



WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



THE BIG IDEA

God promised us mercy.

THE BIBLE

God's Covenant with Noah: Genesis 8:15-22, 9:8-17

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC** | Paradise Praise
- ACTIVITY** | Crazy Animal Ball
- ACTIVITY** | Under the Rainbow Limbo

TEACHING TIME

- SCRIPTURE** | Genesis 8:15-22, 9:8-17
- THE BIG IDEA** | God promised us mercy.
- VIDEO** | Promise, Episode 2
- ACTIVITY** | Animals on the Ark
- PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- SNACK** | Rainbow Toast
- ACTIVITY** | Rainbow Bracelet
- ACTIVITY** | Rainbow Name
- MEMORY VERSE** | Joshua 21:45 (NIV)

PLAY TIME

- ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- ACTIVITY** | Rainbow Sand Tray
- ACTIVITY** | Noah's Ark Water Play
- ACTIVITY** | Rainbow Sorting Stations



WEEK 2

HACKS FOR TODDLERS



BY DENA KITCHENS

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Crazy Animal Ball

Tell the kids to stand in a semicircle facing you. Toss or roll the ball to each kid and tell them to toss or roll the ball back to you and then perform the action.

ACTIVITY | Under the Rainbow Limbo

Instead of having the younger kids sit out, let them try again. Tell the whole group to go under the rainbow a few times.

ACTIVITY | Animals on the Ark

Pick an animal card and ask all the kids to pretend to be the animals together. Go through as many animals as the kids know how to mimic!

SNACK | Rainbow Toast

Serve rainbow-colored cereal or animal crackers for snack.

ACTIVITY | Rainbow Name

Write the younger kids' names on the heart and then let the kids decorate the heart with multiple colors.



WEEK 2

PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

God promised us mercy.

THE BIBLE

God's Covenant with Noah: Genesis 8:15-22, 9:8-17

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Paradise Praise

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play some fun worship songs for the kids to sing and dance along to! Repeat the song "[There are Promises](#)" throughout this series, and also try out this fun one called, "[Rainbow](#)."

ACTIVITY | Crazy Animal Ball

- Welcome back to our paradise island! It's here that we're hearing all kinds of stories about God's promises! Let's start today out with a game!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write silly animal actions on a beach ball. Tell the kids to stand in a circle. Instruct them to toss the ball back and forth across the circle as you do this activity. Ask them to toss the ball to someone who has not had the ball yet.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Tell the kids to stand in a semicircle facing you. Toss or roll the ball to each kid and tell them to toss or roll the ball back to you and then perform the action.
- When you catch the ball, notice where your left thumb is. After you toss the ball to someone else, you must keep doing that silly action until the ball comes to you again or until the game is over.

ACTIVITY | Under the Rainbow Limbo

- Have you ever heard the song, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow?" Well today, we're going under the rainbow with a popular beach game called, Limbo!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Make a rainbow Limbo stick by wrapping a stick or pool noodle with crepe paper streamers in rainbow colors. Enlist two leaders or older kids to hold the rainbow stick. Tell the kids to line up behind each other. Begin with the rainbow stick about three and a half feet from

the ground and tell the kids to walk under the rainbow while bending backward. If they touch the rainbow stick, they have to sit out and cheer their friends on for the rest of the game. After the entire group has gone through, lower the rainbow stick a few inches. Continue until no one can go under the rainbow stick without touching it.

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 8:15-22, 9:8-17

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Here is one way you can summarize today's Bible story! Cue the kids to repeat some things you say or do while you tell the story.
- The Bible tells us about a time when it rained and rained so much that a huge flood covered the whole Earth. There was water everywhere! But God kept a man named Noah and his family – and a whole bunch of animals – safe from the flood on a giant boat called an ark.
- Let's pretend that we are all on the ark. We have all been on the ark for a really long time. I bet it smelled kinda gross in there [*Hold your nose.*] and some of us probably got seasick [*Pretend to be sick.*], but we know God will keep us safe from this never ending rain! [*Make rain noises by clapping hands on laps.*]
- But wait! [*Freeze.*] I think the boat stopped rocking! Someone, quick! Look out the window! Do you see land? Hooray! We are saved! Come on, everyone! Celebrate! [*Tell the kids to make different animal noises.*]
- Shh! I think I hear something. God is saying something to Noah. [*Read Genesis 9:12-16.*] Did you hear that? God's putting a rainbow in the sky to remind us that God will always show us mercy. That means that even though people might continue to mess up, God is saying that we will be given second chances. Let's celebrate God's mercy!

