainbow on the index card, and tape it to the bottom of one bowl. Fill that bowl with water.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lasting Impressions</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p><b>Daily Challenges</b></p> <p>Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	My Bible Playground	
	<p><b>Promises Prayer</b></p> <p>Say a prayer of thanks together.</p>		
	<p><b>Weaving Faith at Home</b></p> <p>Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

***Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.*



# God Floods the Earth

Genesis 7–8; 9:8-16

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## God Speaks to Noah—Noah Obeys

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Genesis 6 wraps up with Noah obeying “God” (*Elohim*). Chapter 7 begins with “the Lord” (*Yahweh*) speaking to Noah. The use of these two names in these places is noteworthy. The name *Elohim* tends to be used to emphasize God’s justice, and the name *Yahweh* most often denotes God’s mercy. In Chapter 6, Noah carried out God’s orders that showed God’s judgment on humankind. In Chapter 7, we see the administration of God’s mercy in the salvation of Noah’s family and the animals.

## The Flood Arrives

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When the flood came, it wasn’t caused only by rain. We read also that “the springs of the great deep burst forth.” Water came shooting upward from under the earth’s surface as rain deluged the earth from above. There was so much water that it covered the highest mountains by more than 20 feet! Some scientists believe that this event involved the sliding of continents and the creation of mountain ranges as subterranean plates slid and crashed together.

## Noah and His Family Return to Dry Land

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Once the rain stopped, it took almost a year for the water to recede sufficiently for Noah and his family to leave the ark. It’s interesting that one of the birds Noah had sent out to see if the earth was getting dry returned with an olive leaf. The olive branch has come to symbolize peace. Perhaps in the time of Noah it symbolized a new peace between God and his creation.

Notice that Noah had a method for testing to see if the earth was dry, but God told him when he should

leave the ark (Genesis 8:15-17). God was taking care of Noah and his family, just as he had promised.

## God Makes a Promise

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In Genesis 9:12-16, God again demonstrated his love for Noah. He made another promise, signified by the rainbow. The rainbow will always remind us of God’s promise to Noah and the fact that God always keeps his promises!

## The Jesus Connection

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Everyone—adults included—struggles to keep commitments and promises. As we juggle responsibilities to family, job, spouse, and friends, we often find these commitments conflicting with each other. And to add to the challenge, we live in a world where the character trait of “faithfulness” isn’t necessarily valued.

Pray for individuals in your ministry that as they model faithfulness and promise-keeping to others, they also paint a picture of a promise-keeping God. You can write your prayer here.

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## Welcoming Song Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "It's Good to Have  
You..." (track 14),  
"Arky, Arky" (track 13)


# 1 GETTING STARTED

## Welcoming Song

**Tip** Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As children arrive, greet each child and welcome him or her with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to bring the children together in a circle. Lead the kids in doing the actions and singing "It's Good to Have You..." (track 14 on the CD) to the tune of "Oh Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?"

 **It's good to have you in church today.** (*nod your head and point to everyone in the room*)

**Let's sing,** (*cup hands around mouth*) **let's learn,** (*point to your head*) **and let's pray.** (*make praying hands*)


**We'll make new friends, and we'll have so much fun.** (*shake someone's hand*)

**We're glad you've joined us today!** (*hold hands in a circle and swing hands back and forth*)

(Repeat 2x.)

Say: **Today we'll learn more about Noah, the ark, and the flood. God kept all of his promises to Noah, and ► GOD NEVER LIES. Let's start by singing a song about Noah and the ark.**

Lead the children in the actions and singing "Arky, Arky" (track 13 on the CD).

 **The Lord told Noah, there's gonna be a floody, floody.** (*hold arms up; then wiggle fingers to make "rain"*)

**Lord told Noah there's gonna be a floody, floody.**

**Get those animals out of the muddy, muddy,** (*shake index finger*)

**Children of the Lord.**

**The Lord told Noah to build him an arky, arky.** (*pretend to hammer*)

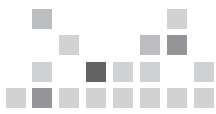
**Lord told Noah to build him an arky, arky.**

**Build it out of gopher barky, barky,**

**Children of the Lord.**

**The animals, the animals they came in by twosies, twosies.** (*hold up two fingers and march to the beat*)

**Animals, the animals they came in by twosies, twosies.**



**Elephants and kangaroosies, 'roosies,** *(swing arms like an elephant's trunk; then hop like a kangaroo)*  
**Children of the Lord.**

