

Noah

Concepts: Noah built the ark; animals went on two by two; the flood lasted 40 days; after the flood, a rainbow appeared.

Props: rain stick, musical hammer, rainbow ribbons, arks and animals, tools, color cards, megaphone, Lisa's colorful sunglasses

Tips for Teaching This Unit:

1. Tell the story... Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, there was a man named Noah. One day as he was taking a walk in the woods, he heard a voice: 'NOAH!' He looked around, but no one was there, just the wind rustling the leaves (swoosh!) and the birds singing (tweet tweet tweet). He shrugged and kept on walking. But then he heard it again! 'NOAH!' (Use a megaphone for effect.) It was God! God said, "It's going to rain for 40 days. You must build an ark." Ask if they know what an ark is? Put a large laminated ark on a felt board. Take out Noah's magical musical hammer and let each child take a turn. Then either follow steps #2-4 below, or skip to #5.
2. Sing **Noah Built the Ark** with laminated tools (don't give out plastic tools unless you have one for each child).

Noah Built the Ark

by Ellen Allard

Rat-a-tat tat!

alternating leg pats

Noah built the ark, oh (repeat 3x)

And he built it just like that.

both hands pat legs for 'JUST LIKE', clap for 'THAT'

Noah used a hammer, hammer, hammer,

demonstrate hammering

Noah used a hammer to build the ark! (repeat)

both hands pat legs for 'BUILD THE, clap for 'ARK'

3. Use a rain-stick to make rain sounds. Noah took his family onto the ark. He also brought animals on the ark, but he didn't have room for ALL the animals, so he brought two of each kind. Give out give arks and laminated animals to every child. Sing **Good Ol' Noah** or **The Animals Went On the Ark** with beanie babies or a laminated image of the ark and animals.

Good Ol' Noah Built an Ark [\(Lisa's prop\)](#)

by Lisa Baydush TTTO Old MacDonald Had a Farm

Good ol' Noah built an ark 'cause God said it would rain,
And on that ark he took two cows, who moo and moo'ed all day.

They moo-moo'ed here, and they moo-moo'ed there
They moo'ed and they moo'ed and they moo'ed everywhere!

End:

Good ol' Noah built an ark 'cause God said it would rain,
And then one day the sun came out, and the water went away...

*So Noah opened the door of the ark
and the animals went out and spread all over the earth!*

Good ol' Noah waved goodbye, Shalom, shalom, shalom!



The Animals Went On the Ark

to the tune of The Ants Go Marching

The animals went on the ark, hurrah, hurrah!
The animals went on the ark, hurrah, hurrah!
The animals went on the ark,
As the sky got really dark
And the rain began to fall on the ground,
all around, boom boom, boom... (use shakers to make rain sounds)

What animals?

Dogs and cats went on the ark...

Lions and tigers went on the ark...

4. With older students, (PK-2nd grade), sing this delightful adaptation of **Who Built the Ark?!** Enhance the song with rhythm sticks or hand motions.

Who Built the Ark?

adapted by Helene and Michael Kates

Chorus:

Who built the ark? Noah, Noah!

Tap the ground, then tap sticks 4x for 'Noah Noah'

Who built the ark? Noah did! (repeat)

3 taps for 'Noah did'

Noah built the ark big & tall, big & tall, big & tall;

Noah built the ark big & tall, plenty of room for the large and small! Oh... (chorus)

Animals came on 2x2...

Hippopotamus and kangaroo! Oh... (chorus)

When the rain stopped falling and the land was dry...

A beautiful rainbow appeared in the sky! Oh... (chorus)

5. This new song, **Noah Built the Ark Ark Ark**, worked fabulously this year with all of my preschool classes. (Use the adapted version for preschool, full lyrics are listed at the end.) Explain that just as Noah finished the ark, it began to rain. Put rain cloud and rain drop pictures on the felt board. Explain that he took the animals on board the ark. Let each child choose a stuffed animal, then go around the circle and let them tell what animal they chose, while also putting a corresponding picture of the animal on the felt board ark. Take out sand blocks and tap them together for the building sound of ark, ark, ark, then rub them together for the rain sound for the second line. 'Walk' the blocks on the floor for the animals, and zip in their animals on the last line. Sounds complicated, which is why I'm explaining it in such detail, but it worked, even with two year olds! For the chorus, you can make it as simple or complex a rhythm pattern as you want. With 2's, I just tapped on the floor and then clapped them together for 'built the ark;' with 3's and 4's, I did more of a tapping, clapping pattern.

Noah Built the Ark, Ark, Ark

by Lisa Baydush, loosely based on Make a Matzah ([audio](#))

Noah built the ark, ark, ark

As the rain began to start;

The animals came 2x2,

Dogs and cats and lions too! (zip in different animals each time)

Chorus:

Noah, Noah, good 'ol Noah built the ark;

Noah, Noah, Noah built the ark!

