

Bible Point

# God Keeps Us Safe

## Bible Verse

God keeps us safe (adapted from Psalm 4:8).

## Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- know that God kept Noah safe,
  - realize that the rainbow is a symbol of God's promise, and
  - express their thanks for God's protection and love.

## Teacher Enrichment

### Bible Basis

- I'm glad that God keeps us safe.

**Genesis  
6:9–9:17**



The story of the Flood is, on the one hand, very solemn. It is difficult to fathom the extent of human and animal loss brought upon the earth. On the other hand, the Flood story is clearly one of hope. The world needed a new start, and God made a way for that new start to happen. After Noah and his family left the ark for dry ground, the first thing God did was make a covenant promise to all humanity. Never again would God judge the world through a cataclysmic flood. And he gave the rainbow as a sign of that promise.

Imagine the joy Noah and his family must have felt to see the beauty of the first rainbow in the new world. It's wonderful to see the wonder in a child's eyes as he or she looks upon a big, bright rainbow. That wonder is greatly enhanced when the child learns the fascinating story of the rainbow's origin.

Help the children you teach today understand not only the origin of the rainbow, but what it symbolizes. It reveals a God who is eager to give saving protection to all people. Through Jesus Christ, God has promised salvation from sin and death. And God keeps his promises!

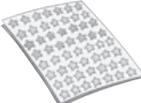
### Prayer

- Read Isaiah 65:17-25.
- Just as Noah and his family experienced a new beginning on earth, one day all of God's children will experience a totally brand-new creation, free from sin and death. How can you live your life to thank God for the offer of a new heaven and earth?
- Pray: Thank you, God, that you are gracious to us. You've given me the greatest second chance of all—salvation. And you are ready to receive me again whenever I wander. Help the children I teach begin to see the magnitude of your grace.

### Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

# This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
<b>Arrival Activities</b>  Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	<b>Welcome Time</b> —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins, CD player	
	<b>Option 1: Color-Flutters</b> —Make colorful necklaces.	Elastic thread; scissors; tape; red, blue, green, purple, orange, and yellow construction paper	
	<b>Option 2: Over the Rainbow</b> —Toss beanbags at a “rainbow” and name colors.	White poster board, crayons or markers, beanbags	
	<b>Pick-Up Time</b> —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
<b>Bible Story Time</b>	<b>Bible Song</b> —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	<b>God Keeps Us Safe</b> —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story of Noah and the ark from Genesis 6:9-9:17.	Card table, books, necklaces from Option 1	
	<b>The Rainbow Song</b> —Sing a colorful song about rainbows.	CD player, necklaces from Option 1	
<b>Bible Activities</b>	<b>Day or Night</b> —Make fun reminders that God keeps them safe both day and night.	Index cards, crayons	
	<b>Interactive Bible Bulletin Board</b> —Review the Bible story with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	Rainbow pattern (p. 134), scissors, markers, tape	
	<b>Sing It Out</b> —Sing a colorful song about God keeping us safe.	CD player	
	<b>Bible Craft</b> —Make colorful window hangers to remind them that God keeps us safe.	Colored construction paper from Option 1, newspaper, glue sticks, cotton balls, paper plates, scissors, tape, yarn	
	<b>Bible Game</b> —Play an active color game.	Colored construction paper from Option 1, tape	
	<b>Closing</b>	<b>Pretty Promise</b> —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Graham crackers, marshmallow creme, plastic knives, napkins, colored cereal puffs

\*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.



# Arrival Activities

## Welcome Time

**SUPPLIES:** name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins, CD player



- Play “God Keeps Us Safe” (adapted from Psalm 4:8) (track 9) from the CD as children are arriving.
- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child’s clothing.
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► God keeps us safe.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won’t be distracted by him during the next activity.



## Option 1: Color-Flutterers

**SUPPLIES:** red, blue, yellow, purple, orange, and green construction paper; scissors; elastic thread; tape

Before class, cut red, blue, yellow, purple, orange, and green construction paper into 1x8-inch strips. Cut one strip of every color for each child. You’ll also need a 20-inch length of elastic thread tied into a loop for each child.

Set out the thread loops, tape, and the strips of construction paper. As children arrive, invite them to make pretty “color-flutters” to wear. Help children fold the top inch of a strip of every color over their thread and then tape the strips in the back. Encourage children to name the colors of their “flutterers” as they create their necklaces.

As children work, make comments such as “Our color-flutters look like rainbows, but only God makes real rainbows” and “Rainbows remind us that God keeps his promises.” Tell children that today they’ll hear about a special promise God made to Noah and that ► God keeps us safe.

