



THE STORY OF NOAH'S ARK

It's Noah's turn now to get the Messy Church@Home treatment.

All of the activities for this Messy Church use things that you'll have at home or in the garden – or you'll be able to find alternatives. You won't need to print out anything and you won't need to go and buy anything.

The story is rewritten in the notes or you can use your own Bible. After the story there are lots of activities plus Messy Science with Sharon and Messy Kitchen with Fee.

There'll be another Messy Church@Home in 3 weeks' time – next time it's Pentecost.

We know it's hard but you are doing a great job of staying at home and keeping everyone safe.

All the best,
Fee, Sharon and Rev Claire



This is a picture of the yarn art at Chelsea Uniting Church telling the story of Noah's Ark. Yarn artist and UCA member Elizabeth Alexandrou, working with the members of the church.

- [Click here to listen to the audio retelling \(http://manninghamuc.org/?p=4005\)](http://manninghamuc.org/?p=4005)

The story comes from the First Testament at the beginning of the Bible in the book of Genesis chapters 6-9. We have used the NRSV edition of the Bible and the Barnabas Bible (written by Martyn Payne and Jane Butcher and published by BRF), in our retelling of the story.

God was so fed up with the terrible things that were happening on earth. People were only interested in themselves and doing evil, no-one showed love and kindness apart from Noah and his family. God spoke to Noah and told him he was going to send a flood so build an ark to keep his family and wildlife safe. He told Noah how to build the ark and to start work now. This is what God said, according to Genesis 6:14-22

“¹⁴Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. ¹⁵This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. ¹⁶Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and put the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. ¹⁷For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. ²⁰Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. ²¹Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them.' ²²Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.



At Home

In Genesis 7, we find out that the animals and birds and ‘everything that creeps on the ground, ⁹two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰And after seven days the waters of the flood came on the earth.’ And then verses 17-20, ‘The flood continued for forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. ¹⁹The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; ²⁰the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep.’

It was a long time in the ark for everyone! In Genesis 8:3-12, we are told:

“ ‘the waters gradually receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred and fifty days the waters had abated; ⁴and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵The waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains appeared.

⁶ At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made ⁷and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; ⁹but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. ¹⁰He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; ¹¹and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. ¹²Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

This meant they could leave the ark and go and build homes and families. Noah build an altar on the land, gave thanks to God and God made a new promise to Noah (Genesis 9:13-17):

“ ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.’ ¹⁷God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.’

The bow in the sky is, of course, a rainbow – every time we see a rainbow, we remember the promise God made to every living thing on earth.



At Home



Manningham
Uniting Church

The Hub 20 Westfield Dr, Doncaster
manninghamuc.org; 03 9846 2012

RAINBOWS

The rainbow is a sign of hope sent by God. It's also one of the symbols of covid19 as people chalk rainbows on their driveways and fences to cheer up passers-by and neighbours.

- **Science with Sharon**

Like all great science experiments they often look better on youtube. So if you want to see some really impressive rainbow colours check out this link out too. But trust me the colours are way cooler than video shows.

Check out the rainbows in this video - Science with Sharon (<http://manninghamuc.org/?p=4005>)

- **Activity sheet**

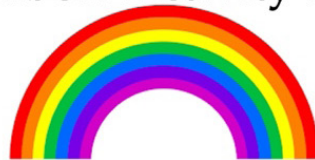
Using Bubblebath or Dishwashing Liquid blow some bubbles in the sunshine & see if you can capture the rainbows in your suds!



Grab some Chalk and brighten the pavement outside your house with Rainbows!



Rainbow Activity Page



Q: What do you call a Rainbow without any colours?
A: A Plainbow!

Print, copy or draw your own Noah's Ark with Rainbow to colour in!



Do you know the colours of the Rainbow?



Paint, draw or colour a Rainbow to stick on your front door or Mailbox as a sign of hope for your neighbours & people passing by!



