

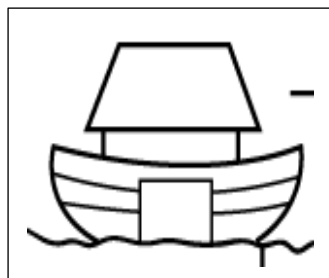
Registered charity no 251394

Summer's coming, well we hope it is! It's still not very warm. But as your school summer holiday approaches we hope for better weather. Perhaps you will be able to spend time swimming, in a swimming pool or at the seaside. Some of you might even get a ride on a boat, either a big one taking you on holiday, or smaller ones on a lake or along a river. If you are on a boat on a river, you will probably be able to see some of the wildlife if it is a very quiet boat. However you travel on the water, it is very different to being in a car and can be quite an adventure.

There's a story of a watery adventure in the Bible.

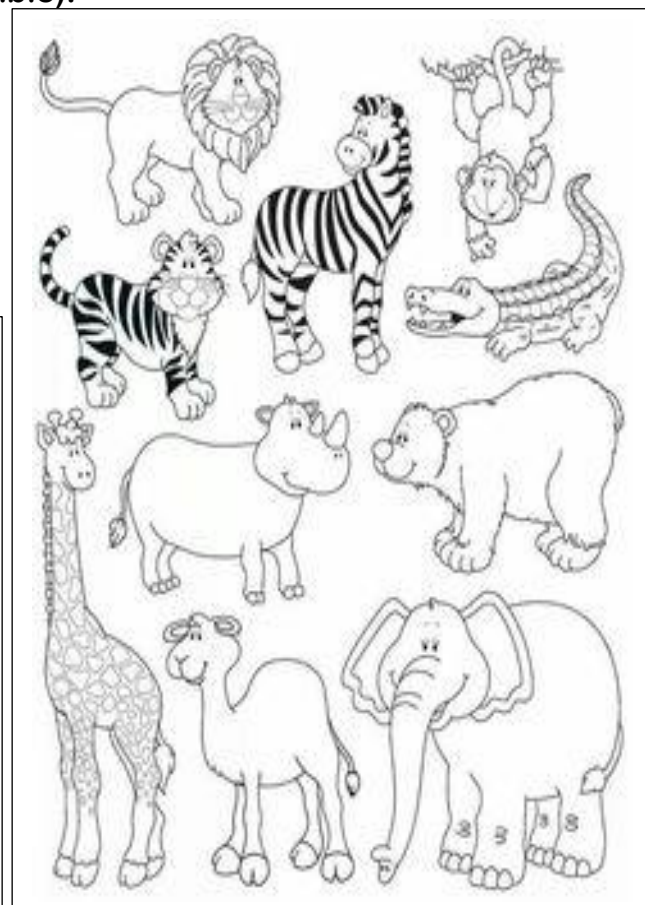
It involves a big boat, a family and lots of animals. It's about a man who listened to God and followed his instructions. God was not happy with the way people were behaving and he was going to punish them. Noah and his family were good and God wanted Noah to be saved. He gave him instructions on how to build the biggest boat ever seen, and then to gather together two of every kind of animal and bird and get them into this boat, called The Ark, with his family. When Noah had done all that God had instructed, God caused it to begin to rain.

It rained for forty days until the whole land was flooded and all the people and animals not inside the ark were drowned. When at last it stopped raining, Noah sent a dove out from the Ark several times to see if there was any dry land yet. When at last it didn't come back he knew the water was going down. At last the Ark settled on dry land and Noah, his family and all the animals were able to come out and live on the land again. God made a rainbow in the sky as a promise not to punish the world in that way again. You will find the story of Noah and the Flood in the first book of the Bible called Genesis and it begins in chapter 5 (best read in a children's Bible).



Make a NOAH'S ARK wall hanger

Draw out the shape of the Ark, on brown paper or colour it brown. Then see if you can copy the animal shapes on the right, (two of each) or draw your own. Then cut them out and place some on the ark, or make a pathway for them to walk up to the ark. Then add the rainbow over the top.



