



Baby Moses

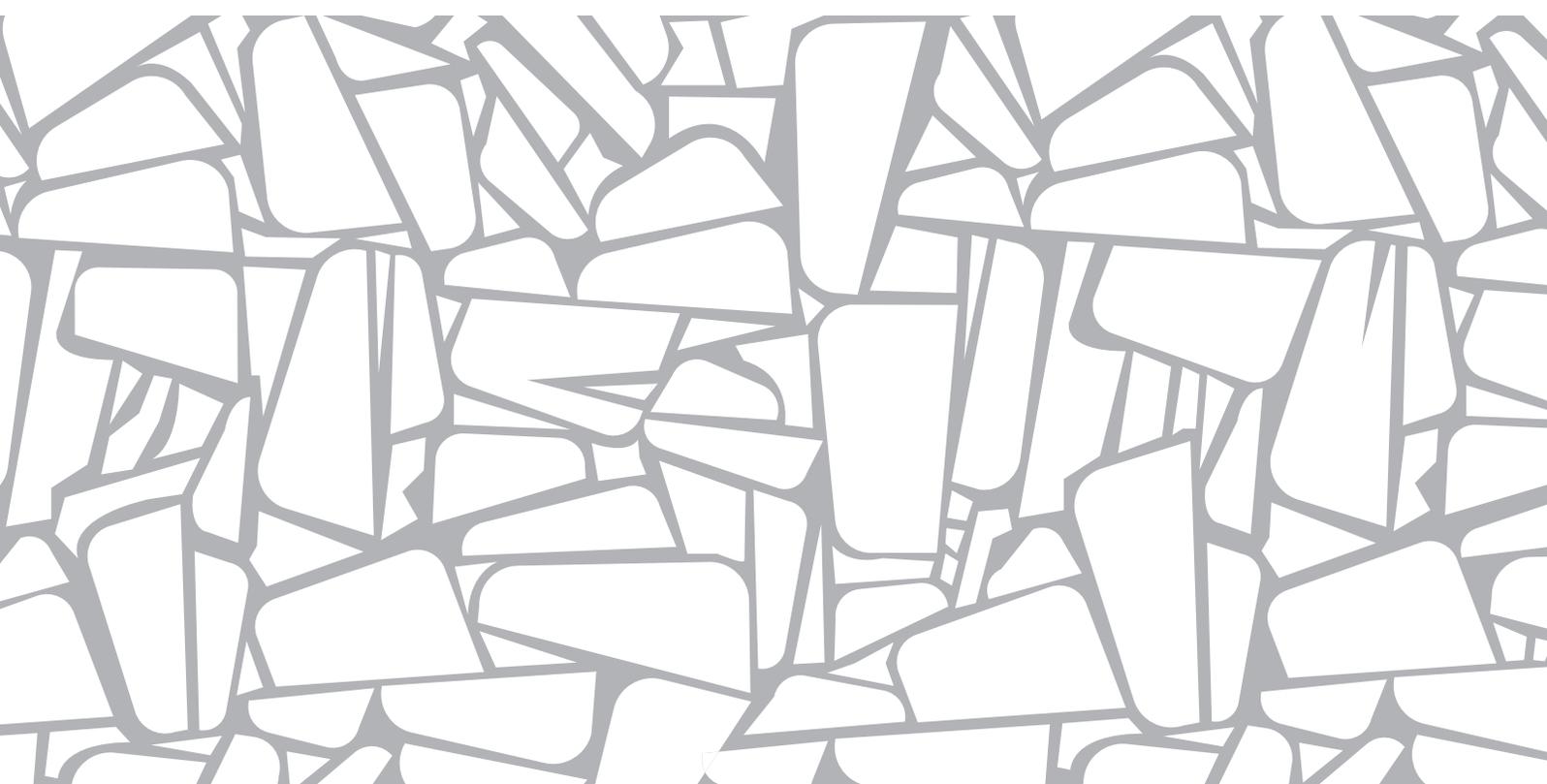




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Grades 3-4

Baby Moses

Lesson At-A-Glance

Scripture Reference
Exodus 2:1-10

Lesson Focus
God sends surprising people to help and protect us.

