



GOD'S CREATURES TELL THE STORY

Noah's Ark Adventure

Teacher's Packet

FREE ♦ PHOTOCOPY FREELY FOR YOUR CLASS

Five lesson plans, discussion questions for two age bands, a reproducible Bible Detective worksheet with a full answer key, a ten-question quiz, background notes for the teacher, and projects that use a tape measure and a kitchen sink. Built for readers ages 11–17 from the full narrative of *Noah's Ark Adventure*.

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How to Use This Packet

Three tracks, one book. Pick the one that matches your setting and ignore the other two. Everything here may be photocopied for your own class or family.

Track One — Family Devotions (two weeks)

- The book runs eight chapters, each broken into short mini-chapters. Two or three mini-chapters make a comfortable evening.
- Close each reading with one question from page 4, chosen for the age at your table.
- Assign each family member a reporter to follow — Penny, Professor Hoot, or Dominic — and have them report what their reporter noticed that the others missed.
- Use the devotion starters and prayer on page 6 for the two Sunday evenings.

Track Two — Sunday School (four weeks)

- **Week 1 — The Warning.** Chapters 1–2. An assignment from Gabriel, a boat in a desert, and a town that has made up its mind.
- **Week 2 — The Waiting.** Chapters 3–5. Creation obeys before people do. The animals arrive. The door shuts.
- **Week 3 — The Water.** Chapter 6. A year inside a wooden box with no window on the world and no news of when it ends.
- **Week 4 — The Covenant.** Chapters 7–8 and the epilogue. Dry ground, an altar, a rainbow, and a promise with no conditions attached.

The five lesson plans on page 3 map onto these four weeks; most teachers combine lessons one and two if they have only four sessions.

Track Three — Homeschool (across subjects)

- **Math.** Cubits into feet, and the ratio problem on page 7. This is the strongest math tie-in in the whole series.
- **Science.** Buoyancy, hull proportion and stability, evaporation, and how a rainbow forms. See page 8 before you teach the ark's dimensions.
- **History.** Flood accounts across ancient cultures, and why so many of them exist.
- **Writing.** A first-person account from one of Noah's neighbors. See page 7.
- **Art.** A scale drawing of the ark against a building your students know.

A NOTE ON THE AGE BANDS

This packet is banded 11–13 and 14–17. The book's own appendices still use younger bands from an earlier edition; where the two differ, follow the packet. The story involves the death of everyone outside the ark, and older readers will want that discussed rather than skipped. Page 8 gives you language for it.

Before the First Session

- Read page 8 first. One experiment in the book's science appendix has its numbers reversed, and page 7 gives students the corrected version to work out themselves.
- Photocopy pages 5 and 9 — one per student. Everything else is for you.
- Have a tape measure available. Several activities depend on it.

Five Lesson Plans

Each lesson names a key verse, the chapters to read, one main point, and one activity that can be done in the room. The lessons require the book; the verses are ones the narrative itself puts on the page.

1. Building in the Sunshine

READ Chapters 1–2 · **KEY VERSE** *Genesis 6:22*

Main point: Noah builds an enormous boat, for years, on dry ground, in front of neighbors who think he has lost his mind. Nothing in his environment confirms the instruction. Obedience here is not a moment; it is a long stretch of ordinary days without evidence.

Activity: Ask the class how long they could keep working on something if no one believed them and nothing visibly changed. Take honest answers. Then say the word “decades” and let it land.

2. The Door That God Shut

READ Chapters 3–4 · **KEY VERSE** *Genesis 7:16*

Main point: Noah did not close the door. Scripture is careful about that. He loaded, and God shut him in — which means the safety was not his to guarantee and the timing was not his to choose. Seven full days then pass with the door shut and no rain.

Activity: Read Genesis 7:10 and 7:16 together. Ask what those seven silent days inside a sealed boat would have been like, and what a person would start to wonder.

3. Creation Listened First

READ Chapter 5 · **KEY VERSE** *Genesis 7:8–9*

Main point: The animals came to Noah. He did not hunt, trap, or herd them. The book makes much of this, and rightly: the creatures obeyed a call the people had spent a century refusing. Being able to argue is not always an advantage.

Activity: Two lists side by side — what the animals did, and what the neighbors did, given the same evidence. Ask what the neighbors had that the animals didn’t.

4. A Year in a Wooden Box

READ Chapter 6 · **KEY VERSE** *Genesis 8:1*

Main point: The famous forty days is the short part. The waters stayed high for 150 days and the family was aboard more than a year. Genesis 8:1 — “God remembered Noah” — is the hinge, and it arrives long after the drama has stopped.

Activity: Put the numbers on the board in order: 7 days waiting, 40 days of rain, 150 days of high water, then months of receding. Ask which number they had always assumed was the whole story.