**It rained and poured for 40 daysies, daysies.** *(wiggle fingers to make "rain")*  
**Rained and poured for 40 daysies, daysies.**  
**Almost drove those animals crazies, crazies,** *(put hands on either side of your face, open eyes wide)*  
**Children of the Lord.**

**The sun came out and dried up the landy, landy.** *(make a big circle with arms)*  
**Look, there's the sun—it dried up the landy, landy.**  
**Everything was fine and dandy, dandy,** *(nod your head and smile)*  
**Children of the Lord.**

**So rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.** *(raise arms, and spread fingers wide like sunshine)*  
**Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.**  
**Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory,**  
**Children of the Lord.**

Say: **God promised there would be an end to the rain, and the rain stopped. God kept his promise to Noah because ► GOD NEVER LIES. Let's do something fun to help us remember God's promise to Noah.**

**2** KEY VERSE  
ACTIVITY

## Rainbow Reminders

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have the children sit in a circle. Open your Bible to Deuteronomy 6:5, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible, Deuteronomy 6:5, says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5). That means to love God with all of you. Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead the children in repeating the simplified Key Verse after you: **Love God with your whole heart (Deuteronomy 6:5).**

**God loves us so much—with his whole heart. We know God loves us that much because God always does what he says he'll do. ► GOD NEVER LIES. In the Bible today we'll learn that God keeps his promises and we'll hear about how God sent a rainbow to Noah as a wonderful way to keep a promise. Let's play a game where we can find a reminder of God's promise.**



### Rainbow Reminders Supplies

- Bible
- tape
- Teacher Pack**
- Rainbow Wrist Reminders sticker sheet

### Rainbow Reminders Easy Prep

Separate the Rainbow Wrist Reminders and hide them around the room.





Invite a child to be the first to play the game. Take the child by the hand and lead him or her around the room looking for a Rainbow Wrist Reminder. When you find one, help him or her put it on, securing it with a rainbow sticker (you may also want to use a piece of tape to reinforce the sticker).

Say: **Because God loves us and always keeps his promises, we can love God with our whole hearts! Now** [name of child who found the wrist reminder] **can choose a friend and promise to help him or her find a Rainbow Wrist Reminder.** Have kids pass a Rainbow Wrist Reminder around the group so they'll know what they're looking for. **When you find one, help your friend put his or her Rainbow Wrist Reminder on and say the Key Verse together: Love God with your whole heart (Deuteronomy 6:5).** Lead kids in saying the simplified Key Verse for practice: **Love God with your whole heart (Deuteronomy 6:5).**

**Then it'll be the next person's turn to make a promise and guide a new friend to find a Rainbow Wrist Reminder.** Tell kids to sit down when they finish and continue to play until everyone has had a turn. (The last child should lead you to find one, too!) Finish by having everyone shout, **"Love God with your whole heart! Deuteronomy 6:5!"**

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What made it easy or difficult to keep going until you helped your friend find a Rainbow Wrist Reminder?
- What makes it easy or difficult to keep a promise you make to a friend?

Say: **We know that God loves us very much and always does what he says he'll do for us. ► GOD NEVER LIES. That's one reason we love him. When we love God with our whole heart, we give thanks for his wonderful promises.** Have children say the simplified Key Verse with you one more time: **Love God with your whole heart. (Deuteronomy 6:5).**

### Theo's News Supplies

Surprise Box (any box will do)

Theo puppet

CD player

sunglasses

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "Here,

Theo" (track 5)

### Theo's News Easy Prep

Put the sunglasses in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.

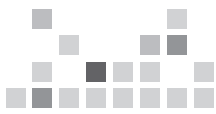
## 3 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Theo's News

#### What You'll Do ■■■■

Say: **Friends, it's time for Theo's News!**

Have the children sit in a circle. Then begin "Here, Theo" (track 5 on the CD). When the CD segment ends, bring out the Surprise Box, and put Theophilus the FaithRetriever puppet on your hand. Then follow along with the script.