Bible Memory Verse
When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. Exodus 2:6

gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Arrival Activity Kids remember and share stories of helping others.	Activity Pages 	Bowl, index cards, pencils
Opening Conversation Kids build relationships and learn a Bible Memory Verse (BMV).	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	Pencils
Opening Prayer Kids pray an echo prayer.	None	None

open the bible (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Baby Moses Story Kids listen for dangers and safety in the story.	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers, Baby Moses Leaflets	Pencils
Saved by a Friend Kids read and discuss the contemporary story retelling.	Leaflets	None
Moses on the Move Kids follow a maze of Baby Moses.	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers, Leaflets	Pencils

activate faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Fun Facts Kids move around to show their answers.	Leaflets	None
Can You Picture It? Kids create a geometrically shaped picture from the Bible story.	Leaflets	Mural paper, scissors, glue sticks, masking tape

send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Closing Conversation Kids review the BMV and look at the Faith on the Go options.	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers, Leaflets	Pencils
Closing Prayer Kids pray a helping prayer.	Activity Pages 	None



Visit www.activatefaith.org for more Spark content! Watch a short Lesson Prep video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find four downloadable resources for this lesson: an Activity Page, a Family Page, and two additional in-class activities.

gather (10 minutes)

arrival activity

If some kids arrive earlier than others and you need a lesson-based activity, make copies of the downloadable Activity Page and set them out for kids to try.

Set the bowl on a table and pass out index cards and pencils to kids as they arrive.

Welcome! It's great to see you today. Today we'll explore a Bible story about God sending some surprising helpers. Think of a time you cared for someone who needed help. Write a sentence or two describing the situation on your card, but don't let anyone else know. Then fold your card and put it in the bowl. When everyone is done, we'll read each card.

Once everyone has their paper in the bowl, mix them up in the bowl. **Let's see if we can guess how each of us helped another person.** Invite each kid to draw out one card from the bowl and read it aloud. The group tries to guess who wrote it. How well do they know each other? There may be some surprises! **In each of these situations, you helped someone else. We'll hear more about God sending kids to help others.**

opening conversation

Let's hear about how your week went for you. I'm going to name some things. If it went great for you, stand up. If it didn't go so well for you, stay seated. Keep track of how many times you stand up.

Name things like school, time with friends, time with family, sporting practices or games, or other extracurriculars. Ask them to tally their numbers and give their results. You can also ask if something surprising or unexpected happened.

Pass out Spark Bibles and stickers. **Remember the papers we drew out from the bowl? Why did you want to take care of someone?** Take time to listen to their reasons for helping. **Our Bible Memory Verse today is Exodus 2:6, and it gives us one reason someone wanted to help. Let's look it up!** Help kids find Exodus in their Spark Bibles. Find and read the verse together. **What does the word "pity" mean?** (*to feel sorry for someone, to show kindness or compassion toward someone*) **Why do you think she felt this way about the baby?**

Invite kids to underline the verse and place an "I Read It" sticker by the verse. Encourage them to write today's date in the margin so they will remember when they read this verse.

God sent many people to help this baby. We'll see why this baby needed help and why some of the people who helped him were very surprising. God sends people to help us. Sometimes they are the people we wouldn't expect. God will ask us to help when there is someone who needs what we can give.

Spark Resources
Activity Page



Supplies
Bowl
Index cards
Pencils

Spark Resources
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies
Pencils

opening prayer

Use the following prayer in an echo format, with the kids echoing what you say.

Dear God,

You surprise us with your love and care.

You surprise us with who you send to help us.

Help us surprise others with your love and care.

Help us surprise others by helping them.

