

Noah and Creation Care: Collective Worship for Key Stage 2

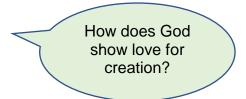


Noah and Creation Care: Collective Worship for Key Stage 2

If you would like to begin the collective worship with music, suitable choices would be: What a wonderful world by Louis Armstrong or Love song to the earth by Paul McCartney, Natasha Bedingfield, and Sean Paul.

Gather

As we gather today, we will think about God's creation and consider these questions:



How do we care for God's creation?

Ask the children to retell or act out the story of Noah and the ark.

The reading is from the last part of that story, when Noah, his family and the animals are back on dry land.

Genesis 9:8-15 (CEV)

God told Noah and his sons:

"I am going to make a solemn promise to you and to everyone who will live after you. This includes the birds and animals that came out of the boat. I promise every living creature on earth that the earth and those living on it will never again be destroyed by a flood."

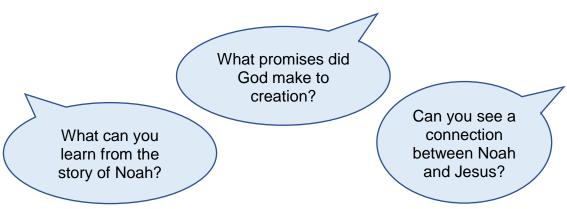
"The rainbow that I have put in the sky will be my sign to you and to every living creature on earth. It will remind you that I will keep this promise for ever. When I send clouds over the earth, and a rainbow appears in the sky, I will remember my promise to you and to all other living creatures. Never again will I let flood waters destroy all life."

The word of the Lord

Response: Thanks be to God

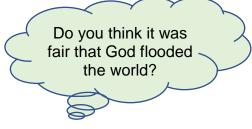
Reflection

Spend some time thinking about the story of Noah. Which words have the most meaning to you and why?





Big questions to think about and discuss with your friends and family



If God was to send a message today, who would he send it to? How would he send it?

Five Finger Prayer led by children

Pope Francis developed the five finger prayer so we can use our hand to pray. We use our fingers to pray for the most important groups of people who need our prayers.

Finger 1 - Our Family

With our first finger, we pray for those who are closest to us, our family and our friends. We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may be inspired to show our love for all and do all that we can to respect and protect God's wonderful world.

Lord of all creation

All: Help us to look after your wonderful world.

Finger 2 – Those who point the way

With our second finger we think about those people who point the way such as priests and teachers. May they always be inspired and guided by Jesus, the greatest teacher. We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may be a place of giving, of love and of peace.

Lord of all creation

All: Help us to look after your wonderful world.

Finger 3 – The tallest finger, those who lead us

We pray that the world leaders will make wise decisions that will benefit everyone on earth. Guide us so we may use the resources of the world carefully. Help us to stop damaging your creation and work towards a better future for everyone.

Lord of all creation

All: Help us to look after your wonderful world.

Finger 4 – The ring finger, those who are weak, in trouble or pain

We pray for all people in the world who are in need of water, food, shelter or hope. We pray that you may guide us to help give to people in need. Lord of all creation

All: Help us to look after your wonderful world.

Finger 5 – Prayers for me

Pope Francis says that when we have prayed for other people, we can ask God for our own needs. God fills us with hope and helps us to love and be kind to those around us.

Spend a few moments quietly praying to God and asking for your own needs.





Final Prayer

We thank you God, for promising never again to destroy the world with a flood. We give thanks that you sent your Son Jesus to take away our sins instead. Guide us through the challenges and difficult times we face.

This day is full of promises
Of everything that's good;
Help me face the challenges
And do the things I should. Amen

Anon [Lion Book of 1000 Prayers for Children]

Final Hymns

Who put the colours in the rainbow? by Daniel Shiells He's got the whole world in his hands by Laurie London Laudato Si O mi Signore by Damien Lundy

Things to do

Laudato Si

Pope Francis wrote the world a letter to remind us that God loves us all and so we are called to take care of one another, to love one another, no matter where in the world we are.

We are also called to protect and care for the earth, so that everyone can share in the good things that God has given us.

How can you include Laudao Si in your parish and school Mission?

What can you do to help the environment in your home?

- Start a litter picking club to keep your school and/or parish tidy.
- Write a letter to the government asking them to support climate change during COP 26.
- Research how you can help endangered animals

A rainbow has been used as a sign of Hope

Jeremiah 29: 11- 12 talks about hope:

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you all.

How can you bring hope to others in your parish and school?

- You could make cards, notes or pictures that you can send out to people who are ill or are living on their own in the parish.
- Pray for people who need help.
- Make a prayer litary of things you are grateful for.
- Support the local food bank and encourage collections in your school and/or parish.
- Make a prayer garden of hope for your school or parish.





Some thoughts on the reflection questions

What can you learn from the story of Noah?

Noah lived in a time when God was disappointed in the way the people behaved. Noah could have easily been corrupted by the behaviour around him. Noah was the last follower God had left on earth. God challenged Noah, he set him a hard task of building the ark, following difficult instructions and finding all the animals. Noah listened to God and didn't give up. He trusted God to guide him. There will be times in our lives when we find it difficult to listen to God, like Noah we should always have faith that God will guide us on the right path.

What promises did God make to creation?

God made a covenant, a promise that he would never flood the world again. As we see the rainbow, we remember Noah and God's great, forgiving love. We see a sign of that promise when we look at the sky and see a rainbow. Rainbows have recently been used as signs of hope. Think about the things that you hope for.

Can you see a connection between Noah and Jesus?

The people laughed at Noah and didn't believe his warning. God called on Noah to help him protect his creation. Noah had true faith in God and was able to carry out his wishes. God has kept the rainbow promise for thousands of years. People, however, have done all sorts of evil things and ruined the world in many ways. Still, God has not destroyed the earth again. Instead, God became Jesus and came to live among us to show us how we are meant to be. Some people were angry with Jesus, they didn't believe him and felt threatened by him so they killed him on a cross. Even as he was dying on the cross, Jesus forgave them. On the third day Jesus rose again. He told his friends that he would always be with them and would always love them and forgive them. If you turn an ark upside down it can resemble a church. The church is where we go to celebrate God's love for us.