5. An Altar, Then a Rainbow

READ Chapters 7–8 and the Epilogue · **KEY VERSE** *Genesis 9:12–16*

Main point: On an empty planet, the first thing Noah builds is an altar — and he spends animals he cannot replace to do it. God answers with a covenant that asks nothing in return and is signed with something everyone can see.

Activity: Note who the rainbow is stated to be a reminder *for* in Genesis 9:16. It is not primarily for us. Ask what that changes about the sign.

Lesson four is the one most often skipped and the one older students remember. Do not trade it for extra time on the animals.

Discussion Questions

Choose three or four per session. The second band includes the hardest question in the book, and it is there on purpose.

AGES 11–13

1. Noah worked on the ark for a very long time with no rain in sight. What is the longest you have ever worked on something before you saw any result?
2. Why do you think the neighbors kept mocking even after the animals started arriving?
3. Not every animal came in twos. Why did the clean animals come seven pairs at a time?
4. Genesis says God shut the door, not Noah. Why might that detail matter?
5. After the ground was dry, Noah still waited until God told him to come out. Why not just open the door?
6. The first thing Noah did on a brand-new earth was build an altar and give some of his animals away. Would that have been your first move? What would yours have been?
7. If you had been one of Noah's children stepping out into an empty world, what would have scared you most?
8. The animals came to Noah — he did not have to go catch them. Why do you think the book makes so much of that?
9. Noah sent out a raven, then a dove, then waited a week and sent the dove again. What does that tell you about the kind of person he was?

AGES 14–17

1. Genesis 6:6 says God was grieved. That is an unusual thing to say about God. What does the flood look like if you read it as grief rather than as anger?
2. Everyone outside the ark died. The book does not hide this. How should we hold the justice of that alongside the mercy shown to eight people?
3. Noah is called righteous and blameless in his generation, and later gets drunk in his tent. Why does Scripture keep both facts?
4. The covenant in Genesis 9 has no conditions. God does not ask humanity to be better first. What kind of promise is that, and who is carrying the weight of it?
5. The rainbow appears only where sun and rain overlap. Why might God have chosen a sign that cannot exist during the storm or after the sky clears?
6. Peter compares the flood to baptism and Jesus compares it to His own return. What are they each pointing at in the story?
7. The ark had no rudder, no sail, and one window facing up. What is that vessel arguing about who was steering?
8. Noah preached, by the New Testament's account, and no one outside his family listened. Was his life a success? By what measure?
9. God tells Noah to come out only after the ground has been dry for weeks. What is the difference between a door being open and being told to walk through it?

Bible Detective

“A good reporter always checks the details twice.” — Penny the Squirrel. Answer from the book, then verify each one against the verse listed. Answer key on page 10.

NAME _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 9

1. How many pairs of clean animals did God tell Noah to bring, and how does that differ from the unclean animals? *(Genesis 7:2–3)*

2. How long did the rain fall — and how long did the waters stay high? Give both numbers. *(Genesis 7:12; 7:24)*

3. Which bird did Noah send out first, and did it come back? *(Genesis 8:6–7)*

4. Name three things God specified about how the ark was to be built. *(Genesis 6:14–16)*

5. Who closed the door of the ark? *(Genesis 7:16)*

6. What promise did God make after the flood, and what sign did He give? *(Genesis 9:11–13)*

7. Challenge. How many people were saved on the ark? Can you say who they were? *(Genesis 7:7; 6:10)*

8. Challenge. After the ground was dry, why did Noah stay in the ark a while longer? *(Genesis 8:13–16)*

9. Super Sleuth. What was the first thing Noah built after leaving the ark, and why does that matter given what he had aboard? *(Genesis 8:20)*

Family and At-Home

Five devotion starters, a prayer, and one application to carry into the week. None of these require a craft table or more than fifteen minutes.

DEVOTION STARTERS

One — Working without evidence. Noah hammered on that boat for years while the sky stayed clear. Go around the table: what is each person working on that has not shown a result yet? Read Genesis 6:22.

Two — Someone else shuts the door. Noah loaded the ark; God sealed it. Talk about what our family is trying to hold shut by ourselves that might not be ours to guarantee. Read Genesis 7:16.

Three — The long middle. Forty days of rain, then five months of water going nowhere. Ask which is harder — the crisis or the waiting after it. Read Genesis 8:1–5.

Four — God remembered. The turning point of the whole flood is four words in Genesis 8:1. Nothing visible changed that day. Ask what it means to be remembered before anything improves.

Five — First things on a new day. Noah's first act on an empty earth was worship, and it cost him animals he could not get back. Ask what our family does first when something finally goes right. Read Genesis 8:20–21.

MEMORY VERSES

- *Genesis 6:22* — Noah did everything just as God commanded.
- *Genesis 8:1* — God remembered Noah.
- *Genesis 9:13* — the bow in the clouds.
- *Hebrews 11:7* — by faith Noah, warned about things not yet seen.

