

A Small Twig

The story of Noah, his Ark and the Flood is in the book of Genesis in the Old Testament of the Bible and it starts at the beginning of chapter 6 and continues until nearly the end of chapter 9 at verse 17. It can also be found in the Spark Story Bible in the chapter called Noah's Ark.



You can find out what happens in the story by looking at the animation link below. Just before you look at it, here is a question for you to think about as you watch the clip.

Why do you think some people call this story 'A New Beginning 'or perhaps 'A Second Creation Story'?

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=qzYjy6lhRag

The Bible records that some thousands of years after the first creation story God regretted making humanity because the world had become a wicked and lawless place.

However God saw that Noah was still faithful and loved God and was willing to follow his instructions so God made a plan to save Noah and his family along with two animals of every species. They would all be shut in an ark whilst the whole world was flooded.

The ark was very big because it had to hold everyone and all their food supplies. It was built of wood. The Bible mentions that the wood could be from a gopher or cypress tree.

How far can you count up in twos and for how long?

Today we have approximately 8,000 species of reptiles, 5,400 species of amphibians, 9,500 species of birds and 4,800 species of mammals. If someone was to build an ark today it would have to be immense especially if there were two of everything!

It was a long time before the flood went down. Time passed whilst four birds were sent out by Noah to find out what was happening in the wider world away from the ark.

A raven searched looking from the skies and came back

A dove went out and returned

A dove went out and returned with a twig of an olive tree

A dove went out and did not return

- Can you work out what clues the four birds gave to Noah about how much water was still covering the land?
- It must have been exciting when the dove brought back the twig from the olive tree. What might a twig from a tree mean?









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Finally Noah and his family were able to leave the ark and begin again to live in the way that God hoped because the flood had gone down. There was a new beginning for everything and so it was like a second creation.

When Noah, his family and all the animals were safely on land, Noah thanked God and God told Noah that he promised never to flood the world again and destroy living creatures.

A promise from God is called a covenant and God keeps covenants forever. Sometimes things in the world fail and people fail but God does not fail. God is always faithful and always remembers us and the promises he has made.

To remind God that he promised not to wipe out creation with a flood again, God put a rainbow in the sky. The sign is especially for God so he will see it and remember

his covenant to us.

I wonder why God chose a rainbow?

I wonder what you do to remind yourself of the colours of the rainbow? Can you remember them and in their correct order?

There is a song in the link below about an elf called Roy G Biv to help you remember. It may take a while to load.

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Gf33ueRXMzQ

Why not have a look, using a live cam, at some of the species we have in the world today.

There are two zoos below you can look at to see what is happening in the enclosures of different animals. Some animals are easy to see, others are a bit more difficult. The first zoo is in Edinburgh whilst the second zoo is in Washington USA. The second zoo is part of the Smithsonian Institute. As it is in America you need to remember that their day starts several hours after us.



https://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk/webcams/koala-cam/#koalacam https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams

Prayer

Dear God

Thank you for keeping your promises to us.

Help us to keep our promises to you and other people.

Amen