Amen.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

None

open the bible (15 minutes)

baby moses story

Today we're going to read about what happens to Baby Moses. We'll see that God sent some surprising people to help and protect Moses. This story is in the book of Exodus. Let's look in our Bibles and see what we can find out about Exodus. Help kids find the book of Exodus in their Spark Bibles. (*It's in the Old Testament. It's the second book in the Old Testament. It's part of the Pentateuch.*) **Exodus is a descriptive name for this book of the Bible. The word *exodus* means "going out" or "exit." This book is all about a large group of people, the Hebrews, that leaves the country of Egypt on a very long journey.**

Spark Resources

Spark Bible

Spark Bible Stickers

Leaflet

Supplies

Pencils

This story starts at the beginning of the second chapter. Let's find it together. The story starts with the first verse and ends with the tenth verse. How do you know when you get to the tenth verse? (*look for the little number 10*) Allow time for everyone to find the beginning and the end of the story.

When the book of Exodus begins, the ruler of Egypt, called Pharaoh, had just ordered a terrible thing to happen to God's people, the Hebrews. Pharaoh thought that the Hebrews were too strong and powerful, even though they were slaves. He wanted their power to stop, so he ordered that every Hebrew baby boy should be thrown into the Nile River. Baby girls were allowed to live. Kids may be surprised and distressed at such drastic and deadly measures. Take time to listen to their concerns and emphasize that Pharaoh's fear was so great he used his power to do terrible things.

As we read the story for the first time, listen for dangerous places and safe places. Invite the kids listen for these places as you ask for volunteers to read Exodus 2:1-10. Then ask them about the dangers and protections in the story.

What people and places could be dangerous and cause fear? (*Moses' home after he grew too old to be hidden. The river where many baby boys had died. Pharaoh because he wanted to harm baby boys. Pharaoh's daughter because her father had given this terrible order.*)

What people and places were safe and could offer protection? (*Moses' home where he was safely hidden until he was 3 months old. The basket where his sister watched and protected him. His mother after the pharaoh's daughter allowed her to raise Moses. Pharaoh's daughter who took pity on him and offered to raise him.*)

Now we'll hear the story again. As you listen, you can underline the dangerous places and circle the safe places when you hear them. Once you finish reading the story again, encourage kids to choose a sticker that describes their reaction to the story. They can write what they are thinking and feeling in the margin near the sticker. Does this story of Baby Moses make them wonder about something? Remind them of something? Make them want to do something?

God sent the pharaoh's daughter to help and protect Moses. She raised him in her home. Even though her father gave the dangerous order, his daughter helped the family of Moses by protecting their new baby.

Hand out the leaflets, one per kid, and discuss the I Wonder questions found on the first page of the leaflet.

saved by a friend

Egyptian Pharaohs from long ago aren't the only ones who create mean and scary situations. Let's read a modern story about how caring people can help us face the frightening situations in our lives.

Read *Saved by a Friend* on the front page of the leaflet. Discuss these questions, allowing time for kids to respond to each. **Who were the surprising helpers in both stories? Why were they surprising? Have you ever helped someone who was hurt and frightened? Were they surprised that you helped? How do you think God wants you to help others, even when they don't expect it?**

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Supplies
None

moses on the move

Direct kids to the map on pages M4-M5 of the Spark Bible that shows Egypt and the northern part of the Nile River. **The Nile River is the longest river in the world!** Use the key to illustrate how long the river is—over 4000 miles (almost 7000 km)! Kids can write this fact someplace on the map in their Bibles and place a Spark Spot sticker near the Nile River.

It would have been very dangerous to place a baby on this river. Fortunately, Moses didn't need to stay there for very long because he was spotted by the princess. See if you can remember what happened in this story by following this maze on the second page of our leaflet. If you need help, use Exodus 2:1-10.

Spark Resources
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers
Leaflets

Supplies
Pencils

After kids finish the maze, kids can read Look It Up below the maze and find Exodus 18:13. **The book of Exodus tells us a lot about what Moses did when he grew up. In this story, Moses was a judge of the people, but his father-in-law Jethro told him the job was too hard for him to do alone, so Moses chose others to be judges.** Kids can place an I Looked It Up sticker near this verse.