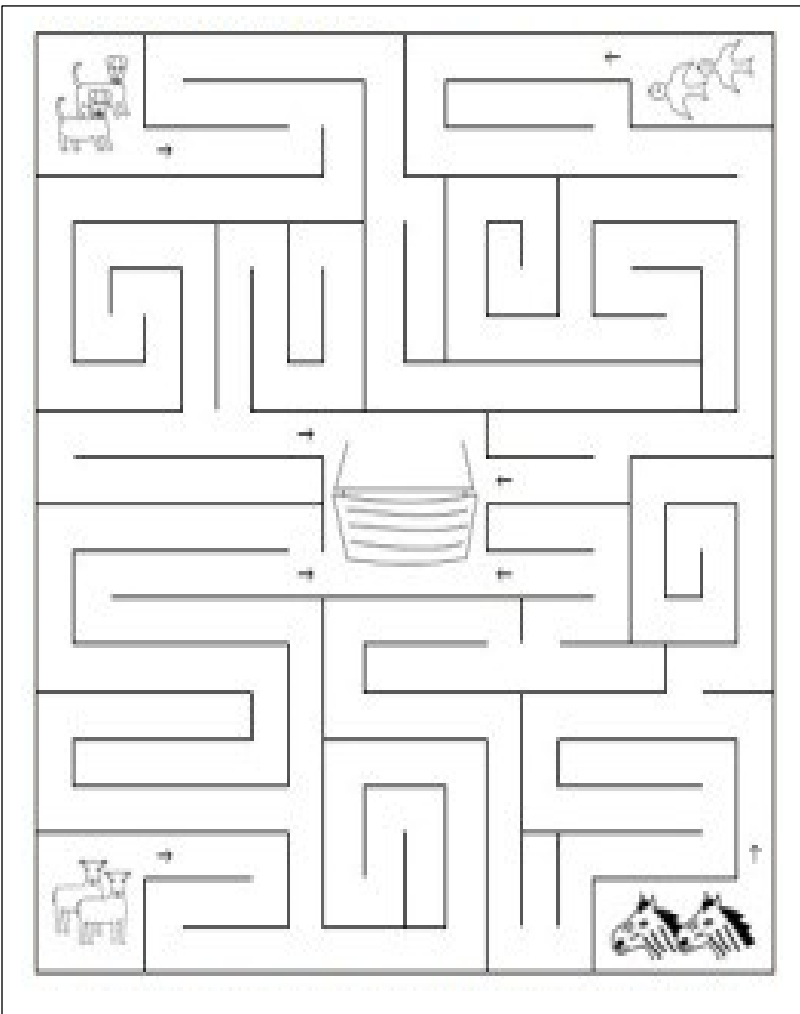
Once the friends of Jesus had a very scary day on the Sea of Galilee

One day Jesus was out in a boat with some of his close friends. He had spent the day talking to the crowds and now was tired so he lay down in the back of the boat and went to sleep. When the boat was in the middle of the Sea of Galilee, a sudden storm blew up. The wind howled and the waves became very big and rough. Jesus' friends were experienced sailors but they became very scared as the boat seemed about to sink. They woke Jesus up. "Look what is happening," they shouted above the wind. "We're afraid our boat won't last much longer. We are going to sink and we are a long way from shore."



As he woke up Jesus looked around him and saw the crashing waves and felt the howling wind and knew how scared his friends were. He stood up and commanded the wind and waves to be still – and they were! Jesus was able to calm the storm. His friends were amazed! What a miracle! *Read about this in the Gospel of Mark, chapter 4 verses 35-41*

Two Activities, . 1. Can you find the way through the maze for all the animals to reach the Ark? 2. Decode the secret words about Jesus and the storm.



Code key

6	1	9	20	8	A1	J 10	S 19
2	15	1	20		B2	K 11	T 20
19	20	15	18	13	C3	L 12	U 21
23	1	20	5	18	D4	M 13	V 22
4	9	19	3	9	E5	N 14	W 23
1	19	12	5	5	F6	O 15	X 24
					G7	P 16	Y 25
					H8	Q 17	Z 26
					I9	R 18	

When Jesus calmed the storm it showed that:-

20 8 5 23 9 14 4 19 1 14 4 20 8 5

23 1 22 5 19 15 2 5 25 10 5 19 21 19