Let toddlers wear their color-flutter necklaces during the lesson.



Make extra color-flutter necklaces for children who choose not to do this option. You’ll use the necklaces later in the lesson.

## Option 2: Over the Rainbow

**SUPPLIES:** white poster board, crayons or markers, beanbags

Before this activity, draw a large rainbow on white poster board using crayons or markers. Make the colored bands of the rainbow each 3 inches wide.

Set the game board on the floor with the beanbags. When children arrive, invite them to toss the beanbags onto the game board. When a child’s beanbag lands on a color band of the rainbow, have the child name the color. As children play, remind them that ► God keeps us safe and that rainbows remind us of God’s promise not to flood the whole world again. Mention that they’ll hear more about a special rainbow and God’s promise during today’s Bible story.



Make beanbags in a snap by pouring dried beans into children’s socks and securely knotting the ankles.



## ■ Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing “Let’s Pick Up All Our Things” (track 2). Use the CD and sing the song to the tune of “Looby Loo.”



**Let’s pick up all our things.  
Let’s pick up all our things.  
Let’s pick up all our things  
And put them all away.**

**Everyone here can help.  
Everyone here can help.  
Everyone here can help.  
Let’s put it all away.**

**Let’s pick up all our things.  
Let’s pick up all our things.  
Let’s pick up all our things.  
It’s time to stop our play.**

### teacher tips

It’s important to say the Bible Point just as it’s written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.

## Bible Story Time

### ■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Say: **Who keeps us safe? ► God keeps us safe. How do we know? The Bible tells us.** Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God’s special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let’s sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD, lead the children in singing “God’s Special Book” (track 3) to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”



**This is God’s special book.  
Yes, it’s God’s book you see!  
I learn about all God has done  
And his love for me!**

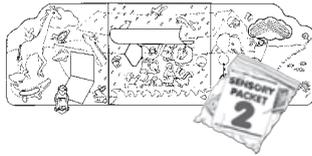
*(Repeat.)*

**Bible!**



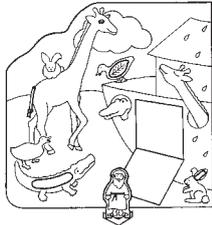
## ■ Bible Story: God Keeps Us Safe

**SUPPLIES:** card table, books, necklaces from Option 1



Before class begins, please check to make sure the sensory items are still securely attached so the children can touch them without the danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

### Panel 1



Collapse the legs of a card table and turn it upside down over a few sturdy books so the table rocks slightly back and forth. Gather children at the opposite end of the room from the table. Be sure the cloud is showing on Panel 3.

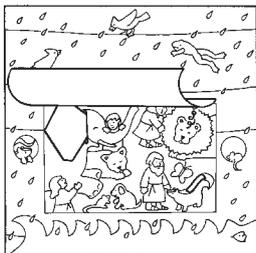
Fold the StoryBoard back so children see only Panel 1. Say: **We're going to hear a Bible story about how ►God keeps us safe.** Hold up the figure of Noah and ask:

- **Who is this?** (Noah; a man.)

Say: **This is Noah. Noah and his family loved God very much. But the rest of the people in the world acted mean. They didn't love God at all. God was sad and decided to wash the world clean with a big flood. But God wanted to keep Noah safe. God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. We can build a pretend ark. First we'll saw some wood.** Make sawing motions and encourage children to follow. **Now let's pound the wood with pretend hammers.** Have children make pounding motions with their fists. **Good job! The ark is done, now we can sit down and rest.** Pause while children sit.

**When Noah finished building the ark, God sent the animals to climb aboard.** Open the door flap on Panel 1. **Let's pretend we're animals and crawl to the ark.** Take the StoryBoard along as you lead children to the upside-down table. Encourage them to make animal sounds and crawl on their hands and knees. **Climb aboard, little animals. God will keep us safe!** Have children find a place to sit on or near the table. Sit beside the table holding the StoryBoard, and say: **When Noah and his family and all the animals were aboard the ark, God shut the door.** Close the door flap on Panel 1.