Download your Noah's Ark Rainbow colouring in sheet here (<http://manninghamuc.org/?p=4005>)



At Home

- **Collage rainbow**

This activity takes time but the results are well worth it 😊 I recommend doing it over a few days as little ones can get a bit frustrated with it (even big ones actually!) but it can also be quite therapeutic.

1. Reuse whatever packaging, coloured scraps, magazines or catalogues you have at home for this one. I even used Easter egg wrappers!!

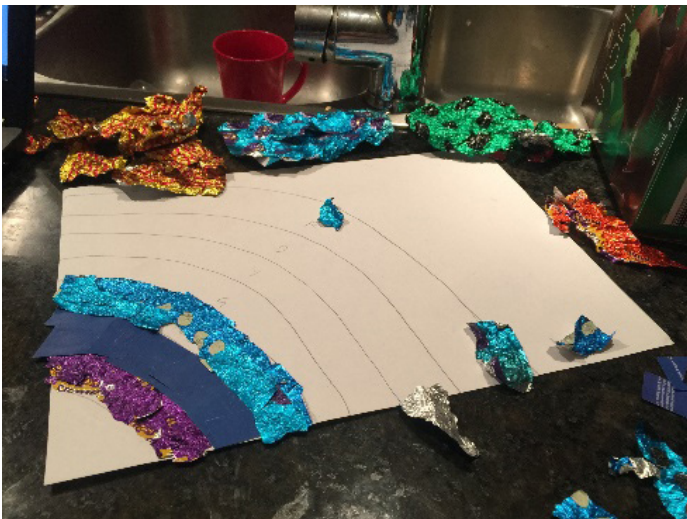
3. Fancy it up with some background, perhaps a collage cloud if you wish. You could hang it in a front window to give hope to people walking by.



2. Draw a rainbow on your paper with grey lead pencil, any size you want and any type you want. We are not looking for scientifically correct ones, whatever gives you hope.

Tear or cut your materials into little strips/shapes and glue them onto each section.

Top tip-Wash your hands a few times during rainbow as they start to get very sticky and then the collage pieces stick to your fingers not the rainbow which can get super annoying!



At Home



**Manningham
Uniting Church**

The Hub 20 Westfield Dr, Doncaster
manninghamuc.org; 03 9846 2012

ARK

The ark was built by Noah according to the instructions given to him by God – and in the ark he cared for the animals and his family until the flood subsided and they could start their lives again beneath the promise of the rainbow.

- **Make your own ark**

Make your own ark at home using what you have – sheets, chairs, blankets, toy animals. Retell the story of Noah’s ark – maybe take your rainbow too.



This is Morgan getting his ark ready with lots of hay – can you see how muddy it is? There has been a lot of good rain but it quickly turns to mud in Morgan’s paddock.

- **Egg Carton Animal Crafts - Caterpillars and Turtles**

Caterpillars

To make these crawley cute caterpillars we used

- one whole Egg Carton cut in half
- craft paper
- Sharpie Pens
- Googly Eyes
- Sticky Tape

You can use almost anything you have to create these bugs! Colour with Textas, Pencils or paints in block colours or patterns to create these creepy crawlies!

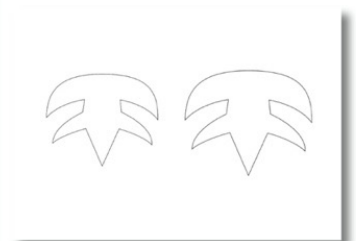


Turtles

To make these cute little swimmers we used

- single Egg cartons
- craft paper
- paint
- foam balls
- black fine liner pen
- Glue Stick

You can use pom poms or paper instead of foam balls to create the heads. Draw & cut out the template below to stick your head & body to after you paint or colour them.