**Theo:** Hi, everybody!

**Teacher:** Hello, Theo! Tell us what interesting news you've dug up about the Bible today.

**Theo:** I hid it in the Surprise Box.

**Teacher:** Let's look inside to see what Theo dug up for us today.

*(Invite a child to open the Surprise Box, and have kids pass the sunglasses around the circle so everyone can see them up close. Give kids time to guess what they'll learn from the Bible today.)*

**Teacher:** Friends, when do you like to wear sunglasses?

*(Pause for kids to answer your question.)*

**Teacher:** Theo, why did you hide these sunglasses in the Surprise Box?

**Theo:** Well, you wear sunglasses when it's sunny!

**Teacher:** That reminds me of the promise God made to Noah. And God kept that promise because ► **GOD NEVER LIES.**

**Theo:** Sunglasses remind you of the Bible?

**Teacher:** Well, not the sunglasses, but the bright sun reminds me of the Bible. Friends, let's read the Bible to find out what happened.

**Theo:** Have fun, boys and girls!

**Teacher:** Friends, say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.

## Bible Time: God's Promise

### What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Genesis 7, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Today the Bible tells us that ► GOD NEVER LIES. Let's listen to what happened when God kept his promise to Noah.**

**When you hear a color named on the CD, look at the floor around the room and find the piece of paper that matches that color. Then everyone can sit in a circle around it. When you hear sounds, you can make any motions you want to match the sounds.**

Play "Promises Kept" (track 15 on the CD). When kids sit around the blue sheet of paper and close their eyes as directed near the end of the track, quickly lay the chenille wire rainbow on the floor in the center of the circle (or near the circle). Then when the kids open their eyes, they'll have a colorful surprise!



### Bible Time: God's Promise Supplies

- Bible
- 1 piece each of brown, blue, red, yellow, and green construction paper
- multiple colors of chenille wires twisted together
- CD player
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "Promises Kept" (track 15)

### Bible Time: God's Promise Easy Prep

Shape the chenille wires into a rainbow shape, and hide it where it'll be easily accessible. Lay the sheets of paper on the floor around the room.





### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about the storm God sent to flood the entire world?
- What did you imagine as you listened to the CD?
- Tell about a time you've seen a storm.
- What are some good things that can happen after a storm?

Say: **The rainbow is a reminder of the promise God kept to Noah. God did what he promised, because ► GOD NEVER LIES. Whenever we see a rainbow after a storm, we can say thanks to God for always keeping his promises.**

## 4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today's Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you're ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they'd like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center's description.

### ■ CENTER 1:

## 3-D Rainbows

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Help kids write their names on their My Bible Playground pages and cut out the rainbows. Demonstrate for them how to staple the rainbow in a 3-D arch over the ark. Then have children clean their hands and form pairs. Kids can use animal crackers to tell their partners about the promise God kept to Noah. After kids talk in pairs, allow them to eat their animal crackers.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What can you remember about God the next time you see a rainbow?
- What's a promise you've made to a friend or family member?
- What did you do to keep your promise?

Say: **God sent a rainbow to Noah and promised that he'd never send another flood to cover the whole earth. God puts that same reminder in the sky for us to see.**

### 3-D Rainbows Supplies

My Bible Playground  
stapler  
child-safe scissors  
several animal crackers  
per child  
antibacterial gel  
(optional)

### ! ALLERGY ■ ALERT

### 3-D Rainbows Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 6  
pages from each My  
Bible Playground student  
book.







The next time you see a rainbow, say thanks to God for keeping his promise and remember that ► **GOD NEVER LIES.**

■ **CENTER 2:**

## Rainbow Snacks

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have children clean their hands. Hand out paper plates, and let each child take three cereal pieces of each color. Encourage kids to use the pieces to make rainbow designs on their plates.

Say: **We can find reminders of God's rainbow and his promise in more places than up in the sky. The colors of this cereal can remind us of rainbows and can also remind us to thank God for always keeping his promises like he did for Noah. Let's pray before we eat our snack.**

Pray: **God, thank you for putting rainbows in the sky to remind us of your promise to Noah. Thank you for our snack. In Jesus' name, amen.**

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What other things can you see that remind you of rainbows and God's promise?**
- **What are ways to thank God for always keeping his promises?**

Say: **God puts reminders of his promises in lots of places. When we find them we can thank God for always doing what he says he'll do, because ► GOD NEVER LIES.**

■ **CENTER 3:**

## Ark Animals Poem

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Play "Ark Animals Poem" (recorded twice on track 16 of the CD), and have kids listen to the poem the first time through. The second time through, encourage kids to act out the animals. Have children listen to the poem several more times, coming up with new ways to act out the animals mentioned.