### Panel 2



Reveal Panel 2 of the StoryBoard. Say: **Then God sent the rain. It rained 40 days and 40 nights, and the whole world flooded! But Noah and his family and the animals were safe in the ark. The ark floated and sailed on the waves. It rocked back and forth and up and down.**

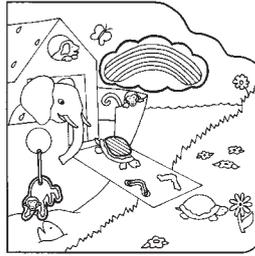
Gently rock the table back and forth as if it's sailing on the waves. **Up and down, back and forth they sailed. But God kept them safe just as ►God keeps us safe. Let's**

**peek in the ark, shall we?** Hold the StoryBoard so children can take turns lifting the flap on Panel 2 and touching the animals. **We can play a game. I'll point to an animal on the StoryBoard, and you can make a sound like that animal.** Point to the lion and then to the elephant. When you point to the skunk, encourage the children to hold their noses and say "phew!"



Everyone was safe and happy on the ark as it sailed over the water. Rock the table back and forth a few more times. **Up and down and back and forth they sailed in the rain. But did it ever stop raining? Let's see!**

### Panel 3



Unfold Panel 3 of the StoryBoard. Say: **Look! God stopped the rain. The water dried up, and Noah and his family and the animals came out of the ark. See the silly monkey? Let's give the monkey a swing to show how happy he is that it stopped raining.** Allow children to each swing the monkey on Panel 3. Then ask:

- **Who can find the turtles?** Let children touch the turtle.
- **How does the turtle's shell feel?** (Hard; bumpy.)

- **Where are the caterpillars?** Let children touch the caterpillar.
- **What do caterpillars feel like?** (Soft; nice.)

Say: **Then God made Noah and us a special promise. God promised not to flood the whole world again. And God put a pretty rainbow in the sky so we would remember his promise.** Turn the cloud over so that the rainbow shows.

**Isn't the rainbow beautiful? Look at all the colors. Let's say the colors together.** Point to each color in the rainbow as you say the color aloud. Help children find the color on their color-flutter necklaces.

**God must love us a lot to make such beautiful rainbows. And ► God keeps us safe because he loves us, too. Let's sing a happy song about God's rainbow.**

## ■ The Rainbow Song

**SUPPLIES:** CD player, necklaces from Option 1



Use the CD and lead children in singing "The Rainbow Song" (track 14) to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" For extra fun, do the actions in parentheses. Have older toddlers point to the colors on their color-flutter necklaces as they sing.



**Did you ever see a rainbow, a rainbow, a rainbow?** (*Raise your arms in a circle above your head and sway.*)

**Did you ever see a rainbow way up in the sky?  
With yellow and orange and purple and blue—**

**Oh, God made the rainbow for me and for you.** (*Make a circle above your head; then point to yourself and then to someone else.*)

**Did you ever see a rainbow, a rainbow, a rainbow?** (*Raise your arms in a circle above your head and sway.*)

**Did you ever see a rainbow way up in the sky?  
With red and yellow and orange and green—**

**Oh, God made the rainbow for me and for you.** (*Make a circle above your head; then point to yourself and then to someone else.*)

Say: **Rainbows make us happy because we remember God's promise. We're also glad that ► God keeps us safe. Let's make something to remind us of how much God loves us.**

**teacher tips**

**Important:** Put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.



**BIBLE POINT** ►

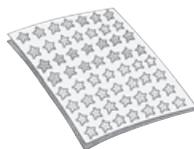


**BIBLE POINT** ►

# Bible Activities

## ■ Day or Night

**SUPPLIES:** index cards, crayons



Before class, fold in half enough small index cards for each child to have one. Open the cards slightly so they will stand on a table.

Give one card to each child. Set out crayons for children to share. Remove the sheet of *glow-in-the-dark star stickers* from the Learning Lab, and place them on the table.

Say: **We've been learning a lot about Noah and his family. God kept Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark safe. After the rain, God put a rainbow in the sky to remind Noah and his family that he loved them. Let's draw a rainbow on one side of our cards.**

Let children scribble-draw a colorful rainbow on one of the outside halves of the card.

Ask: • **When do you usually see a rainbow?** (After it rains; after a storm; during the day.)

• **Have you ever seen a rainbow at night? Why or why not?** (No, because it's dark; no, because there's no light in the sky.)

Say: **We can see a rainbow sometimes after it rains. But we can only see a rainbow during the day, because it would be too dark to see it at night. A rainbow is God's way of reminding us that he loves us and that ► God keeps us safe during the daytime.**

Ask: • **Do you think God keeps us safe during the nighttime, too? Why or why not?** (Yes, because he loves us; yes, because he watches us all the time; yes, because he doesn't need it to be daytime to see us.)

