

# NOAH'S ARK

## NOAH'S ARK

by Jerry Pinkney  
(North-South/Sea Star)

Themes: Animals, Families, Folktales,  
Multiculturalism, Nature

Grade Level: K--3 (Ages 5-9)

Running Time: 10 minutes, iconographic

### SUMMARY

This program presents the traditional biblical account of Noah's ark, retold in simple language and illustrated with beautifully colored drawings. While faithfully following the Bible, the words and pictures emphasize the responsibility of people to care for nature. For example, God's displeasure, which leads to the great flood, comes because people "did not care for one another. They did not care for the land that God had made. And they did not care for God."

### OBJECTIVES

- Children will watch and hear a story from the Bible.
- Children will recognize the responsibility of people to care for the living things on the earth.

### BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Show children the program package and discuss the title and cover art. Since many children will know the story, ask them to identify the people, animals, and objects on the cover and tell what part they will play in the tale. Explain that this is one of the oldest stories in human history, that it is part of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths, and that similar stories

are told by people of many religions around the world. As they view and hear the program, ask children to think about the reasons this story has been told for thousands of years.

### AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Review the story by asking children to recall the order of events and why each event happened. Ask for their ideas about why the story began with the Creation, why God sent the flood, and why God decided to save Noah, his family, and the animals. Make sure children understand the significance of the rainbow at the end of the story, as a sign of hope for the earth. Discuss what lessons the story teaches people and ask children to share why they think the story keeps being told and retold.

Assemble a classroom display of toys, artwork, quilts, needlework pictures, and other objects on the Noah's Ark theme. Ask around in your community to locate a collector of Noah's Ark toys and objects, or search online for "Noah's Ark collectibles." Enlist the help of children and their parents in making this collection. Use the display to inspire children to draw their own pictures of the ark and its animals.

Connect the story to science by having children list all the animals they saw in the program, going back over the screens to find creatures they might have missed. Have them research and report on individual animals and their habitats. Focus on the environmental theme by asking children to explain how people can best care for animals and their habitats.

Another obvious connection between this story and

science is to use it to talk about rain, drought, floods, and rainbows. Do a simple science experiment that shows how rainbows are formed, and show children how to spot rainbows on days when there is both sun and rain.

Connect this story to music by introducing the spiritual "Animals a' Comin'" and other songs about animals. Or ask children to help you write new words to "Old MacDonald," beginning with "Noah built a great big ark." Children will especially enjoy making up animal sounds for elephants, zebras, kangaroos, and other animals in the ark.

Connect the story to literature by having children read and report on other stories from the Bible or other traditional tales, including the titles listed below.

Other related videos and audios available from Weston Woods include:

ARROW TO THE SUN, by Gerald McDermott  
ASHANTI TO ZULU: AFRICAN TRADITIONS,  
by Margaret Musgrove, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon

A STORY, A STORY, by Gale E. Haley  
THE UGLY DUCKLING, by Jerry Pinkney

**CALL 1-800-243-5020 TO ORDER THESE AND OTHER WESTON WOODS VIDEOS!**

This guide may be photocopied for free distribution without restriction