At Home

- **Noah's Ark Cookies**

Check out the cookie making in this video - Messy Kitchen with Fee (<http://manninghamuc.org/?p=4005>)

Ingredients

200 grams butter room temperature
1 cup white sugar
2 tsp vanilla extract
1 egg
3 cups plain flour
2 tsp baking powder

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 180°.
2. Cream together the butter and sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer for a full 3 minutes.
3. Scrape sides and add in vanilla and egg. Mix until combined.
4. Add flour and baking powder to the bowl. Mix slowly at first gradually getting faster until the dough comes together. The texture should be like Playdoh. Add a little flour or water if needed to get it to a soft, pliable consistency.
5. Turn out onto a floured surface. Use a rolling pin and roll until about 1/2cm thick.
6. Use a cookie cutter or glass and cut out circle shapes. Cut these in half; then cut squares 1.5cm x 1.5cm and attach to the half circles to make Arks. Transfer the cookies to a baking paper covered baking tray
7. Bake at 180° for 6-8 minutes or until the centers are puffy and no longer glossy. Pull the cookies out of the oven BEFORE they start turning brown. If they turn brown, the cookie will be dry and crackery; instead of soft and chewy.

Notes

When gathering up the dough scraps, wet your hands and then knead the dough until it is soft and playdoh like again. This dough is great to work with, there is no such thing as over kneading this dough!

- **Playdough animals**

Make your own playdough using this easy recipe:

2 cups plain flour
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/2 cup salt
2 tablespoons cream of tartar
1 to 1.5 cups boiling water
food colouring

Mix the boiling water and food colouring. Mix separately the other ingredients. Add these ingredients to the boiling water and keep mixing. If the end result is a bit sticky, just add a bit more flour.

This should keep for about 6 months if you keep it in an airtight container.



At Home



**Manningham
Uniting Church**

The Hub 20 Westfield Dr, Doncaster
manninghamuc.org; 03 9846 2012

- Paper bag animals

These are soooooo cute and you can be as creative as you like with them really. A great activity for the young and the young at heart. My daughter Zoe made these and she is 14!!! She just used the link below for ideas, raided our scrap paper and craft cupboard and then came up we 3 different versions.

<https://iheartcraftythings.com/20-paper-bag-animal-crafts-for-kids.html>

If you are a hoarder like me, you may have some paper/gift bags around? They work well and are the ideas used from the website.



Or try using take away containers. If you don't have either roll a piece of paper into a cylinder, staple and Voila!!



Enjoy making your animal family and please send your creations to communications@manninghamuc.org.

You could even bring them onto your Ark 😊



At Home

PRAYER TIME AT HOME

Begin with this prayer from *Children's Liturgy of the Word, First Sunday of Advent Year A*. <http://www.liturgycentre.org.nz/>

Jesus said to his disciples ...

Be ready!

Whatever you are doing ...

Be ready!

You could be eating or drinking, just ...

Be ready!

Be ready to do what God wants, just ...

Be ready!

Like Noah was! God told Noah to ...

Be ready!

You never know what might happen, so ...

Be ready!

Be ready to do what God wants, just ...

Be ready!

Be ready to help others. Are you ready?

We're ready!

Be ready to forgive. Are you ready?

We're ready!

Be ready to be kind and friendly. Are you ready?

We're ready!

Be ready to think about others. Are you ready?

We're ready!

Be ready to say you are sorry to those you hurt.

Are you ready?

We're ready!

Be ready to accept people. Are you ready?

We're ready!

Be ready to do what God wants ...

We're ready!

Story

Now retell the story of Noah's ark using your sheet ark or any toys you have at home.

• Prayer activity

You'll need a bowl of water and some pebbles from the garden.

Take hold of a pebble.

Think of someone or something that needs prayer right now.

Who needs to hear a message of hope today?

Your pebble represents that person or situation.

Drop it gently into the water and watch the ripples move from the centre out to the edges.



When you have placed the pebbles into the bowl, pray the Lord's prayer together:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now

and for ever.

Amen.

See you next time for Messy Church@Home does Pentecost.



At Home



Manningham
Uniting Church

The Hub 20 Westfield Dr, Doncaster
manninghamuc.org; 03 9846 2012