

WHERE LEARNING HAPPENS



Children spend all of their time in this lesson moving, exploring, choosing, and playing in the learning environment. The learning environment is simply the books, toys, blocks, music, stories, and activities with which your children will interact from the moment they arrive to the time they go home. While children are busy exploring and playing, you can gather a small group to hear the Bible story from Genesis 6:9-22.

You can also walk around the room, visit the children at different activities, and use the felt board to present the Bible Story Review.

This lesson is designed to allow toddlers and two year olds to play independently, thereby freeing you to present the Bible Step, Bible Review Step, and Craft Step either to individuals or to small groups throughout the class time.

TABLE—The table can be used for a free-play activity, snack, or the craft. For directions on setting up today's craft activity, see Play Dough Boat on the Craft Step, page 10.

RUG—This is the place to gather children together for small group activities, depending on the size of your group. Invite them to the rug for the Bible Step. Today's story is "God Told Noah to Build a Boat," from Genesis 6:9-22, page 8.

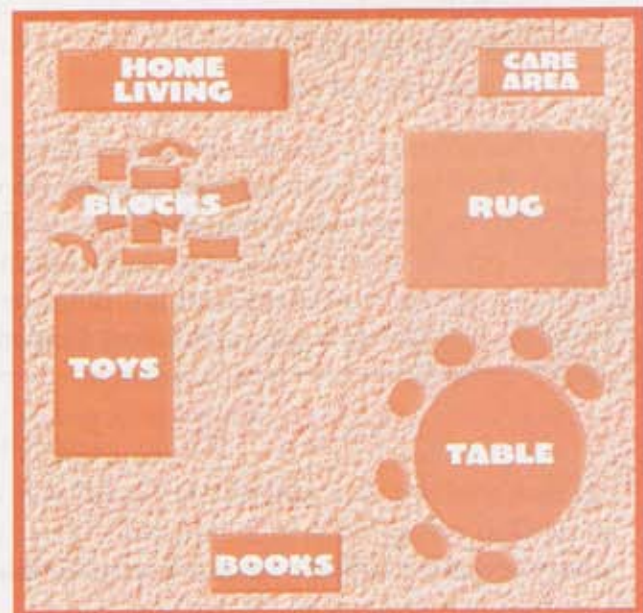
This is also a good place for sharing stories or movement and the Music Time. Sing "Saw, Saw, Hammer, Hammer" this week, page 9.

CARE AREA—Take time for each child's physical needs, including rest room breaks and diaper changes. Provide water and a snack when appropriate.

BOOKS—A choice of books to explore pictures and words. There are many excellent books about Noah available.

BLOCKS—Blocks of different sizes and shapes for building and creative play. Let children build with wooden blocks to connect with Genesis 6:9-22 where God told Noah to build a boat.

TOYS—A variety of toys appropriate for two year olds to encourage play. Playing with toy boats



will help children understand what God told Noah to build in Genesis 6:9-22.

HOME LIVING—Several baby dolls, blankets, play food, pots and pans, and utensils for children to imitate what they see in real life.



When Teaching the Bible to Toddler/2's . . .

In today's Bible story, from Genesis 6:9-22, God told Noah to build a boat. One way two year olds can connect to the Bible story is by building with blocks. Stacking blocks is an important skill for your children to practice. It encourages hand/eye coordination which will later be used for reading and writing. The children in your class should be able to stack two to six blocks.

BIBLE STEP



TALK TIME

Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—Photo Poster 1

Toddlers love to look at photographs that show children. Sharing what they know about building with blocks helps them connect to the Bible story “God Told Noah to Build a Boat,” from Genesis 6:9-22. Invite small groups (no more than four children) to the rug for Talk Time. Use this rhyme to help capture their attention.

Wiggle your fingers.
Pat your knees.
Fold your hands,
And look at me.



Show Photo Poster 1. Point to the girl in the picture. **Here is a girl playing with blocks. What is this?** Point to the hammer. **What do you do with a hammer and blocks?** Be prepared to do actions such as hammering, stacking, etc. Encourage children who are not yet talking to point or act out what they want to share. **What do you think she is building?** Encourage all children to share answers, even if it is only one word. This lets them share what they know. **Today we are going to talk about how God told Noah to build a boat.**

BIBLE STORY TIME

Genesis 6:9-22

Toddlers and two year olds like to “build” with any material. Today’s Bible story teaches them about God telling Noah to build an ark. Have your Bible open to Genesis 6. **Our Bible story today comes from God’s special book, the Bible.**

God told Noah to build a boat.

(Put fists together as if hammering.)

Build it tall, every wall.

(Stretch up tall.)

Build it wide and big inside.

(Stretch arms out wide.)

Build it strong so it lasts long!

(Flex arms to show muscles.)

Build it large. God’s in charge!

(Point up.)