A FAMILY PRAYER

Father, You see what is coming and we do not. Give us the patience to keep working when nothing has changed, and the humility to let You shut the doors we cannot hold. When the waiting is long, remind us that You remember us before anything gets better. Teach us to give You the first of what we have, not the leftovers. And thank You for a promise that depends on You and not on us. In Jesus' name, amen.

APPLICATION FOR THE WEEK

Pick one thing this family has been waiting on with no visible progress. Each day this week, write one sentence about it on the same sheet — even if the sentence is “still nothing.” At the end of the week, read the seven sentences aloud in order. That is what Genesis 8:5 looks like from inside the boat.

Then do one more thing on the seventh day: name something the family already has that could be given away rather than stored. Noah's first act on a rebuilt planet spent animals he could not replace, and he did it before he planted a single seed.

Activities and Projects

Ordinary household supplies only — foil, a bowl, a tape measure, a calculator. Nothing here needs a craft store.

AGES 11–13

Measure the Ark. *Supplies: a tape measure and a long hallway or parking lot.* The ark was 300 cubits by 50 by 30. A cubit is about 18 inches, so work it out: 450 feet by 75 by 45. Then go outside and pace off 450 feet. Most students expect a large boat. Very few expect a building.

Foil Hulls. *Supplies: aluminum foil, a bowl of water, coins.* Build two boats from equal squares of foil — one long and narrow like a canoe, one shaped to the ark's proportions. Load both with coins until they fail, and make waves with your hand. Careful: the ark is ten times longer than it is tall, and six times longer than it is wide. Get those two ratios the right way round before you fold anything.

Rainbow on the Wall. *Supplies: a glass of water, white paper, sun.* Set the glass on the paper in direct sunlight and move it until the colors appear. Then find the three conditions from page 8 in what you just did.

Count the Cargo. *Supplies: paper and a pencil.* Genesis 6:19 and 7:2–3 give two different counting rules. Work out, in writing, why a single pair is enough for some animals and seven pairs are needed for others. The answer is in Genesis 8:20, two chapters later.

One Window. *Supplies: a cardboard box and a flashlight.* Cut a single small opening in the top of a closed box and look inside with a flashlight. That was the view for a year: light from above, nothing sideways. Ask what a family would talk about.

AGES 14–17

The Timeline Problem. *Supplies: paper and a calendar.* Using Genesis 7:11, 7:12, 7:24, 8:4, 8:5, 8:13 and 8:14, build a dated timeline of the flood from the day it started to the day Noah stepped out. Then answer the question the chart makes obvious: how long was he actually aboard, and how much of that was rain?

Scale It. *Supplies: a map app and a building everyone knows.* Find a structure in your town that is roughly 450 feet long. Photograph it. That is the footprint Noah's family and every animal lived inside for over a year, on three decks, with one window.

The Neighbor's Account. *Supplies: paper.* Write eight hundred words as one of Noah's neighbors, on the day the animals began arriving. You have watched this man build for decades. You have your own explanation for the animals. Do not let the narrator know more than the neighbor does.

Check the Science. *Supplies: the book's Appendix D and a calculator.* The foil-boat experiment in that appendix states the ark's proportions. Compute them yourself from Genesis 6:15 and compare. Then rewrite the instruction correctly in one sentence — and consider why a true story does not need help.

For the Teacher

Background you will want before a sharp fourteen-year-old asks. Every figure below has been checked against the text.

THE DIMENSIONS, WORKED OUT

300 by 50 by 30 cubits. A Hebrew cubit ran roughly 18 inches, giving 450 feet long, 75 wide, 45 high — about one and a half football fields. That makes the hull ten times longer than it is tall and six times longer than it is wide. Those two ratios are easy to reverse, and the book's Appendix D does reverse them. Have students derive them from Genesis 6:15 instead.

WAS IT STABLE?

A long, wide, flat-bottomed hull with no sail and no rudder is built for one job: staying upright and staying afloat. Naval engineers have studied those proportions and found them well suited to surviving heavy seas. Better to say the design is remarkably sound than to claim it could never capsize — the stronger claim is not one the study supports.

HOW LONG WAS THE FLOOD, REALLY?

Seven days of waiting after the door shut (7:10). Forty days of rain (7:12). Waters high for 150 days (7:24). Ark rests on Ararat in the seventh month (8:4); mountaintops visible in the tenth (8:5); ground dry in the six hundred and first year, second month (8:14). Total time aboard: over a year. The forty days everyone remembers is under a tenth of it.

WHAT WAS PITCH?

A thick tar from tree resin or petroleum, heated to liquid and worked into every seam. God specifies inside and out — two coats. The same method sealed wooden ships into the 1800s.