Say: **We can't see a rainbow at night, but ► God keeps us safe at nighttime, too! At night, we can see stars in the sky. We're going to use these *glow-in-the-dark star stickers* to remind us that ► God keeps us safe during the night and the day!**

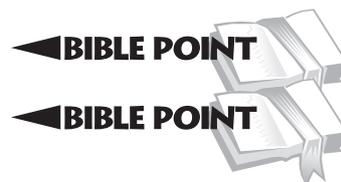
Have the children place one or two star stickers on the other half of the index card. Let children use dark crayons to create a night sky around the stars. When standing, one side of the folded card should show the rainbow and the other side the stars in the night sky.

Say: ► **God keeps us safe all the time, wherever we are, night or day. You can take your card home with you and put it by your bed to remind you that ► God keeps us safe all the time.**

**Right now, let's add a bright rainbow to our bulletin board!**

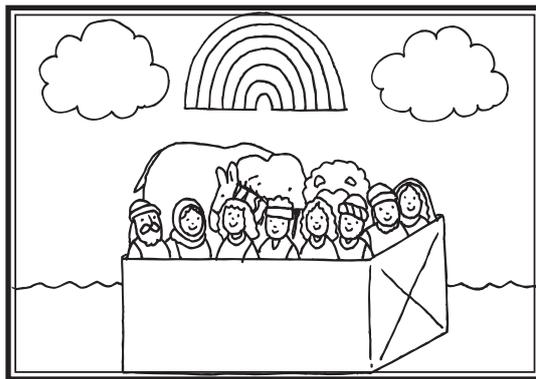


Depending on the size of your class, give each child more than two star stickers.



## ■ Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

**SUPPLIES:** rainbow pattern (p. 134), scissors, markers, tape



Before class, photocopy the rainbow pattern. Color and cut out the pattern, and then cut out each color band on the rainbow. If you have more than six children in your group, cut the color bands into smaller pieces. Gently remove the foil or tinsel rain you added to the bulletin board last week. This week you'll add a rainbow.



*Bring out Cuddles the Lamb.*

**Cuddles:** *(Looking at the children's rainbow necklaces)* Oh! Look at all the pretty rainbows!

**Teacher:** We made pretend rainbows to wear, Cuddles. But God makes real rainbows to remind us of a special promise. God promised never to flood the whole world again. We know that God always keeps his promises, and we know that ► God keeps us safe, too.

**Cuddles:** God makes pretty rainbows! But...*(shaking his head)* I wish I knew the colors.

**Teacher:** We're going to put a rainbow on the bulletin board. We'll help you learn the colors, won't we, children?

*Hand each child a color band from the rainbow picture. Help children tape the colors in place to create a rainbow. As each child places a piece of the rainbow on the bulletin board, lead him or her in saying the color and repeating the Bible Point. Continue until the rainbow is complete.*

**Cuddles:** *(Hopping up and down)* Wheee! I know my colors now! Can we say them together? *(Have Cuddles point to each color band as you say the color aloud.)* That was fun! Thank you for teaching me my colors. And thanks for teaching me that ► God keeps us safe. I feel so happy!

**Teacher:** We're glad that ► God keeps us safe, too. Would you like to sing a happy song with us, Cuddles?

**Cuddles:** Oh, yes!

*Have Cuddles help lead children in the next activity; then put Cuddles away.*

Permission to photocopy this script from Group's Hands-On Bible Curriculum® Toddlers & 2s granted for local church use. Copyright © Group Publishing, Inc., 1515 Cascade Avenue, Loveland, CO 80538. group.com



## ■ Sing It Out

**SUPPLIES:** CD player



Using the CD, have Cuddles lead children in singing “God Keeps Us Safe” (adapted from Psalm 4:8) (track 9) with the CD to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.”



**God keeps us safe.** (*Cross arms over chest.*)

**God keeps us safe.** (*Cross arms over chest.*)

**Through night and day** (*cover eyes with hands; then uncover eyes*),

**In every way** (*clap twice*),

**God keeps us safe.** (*Cross arms over chest.*)

(*Repeat.*)

Say: **The Bible tells us in Psalm 4:8 that ► God keeps us safe. Let’s make a colorful window hanger to remind us of that!**

## ■ Bible Craft

**SUPPLIES:** colored construction paper from Option 1, scissors, newspaper, glue sticks, cotton balls, paper plates, tape, yarn

Before class, cut colored construction paper into 3-inch squares. Cut red, yellow, blue, green, orange, and purple squares. Cut paper plates in half. Also cut a 10-inch length of yarn for each child.