THE BIG IDEA | God promised us mercy.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write the Big Idea in large letters on a black poster board, using chalk markers in rainbow or neon colors. Tape large tropical leaves on top of the words. When it's time, remove the leaves one by one to reveal the Big Idea.
- There are times when we do things God doesn't want us to do. But even when we're wrong, **God promised us mercy.**

VIDEO | Promise, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's preschool [teaching video](#).

ACTIVITY | Animals on the Ark

- There are so many animals on Earth today. . . you can only imagine how many of them made it onto the ark with Noah! Let's pretend to be some of those animals.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place pictures of animals in a brown bowl or box. Tell each kid to pick a card and pretend to be that animal as they go to a designated "ark" area.

- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Pick each card and tell all the kids to pretend to be the animals together.

PRAYER

- Hi, God! Thank You for rainbows! Every time we see a rainbow in the sky, we remember how much love You love us. Help us remember to love others just like You do. Amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Rainbow Toast

- God gave us rainbows to remind us how much we are loved. Paint a rainbow on your bread and we will turn it into rainbow toast!
- **INSTRUCTIONS :** Make milk paint by mixing food coloring with small amounts of milk. Give the kids new paint brushes and encourage them to paint a rainbow on a slice of white bread. Stick the bread in a toaster or oven and hold a discussion while you are waiting for the bread to toast.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Serve rainbow-colored cereal or animal crackers for a snack.
- **After it stopped raining, what did Noah and his family do?**
- **What did they see in the sky?**
- **What promise did God make with the rainbow?**

ACTIVITY | Rainbow Bracelet

- Let's make a rainbow bracelet to remind us of God's promise. Put the beads on the pipe cleaner in the order of the rainbow – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Now, wrap the pipe cleaner around your wrist to make a bracelet. Feel the beads as you remember that God promised us mercy.
- **When did Noah see the rainbow?**
- **When do we usually see rainbows?**
- **What does the rainbow remind us?**

ACTIVITY | Rainbow Name

- **INSTRUCTIONS :** Give each kid a heart cut out of black construction paper or poster board and a few pieces of bright-colored chalk.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Write the younger kids' names on the heart and then let the kids decorate the heart with multiple colors.
- **What happens when there is no light?** That's right, it's dark and it's hard to see. That's what it's like when we make mistakes and poor choices. . . we need the light to show us the way God wants us to go.
- The good news is God helps us with that! God forgives us and helps us to find our way.
- **Use the rainbow chalk to write your name on the heart.**

- **Do you see the rainbow colors?** Did you know you can't see a rainbow if there is no light? When we obey God, God's light can shine through us. . . like a rainbow! So even when we make mistakes, we can always remember God promised us mercy!

MEMORY VERSE | Joshua 21:45 (NIV)

- Oh, no! Our treasure is lost! A storm came and blew the treasure all over the island. Let's work together to find the treasure and put it in order to make our memory verse.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the same treasure chest and cards from last week. Hide the cards around the room. Open the chest and show the kids that it is empty. Then, help the kids find the cards and place them in the correct order. Then, tell everyone to read the verse together two or three times.

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute this week's coloring page. For this week's coloring activity, consider giving the kids [rainbow pencils](#) to color with and remind them of the Bible story and the Big Idea.

ACTIVITY | Rainbow Sand Tray

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** In the bottom of a shallow tray or sand table, place sheets of bright-colored construction paper with the colors in the order of the rainbow. Cover with a shallow layer of sand. Encourage the kids to write or doodle in the sand to reveal the rainbow.

ACTIVITY | Noah's Ark Water Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill a tray or water table with a shallow layer of water. Add a plastic boat or brown bowl, plastic animals, and small dolls to encourage the kids to re-enact the story of Noah.

ACTIVITY | Rainbow Sorting Stations

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up a few stations of color sorting activities.
 - **TOY SORT:** Place sheets of construction paper – one of each color – on a table. Provide a container of various toys for kids to sort.
 - **LEGO MY RAINBOW:** Draw a rainbow on a large poster board, excluding the purple space. Tell the kids to place LEGOs on the corresponding parts of the rainbow.
 - **PLAY-DOH RAINBOW:** Make a Play-Doh mat by laminating a picture of a rainbow or placing it inside a sheet protector. Tell the kids to shape the Play-Doh to make the rainbow.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.