God told Noah to build a boat.

(Put fists together as if hammering.)

Ask the following questions to review the Bible story:

- 1. What did God tell Noah to build?** (A boat)
- 2. Who told Noah to build the boat?** (God)

Whether you are telling the story to one child or a small group, repeat the Bible story. Repeating the actions with you will help the children learn and remember.

Lesson 1 Focus:
God told Noah
to build a boat.

BIBLE REVIEW STEP




BIBLE STORY REVIEW TIME

Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—Felt Board, Flannel Figures 1, 2, Story Card 1

Touching and moving things are good ways for toddlers to learn. The children in your class aren't concerned if the same flannel figure is used as different characters throughout the quarter. It is more important that they are able to move the figures around as you tell the Bible Review Story. This week the older man, Figure 1, will be Noah. Encourage the children to handle the figures of Noah (Figure 1) and the ark (Figure 2) as they help you retell the Bible story.

Anytime after you have done the Bible Step, you can do the Bible Review Step. Keep the small group you have at the rug or visit small groups at different activities and tell the Bible Review Story.

 The first time you use the felt board, you need to assemble it using the directions in your Creative Teaching Aids Packet. Before class, put the flannel figures in the order you will use them. Attach Story Card 1 to the back of the felt board. Present the story to each small group.

Put Noah and the ark, Figures 1 and 2, on the felt board. **Who can find Noah?** Ask a child to point to Noah. **God told Noah to build a boat. Who can find the boat?** Ask a

child to point to the ark. **Noah built the boat so that it was big and tall.** Show directions with your arms. **God told Noah to build a boat.**

Repeat this story with each group of children, even if there's only one child.



MUSIC TIME

Materials: Creative Teaching Aids—CD and song sheet
CD player

Music filled with energy and action is perfect for toddlers. They learn the way they like best—using their whole bodies and lots of energy! This song reinforces the Bible story, Genesis 6:9-22, where God told Noah to build a boat.

"SAW, SAW, HAMMER, HAMMER"

The complete song is on a CD in the Creative Teaching Aids packet. The words and movements can be found on page 71 of this teacher's guide or in the song sheet in the Creative Teaching Aids packet. Learn the song before teaching it to your class. Knowing the actions before you teach them will help the children learn more effectively as they will try to imitate you.

Children like to sing a song over and over. Repeat the song to help your class learn the music.

CRAFT STEP



PLAY DOUGH BOAT

The process of doing a craft is one of the ways toddlers and two year olds learn. They discover how clay works by forming it with their hands. Encourage each child to create more than one Play Dough Boat, as time allows. All the things your children create are treasures. You can send them all home, but let each child choose one for you to place in the frame provided in *Starting Steps*.

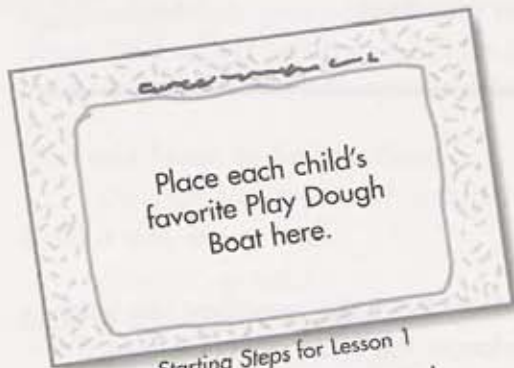
Where: At the table

Materials: Wooden blocks from the block center
Play dough for each child

Before Class: If you are not using purchased play dough, make play dough according to the following recipe.



Play Dough Recipe: 2 c. flour, 1 c. salt, 4 T. cream of tartar, 1 pkg. unsweetened dry beverage mix, for color and scent, 2 c. warm water, 2 T. cooking oil. Stir over medium heat until mixture pulls away from sides of pan to form a ball. Store in airtight container (recipe makes enough for eight children).



Craft Time: Give each child a ball of play dough. Let them play with it using their hands and blocks. After a few minutes, encourage them to make a boat with their play dough.

While the children work, talk about the Bible story from Genesis 6:9-22 when God told Noah to build a boat. **God told Noah to build a boat. Noah built a boat that was tall and wide. You are building a boat too.**

Let each child work with the play dough as long as he or she wants to. When a final shape is made, whether or not it looks like a boat, place it aside for that child to take home. Write each child's name on a frame provided in *Starting Steps for Lesson 1* and set the boat on the frame.

GOOD-BYE TIME

As they leave, tell all the children, individually, you are glad they came. As you say good-bye, ask, "Who told Noah to build a boat?" Send home the cover of *Starting Steps* this week. Families can enjoy the calendar activities. Send each child home with his or her very own *Starting Steps*. One side frames the Play Dough Boat. The other side connects each child's family to today's lesson with a devotional, parenting tips, an amusing anecdote, and more.