activate faith (15 minutes)

fun facts

Invite kids to take turns reading aloud the Fun Facts on the third leaflet page. **Let's see what else you know about rivers, kings, and building materials!** Designate three Answer Corners in your classroom space where kids can stand to show what they think is the answer to the trivia questions you'll ask. (If you Read the Fun Fact about the length of the Nile. (If you want to ask about a river in the U.S.) **How long is the Mississippi River: 2800, 3300, or 3800 miles?** (3800) (If you want to ask about a Canadian river) **How long is the Mackenzie River: 3200, 3700, or 4200 kilometers?** (4200)

Read the Fun Fact about Egyptian leaders. **After the Hebrew people exit from Egypt, they eventually will have their own kings. Which of these people was not one of their kings: David, Solomon, or Samuel?** (*Samuel*)

Read the Fun Fact about men and women kings. **What is the name of a woman who was a pharaoh of ancient Egypt: Cleopatra, Hatshepsut, or Sobekneferu?** (*Everyone is in the right corner, because all three of them were rulers!*)

Read the Fun Fact about the Nile River overflowing. **What month does the flooding usually cause the Nile River to be at its highest levels: July, September, or November?** (*September*)

Read the Fun Fact about Egyptian Gods. **What is the name of the god who looked like a falcon: Horus, Wadjet, or Bast?** (*Horus. Wadjet was the cobra god and Bast was the cat god.*)

Read the Fun Fact about bitumen and pitch. **Which of these is not used to make asphalt: crushed rock, petroleum, or gelatin?** (*Gelatin!*)

Affirm everyone's answers and encourage kids to sit down around the supplies you'll need for the next activity.

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Supplies
None

can you picture it?

Today's story has some dangerous scenes and some scenes that show people helping others. We'll vote on a scene from the story to create a picture from the shapes on the leaflet. Ask the kids to name scenes from the story, such as Moses' mother keeping him hidden in their home, Moses floating on the river in a basket, the princess finding Moses, and Moses' sister talking with the princess. Once they've named the scenes, guide them to vote for one scene to create for this activity.

Pass out scissors and direct the kids to cut out the shapes on the third page of the leaflet. **Try arranging your pieces to make a person. Who can make the most unusual-looking person? Who can make the most realistic-looking person? We can experiment a little to make a great picture of a scene from the Bible story.**

Place the mural paper and glue sticks in front of the kids. Invite them to have fun trying to arrange all the different shaped pieces together to create the scene they chose from the story. Remind them that several shapes will often be needed to create a single object in the picture. This will take a lot of cooperation on their part. They will also need to share their shape pieces to fill in where needed.

One option is to divide the picture up into sections and have individual kids or pairs work on that particular section of the picture. Once they've agreed on the picture arrangement, have them work together to glue the pieces on the mural paper. Leave space for them to title the picture. Use masking tape to display the kids' creation on the wall.

Spark Resources
Leaflet

Supplies
Mural paper
Scissors
Glue sticks
Masking tape

send (5 minutes)

closing conversation

Today we've seen how God sends us surprising people to help in dangerous situations. Who would have imagined that the pharaoh's daughter would be the one to save a Hebrew baby? Let's review the Bible Memory Verse.

Invite the kids to open their Bibles to Exodus 2:6. Read the verse together out loud. Let the kids read it again several times silently. Then ask each one to close the Bible and recite the verse from memory while the other kids follow along in their Bibles. If they miss or add a word, the rest of the group can cry "Wah!" like Baby Moses. (Make sure you give kids a chance for a do-over!)

Encourage the kids to place an I Memorized It sticker next to the verse and to write "I can help" in the margin.

Next, invite the kids to look at Faith on the Go! on the back page of the leaflet. **Let's look at some ways we can keep living today's story throughout the week.** Ask kids to take turns reading the list aloud. Encourage the kids to select at least one activity to try during the week.

Spark Resources
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers
Leaflets

Supplies
None

closing prayer

Let's pray together. When I point to you, say, "eyes, ears, mind, and heart."

Dear God,

Thank you for sending people to help us.

Give me the (point to kids) **eyes, ears, mind and heart to know who you send to help me.**

We know you want us to help others.

Give me the (point to kids) **eyes, ears, mind and heart to know who you want me to help.**

Amen.

As you say goodbye to kids, make sure they take home the leaflet and Family Page.

Spark Resources

Family Page



Supplies

None