HOW A RAINBOW FORMS

Sunlight enters a water droplet, bends, reflects off the back, and bends again on the way out, splitting white light into its colors. Three things must be true at once: the sun is shining, water hangs in the air, and the sun is behind you. That combination exists only on the trailing edge of a storm. Note also Genesis 9:16 — God says the bow reminds *Him*.

WHY SEVEN PAIRS OF CLEAN ANIMALS?

Two of every kind preserved the species. The extra clean animals covered sacrifice and food after the flood (8:20). Noah was provisioning for a world he had no evidence would arrive.

FLOOD ACCOUNTS IN OTHER CULTURES

Dozens of ancient peoples preserved a large-flood story, and older students often hear this raised as though it undercuts Genesis. It need not. Widespread memory of an event is what you would expect if the event happened; the accounts differ sharply in who is saved, why, and what kind of God stands behind it. That difference is the interesting part — set the moral reasoning of Genesis 6:5–8 beside the others and let students see it themselves.

IF A STUDENT ASKS ABOUT EVERYONE WHO DIED

They will, and the honest answer is better than a deflection. Genesis 6:5–6 frames the flood as God's response to comprehensive violence and corruption, and says plainly that He was grieved — the language is sorrow, not temper. 2 Peter 2:5 calls Noah a preacher of righteousness, which means the warning was public and long. Say that the loss was real, that God is recorded as grieving it, and that the story does not celebrate it. Older students may sit uneasily with the answer. That is appropriate.

Professor Hoot's Quiz

Ten questions. Circle one answer for each. Scoring guide and answer key on page 10.

NAME _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 10

1. How long did Noah work on building the ark?
a) 40 days and 40 nights b) About 100 years c) The Bible does not say exactly
2. What wood was the ark built from?
a) Oak b) Cedar c) Gopher wood
3. How many of each *clean* animal went aboard?
a) Two b) Seven pairs c) Ten pairs
4. How long did the floodwaters prevail on the earth?
a) 40 days b) 150 days c) 376 days
5. Where did the ark come to rest?
a) Mount Sinai b) The mountains of Ararat c) Mount Zion
6. Which bird brought back an olive leaf?
a) A raven b) A dove c) A sparrow
7. Who shut the door of the ark?
a) Noah b) Noah's sons c) The Lord
8. How many people were saved on the ark?
a) 6 b) 8 c) 12
9. What did Noah do first after leaving the ark?
a) Planted a vineyard b) Built a house c) Built an altar
10. How many decks did the ark have?
a) One b) Two c) Three

Bonus. Roughly how long was Noah aboard the ark altogether — and why is that different from the number most people remember?

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Answer Keys and Where to Go Next

QUIZ ANSWER KEY — PAGE 9

1	c — the Bible does not say exactly	6	b — a dove
2	c — gopher wood	7	c — the Lord
3	b — seven pairs	8	b — eight
4	b — 150 days	9	c — built an altar
5	b — the mountains of Ararat	10	c — three

Bonus. Over a year — seven days waiting, forty days of rain, 150 days of high water, then months of receding (*Genesis 7:10–8:14*). The familiar forty days covers only the rainfall.

BIBLE DETECTIVE ANSWER KEY — PAGE 5

- Seven pairs of every clean animal and bird; one pair of each unclean kind (7:2–3).
- Rain for forty days and forty nights; the waters stayed high 150 days (7:12; 7:24).
- A raven, and it kept going back and forth without settling (8:6–7).
- Any three of: gopher wood, rooms inside, pitch inside and out, 300×50×30 cubits, a roof or opening finished to a cubit, a door in the side, three decks (6:14–16).
- The Lord shut him in (7:16).
- Never again to destroy all flesh by a flood; the sign is the bow in the clouds (9:11–13).
- Eight — Noah, his wife, and his three sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth with their wives (7:7; 6:10).
- Because God had not yet told him to come out; he waited for the command (8:13–16).
- An altar — and he offered clean animals he could not replace (8:20).

SCORING GUIDE

9–10 correct — Senior Correspondent. Reading at the level of detail Penny would sign off on.

7–8 correct — Field Reporter. Solid. Send them back for the two they missed and let them find the verse themselves.

5–6 correct — Cub Reporter. The story landed; the numbers did not. Re-read chapters 5 and 6.

Under 5 — Back to the Newsroom. Not a failing grade. Read the book together rather than assigning it.

WHERE TO GO NEXT — MORE FREE DOWNLOADS

- **The Six Sacred Rules of Divine Reporting** — one-page classroom poster.
- **Meet the Divine News Team** — one page, four character cards.
- **The Divine News Team: An Origin Story, David and Goliath, Daniel in the Lions' Den, Elijah and the Prophets of Baal** — Teacher's Packets.
- **52 Questions: A Year of Family Bible Conversations** — one a week, from across the series. Coming soon.

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