6. After 40 days, the sun came out. Noah saw a rainbow in the sky! This is an opportunity to do color identification with rainbow songs. Take out a stretchy band and sing **Noah Saw a Rainbow**. Bounce the band on laps for the chorus, putting it way up high for the last line. Instead of singing the verse as written, just go around the circle and let the children tell you what color they are holding on the stretchy band and sing it in that order, concluding with the last line of the verse, and then sing the chorus again. If you don't have a stretchy band, use colorful scarves.



Noah Saw a Rainbow

by Lisa Baydush ([audio](#))

Chorus:

Rainbow, rainbow, Noah saw a rainbow!
Rainbow, rainbow, way up in the sky! (repeat)

It was red and orange, and yellow and green, and blue and purple too;
The rainbow was a special gift from God to me and you (chorus)

7. I like to say that the rainbow filled the world with color. Sing **I'm a Little Rainbow** with hand motions and **Make a Rainbow** with scarves. Next week, if you want to continue singing color/rainbow songs without Noah's name, try **When I See a Rainbow, Rainbow Round Me** and/or **Painting a Beautiful World** (see Rosh Hashanah).

I'm a Little Rainbow

to the tune of I'm a Little Teapot from The Mailbox Magazine

I'm a little rainbow, (point to self)
Way up high. (point to ceiling)
After it rains, (wiggle fingers like rain falling)
Look in the sky. (shade eyes with hand; look up.)
You will see my colors, (point to eye)
Oh so bright! (finger bursts)
From end to end, (use index finger to trace arch in air)
I'm a lovely sight! (put both hands up, fingers spread)

Make a Rainbow w/scarves

by Lisa Baydush to the tune of Clementine

Make a rainbow, make a rainbow,
Make a rainbow way up high
Make a rainbow, make a rainbow,
Make a rainbow in the sky!

Red and orange, yellow, green,
Purple, blue and indigo
Pretty colors, pretty colors
Make a beautiful rainbow!

When I See a Rainbow

by Lisa Baydush ([audio](#))

When I see a rainbow, I see
lots of pretty colors shining down on me (repeat)

I see red; I see orange; I see yellow; I see green;
I see blue; I see purple – a keshet of colors for me!

Rainbow Round Me

by Ruth Pelham, adapted ([audio](#))

Rainbow, rainbow, rainbow round me (2x)

As I look outside my window,
I see a bright blue sky (repeat)

8. Explain that the rainbow was God's promise that God would take care of the world; when we see a rainbow, we remember that we're supposed to help take care of the world too. This is an opportunity to sing songs about taking care of our world, such as **We've Got the Whole World in our Hands**.

We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands

We've got the whole world in our hands!
We've got the whole wide world in our hands!
We've got the whole world in our hands!
We've got the whole world in our hands!

When we pick up trash, we help the world...
When we plant a tree, we help the world...
When we turn off lights, we help the world...

9. Two songs for older students –the full version of **Noah Built the Ark Ark Ark** and **Rise and Shine**.

Noah Built the Ark, Ark, Ark

by Lisa Baydush, loosely based on Make a Matzah ([audio](#))

Noah built the ark, ark, ark
As the rain began to start;
The animals came 2x2,
Soon he had a floating zoo!

Chorus:

Noah, Noah, good 'ol Noah built the ark;
Noah, Noah, Noah built the ark!

Lions, tigers, bears and cows,
Mice and birds and bees and owls;
Giraffes and zebras squeezed on in
With two hippos and penguins! (chorus)

Elephants and kangaroos,
Rabbits, monkeys, camels too;
Dogs and donkeys, goats and sheep,
Soon there was nowhere to sleep! (chorus)

Buffalo went stomp, stomp, stomp,
Alligators chomped, chomped, chomped,
Horses neighed and cats meowed,
The ark was getting really loud! (chorus)

It rained and poured for 40 days,
Noah had to find a way
To find dry land, he sent a dove,
And saw a rainbow up above! (chorus)

Rise and Shine

Chorus:

Rise and shine and give God your glory glory! (3x)
Children of the Lord

The Lord said to Noah, "There's gonna be a floody floody." (2x)
Get your children out of the muddy muddy!"
Children of the Lord (chorus)

So Noah, he built him, he built him an arky arky... made it out of hickory barky barky...
The animals, they came on, they came on by 2'ies, 2'ies... elephants and kangaroosies-roosies...
It rained and poured for 40 day-sie day-sies... drove the animals nearly crazy crazy...
The sun, it came out, and dried up the landy landy... everything was fine and dandy dandy...
This is the end of, the end of the story, story... everything was hunky dory, dory...