

Noah and the ARK

This is one of the greatest stories in the Bible. Noah, was a man of great faith. God told Noah that the people of the world had sinned greatly and he was going to bring a flood over all the earth. This flood would end all human and animal life. The only animals that would be spared would be those that Noah and his family gathered into a massive ship called an Ark. This Ark would be a floating zoo.

God then made it rain for 40 days and 40 nights. When the rain stopped the entire earth was flooded for 150 days. Noah sent out a dove to seek dry land. The first time the dove returned, it came back without anything. The second time it returned with an olive leaf in its beak. Noah now knew it was safe and dry. After many months the earth was dry enough and God spoke to Noah and told him to take his family and the animals and depart the Ark.

The Ark had come to rest on Mount Ararat in what is today known as the country of Turkey. God made a covenant with Noah. He said that never again would he bring total devastation on the earth like this. God had made his point.

Question Time:

1. Why did God flood the earth?
2. How many days did it rain?
3. How many days was the earth covered in flood waters?
4. Would God ever cause a full earth flood again?

Scripture: Genesis 6:11-22 New International Version (NIV)

¹¹Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹²God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴So make yourself an ark of cypress^[a] wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. ¹⁵This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide and thirty cubits high.^[b] ¹⁶Make a roof for it, leaving below the

roof an opening one cubit^[c] high all around.^[d] Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. ¹⁷I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. ¹⁸But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. ²⁰Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. ²¹You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them."

²²Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

Next Steps: Naturally, we want you to watch the videos that come with this great story. Then please ask mom or dad if you can take a plastic pitcher full of water that you fill outside and then slowly pour it onto the ground. Watch the water seep into the ground and count how long it takes. Probably not as long as 150 days. This will give you time to think about how much water there must have been if your water poured out only took less than a minute to seep into the earth and the floodwaters took 150 days to do the same.