Cover a table with newspaper. Set out glue sticks, cotton balls, and the paper squares. Hand each child a paper-plate half, and encourage the children to glue the paper squares to the curved edges of their plates. Show children how to stretch the cotton balls and then glue the cotton ball “clouds” below the colored squares. As children work, remind them that God makes rainbows. Tell children that the rainbow reminds us of God’s promises. Invite children to name the colors in their window hangers.

When children have finished, tape a loop of yarn on the back of the paper plate so it can be hung in a window.

Say: **The rainbow was God’s promise never to flood the whole world again. Just like Noah, we’ve learned that ► God keeps us safe. And just like Noah saw God’s colorful rainbow in the sky, we can see lots of colors. Let’s play a game and find pretty rainbow colors.**

## ■ Bible Game

**SUPPLIES:** colored construction paper from Option 1, tape

Before this activity, scatter half sheets of red, blue, yellow, purple, orange, and green construction paper on the floor, and tape them in place.

Say: **There are lots of colors all over the floor. Let’s say the color names.** Point to each colored square as you say the color aloud. Have children repeat the colors with you.

## ◀ BIBLE VERSE



Lay three or four sheets of paper on top of each other, and cut out multiple squares at one time.



If I say a color, go stand beside that color of paper. If I say, “God’s rainbow,” sit down and put your arms in a big circle over your head like this. Demonstrate how to form a “rainbow” over your head.

Alternate calling out colors and “God’s rainbow.” If you have older toddlers, let them take turns calling out colors. Lead children in saying the Bible Point each time they make a rainbow with their arms.

When you’ve finished playing, say: **I’m so glad that ▶ God keeps us safe. Let’s be pretty rainbows and quietly walk to the snack table for our yummy treats.** Lead children to the snack table by holding your arms over your head like a rainbow arch.



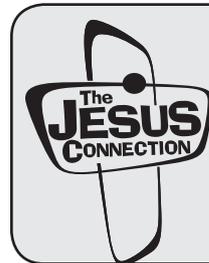
## Closing

### ■ Pretty Promise

**SUPPLIES:** graham crackers, marshmallow creme, plastic knives, napkins, colored cereal puffs

When children are seated at the snack table, ask:

- **Who keeps us safe?** (God.)
- **Who always keeps his promises?** (God.)



Say: **God always keeps his promises. That’s because God loves us. And ▶ God keeps us safe because he loves us. God showed us how much he loves us by sending his Son, Jesus, to die for us. If we believe in Jesus, someday we will live in heaven with him. We are so happy that God loves us this much!**

**Let’s thank God for his love and protection by saying our thank-you prayer. Fold your hands.** Pray:

**“Thank you, God,”**

*(Echo)* “Thank you, God,”

**We want to say,**

*(Echo)* We want to say,

**For keeping us safe**

*(Echo)* For keeping us safe

**Night and day.**

*(Echo)* Night and day.

**In Jesus’ name, amen.**

*(Echo)* In Jesus’ name, amen.

Have children wash their hands.

Say: **Now we’ll make colorful rainbow treats to gobble up.** Hand each child a napkin with a graham cracker on it. Help children spread marshmallow creme on their graham crackers, and let them stick colored cereal puffs on top to make a rainbow.

After children enjoy their treats, have them throw their napkins in the wastebasket. Remind children to wear their color-flutter necklaces and take their window-hangers and index-card reminders home.



## For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

### ■ *Love That Rainbow!*

Cut out red, yellow, purple, orange, green, and blue construction paper hearts. Hand each child a paper heart, and help him or her tell you the color. Without the *CD*, lead children in singing “The Rainbow Song” to the tune of “Did You Ever See a Lassie?” Invite children to hold up their paper hearts as you sing the colors.



#### SING

**Did you ever see a rainbow, a rainbow, a rainbow?  
Did you ever see a rainbow way up in the sky?  
With yellow and orange and purple and blue—  
Oh, God made the rainbow for me and for you.**

**Did you ever see a rainbow, a rainbow, a rainbow?  
Did you ever see a rainbow way up in the sky?  
With red and yellow and orange and green—  
Oh, God made the rainbow for me and for you.**

### ■ *Flashlight Fun*

Cover the ends of a few flashlights with colored cellophane squares and attach them with rubber bands. Let children take turns shining the “colored lights” on the ceiling, walls, and floor. If you have older toddlers, let them choose an object in the room to shine the light on, and have them tell you the color of that object.

# Pattern