**"Will God keep his promise? It looks so sunny."  
"What is rain?" asked the soft, furry bunny.**



### Center 2: Rainbow Snacks Supplies

- .....
- fruit ring cereal
  - separated into small bowls by color groups
  - paper plates
  - antibacterial gel (optional)

! **ALLERGY ALERT**

### Center 3: Ark Animals Poem Supplies

- .....
- CD player
  - Teacher Pack**
  - CD: "Ark Animals Poem" (track 16)





“Will God keep his promise? Will I survive?”  
Thought the buzzing *bee* in his little beehive.

“Will we see the jungle again and swing from the trees?”  
“I hope God keeps his promise,” said the small *monkeys*.

“Will God keep his promise? Of course, of course.”  
“We’ll run through the grass,” said the tall, proud *horse*.

Then the rain stopped, and the ark’s door opened wide,  
And *all of the animals* went outside.

Noah saw God’s promise in a bright rainbow.  
God keeps his promises, ’cause he loves us so!

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about the animals wondering if God would keep his promise?
- What makes it easy or difficult to trust God to keep his promises?

Say: God sent a rainbow to Noah and the animals as a promise that he’d never again send a flood to cover the earth. Wherever we are, we don’t have to worry because ► **GOD NEVER LIES**. God will never flood the whole earth again, and we can say thanks to God for keeping his promise.

## ■ CENTER 4:

# It’s Raining Buckets!

## What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Place the bowls on opposite ends of the room. Have kids line up behind the empty bowl.

Say: **Under the bowl that’s filled with water is a special surprise. To get to it you’ll need to take turns running with the cup to the water bowl, scooping up some water, and bringing it back to pour into the empty bowl. When you get to the very last of the water, use the towel to soak it up and squeeze the last drops into the other bowl. Then you can see the special surprise. Ready? Go!** Allow kids to play the relay game and help them as needed. After the water bowl is emptied, lift it so the kids can see the rainbow.

Say: **When God flooded the earth, it rained for 40 days and 40 nights. When the rain stopped, there was a lot of water! But God promised Noah that all of his hard work in building the ark would save him. And God kept his promise because the waters**

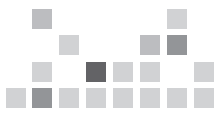
### Center 4: It’s Raining Buckets! Supplies

2 large bowls (or buckets)  
water  
plastic cup  
small towel  
markers  
index card  
tape

### Center 4: It’s Raining Buckets! Easy Prep

Draw a rainbow on the index card, and tape it to the bottom of one bowl. Fill that bowl with water.





went away. Sometimes it takes hard work from us to get to see God’s sweet promises, but God always does what he says he’ll do.

**Talk With Kids** ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Tell about a time you had to wait for a promise.
- What can we do when a promise is taking a long time?

Say: **When God makes a promise, he keeps it because ► GOD NEVER LIES. We can thank God for keeping his promises even if we have to work hard or wait to see them.**



**5** LASTING  
IMPRESSIONS

## Daily Challenges

**What You’ll Do** ■■■■■■

After the children have cleaned up the centers, bring everyone back to the circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they learned from the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today’s lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children’s growing relationships with Jesus.

**Talk With Kids** ■■■■

Say: **Today we learned that ► GOD NEVER LIES. I’d like each of you to choose a way to thank God for keeping his promises this week.**

Read these three ideas for kids to choose from:

- **When you see a rainbow, thank God for keeping his promise to Noah and for keeping all promises!**
- **Wear your Rainbow Wrist Reminder all day to help you remember that God always keeps his promises.**
- **Talk with your family members about what each person likes most about knowing that God never lies.**

Have kids each whisper in your ear or tell you which idea they’ve chosen, and then circle it on each child’s My Bible Playground page. Make sure you choose a challenge as well and tell kids which challenge you chose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as theirs!

**Daily Challenges  
Supplies**

My Bible Playground





## Promises Prayer

### What You'll Do

Have children form pairs and stand in a circle next to their partners.

**Say:** Tell your partner about a promise you've kept. Allow time. **Let's pray to thank God for always keeping his promises and to ask for help to keep the promises we make. I'll start our prayer and then you can say one of the promises you've kept.**

**Pray:** Dear God, thank you for giving us an example of always keeping promises. Please help me keep my promise to...Allow kids to share promises they've kept. **In Jesus' name, amen.**

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Have children take home their My Bible Playground pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the "Daily Challenges" activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment during the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).