

# VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

A Pre-K Adventure



**MY FATHER'S WORLD<sup>®</sup>**

Marie Hazell, M.A.

*Welcome! We hope you enjoy this special adventure.  
Have a wonderful, blessed year!*

*Marie and all of us at My Father's World*

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**O**n the Voyage of Discovery this year, children will discover many exciting things about the world in which we live. They'll gain academic readiness skills with the alphabet and numbers and enjoy read aloud times. They'll learn about their community – post office, fire station, church, grocery store – and make delightful science discoveries. They'll develop fine and large motor skills and increase in cognitive skills. Most important, they'll learn God's truth and be encouraged to live it in their lives.

May our children be blessed as we guide them to walk in the Truth, bringing joy to their earthly parents and to their Father.

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.”  
*3 John 1:4*

## Spiritual Growth

- Key Themes: God loves us, so we love God. We love our neighbor as ourselves.
- Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation with related hands-on activities
- Weekly Bible verses
- Character Development

## Reading and Math

- Read-aloud stories to develop reading readiness and a love for books
- Hands-on alphabet activities
- Print awareness, visual and auditory skills
- Numbers to 10, colors, and shapes

## Science and Social Studies

- Simple activities to encourage curiosity, a love for science, and an awe for God's amazing creation
- Opportunities to learn to make predictions, ask questions, observe carefully, and discuss results
- Community Helpers: post office, fire station, church, grocery store, and more as well as suggested field trips

## Art and Music

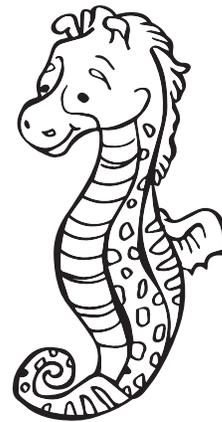
- Hands-on crafts
- Songs (on CD) for Bible memory verses

## Cognitive Development

- Creative thinking
- Problem solving
- Imaginative play

## Physical Development

- Gross motor skills: outside play, both structured and unstructured
- Fine motor skills: paint and color and draw, squeeze play dough, begin writing letters and numbers
- Health – focus on nutrition by enjoying healthy snacks



## Voyage of Discovery Basic Package

- Teacher's Manual
- Student Sheets
- Hide 'em in Your Heart
- Big Book of Things to Spot
- Crossroads of Character
- Richard Scarry's What Do People Do All Day? (2015 edition with 95 pages)
- Big Thoughts for Little People
- Over in the Meadow
- The Sailor Dog
- God's Ten Good Rules
- Alphabet Match Flash Cards
- Science Discovery Set (tweezers, magnifying glass, test tubes, and eye dropper)
- Vehicle Counters

## Also Included in Deluxe Package

- Pre-K Activity Cards
- Kids Puzzle
- Alphabet Puzzle Boards
- Number Puzzle Boards and Pegs
- Pegboard
- Lacing & Tracing Shapes
- Fit-A-Space

Also Needed: *The Preschooler's Bible* by V. Gilbert Beers (from MFW Preschool Package or purchase separately)

# Curriculum Overview

1	Creation			I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You. <i>Psalm 119:11 NIV</i>
2	Creation			Let the little children come to Me. And do not forbid them, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. <i>Matthew 19:14 NKJV</i>
3	Obedience	Aa	1	Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. <i>Ephesians 6:1 NKJV</i>
4	Perseverance	Bb	blue	Let us not grow weary while doing good; in due season we shall reap if we don't lose heart. <i>Galatians 6:9 NKJV</i>
5	God Loves the World	Cc	square	For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. <i>Romans 3:23 NKJV</i>  For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <i>John 3:16 NKJV</i>
6	Honesty	Dd	2	Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – think about such things. <i>Philippians 4:8 NKJV</i>
7	Forgiveness	Ee	red	Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. <i>Romans 12:21 NIV</i>
8	God Sees Everything	Ff	3	The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. <i>Proverbs 15:3 NKJV</i>
9	Trust	Gg	yellow	Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. <i>Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV</i>
10	The Ten Commandments		1-10 overview	Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, that it may be well with you. <i>Deuteronomy 5:16 NKJV</i>
11	The Ten Commandments		1-10 overview	So in everything you do, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. <i>Matthew 7:12 NIV</i>
12	Generosity	Hh	4	Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; whoever sows generously will also reap generously. God loves a cheerful giver. <i>2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV</i>

13	Trust, Not Fear	li	orange	When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust. <i>Psalm 56:3-4 NIV</i>
14	Strong in God	Jj	circle	I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. <i>Philippians 4:13 NKJV</i>
15	Obedience	Kk	5	Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it. <i>Proverbs 22:6 NASB</i>
16	Christmas		green	
17	Christmas		white	
18	Contentment	Ll	brown	Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink. Is not life more important than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. <i>Matthew 6:25-26, 34a NIV</i>
19	Loving Others	Mm	6	You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. <i>Matthew 5:14, 16 NKJV</i>
20	Peace	Nn	triangle	I will lie down and sleep in peace. You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety. <i>Psalm 4:8 NIV</i>
21	Jesus Grows	Oo	7	And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. <i>Luke 2:52 NIV</i>
22	God's Word	Pp	purple	Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. <i>Psalm 119:105 NKJV</i>
23	Prayer	Qq	8	Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. <i>Matthew 6:9-13 NKJV</i>
24	Treasure	Rr	rectangle	Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, where thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be. <i>Matthew 6:19, 21 NIV</i>
25	Right Actions	Ss	9	Even a child is known by his actions, by whether his conduct is pure and right. <i>Proverbs 20:11 NIV</i>

26	Love Our Neighbor	Tt	black	You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as you love yourself. <i>Matthew 22:37 NKJV</i>
27	Thankfulness	Uu	10	Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good. His love endures forever. <i>Psalms 118:1 NIV</i>
28	Praise	Vv	pink	Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna to the Son of David. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna. "This is Jesus." <i>Matthew 21:9, 11 NKJV</i>
29	God Loves Us	Ww	oval	We love Him because He first loved us. In this is love, that He loved us and sent His Son. <i>1 John 4:19, 10 NKJV</i>
30	Heaven	Xx	0	In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you. <i>John 14:2 NKJV</i>
31	Believe in Jesus	Yy	gray	Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. <i>Acts 16:31 NIV</i>
32	Treasure	Zz		Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, where thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be. <i>Matthew 6:19, 21 NIV</i>

Sample

# A Few Things to Consider

## Scheduling

The *Voyage of Discovery* is very flexible. You can begin any time of the year. Lessons are planned for five days a week. If you prefer a four day schedule, you can easily teach the Day 5 activities on other days.

The program is 32 weeks but may be condensed or lengthened (taking two days to teach one lesson) if needed.

Plan about 60 minutes for the daily activities. Add additional time for free play outside.

## The Preschooler's Bible

It was very difficult to choose the Bible storybook for this year. You wouldn't believe how many we looked at! We want realistic artwork. We don't want children thinking the Bible is a fantasy cartoon story. We want accurate stories, avoiding added content not in the Bible. Most important, we want engaging, understandable stories that children want to listen to, that God can use to change their lives. We know that God's Word, when it is understood, can transform lives.

In the end, we realized the best choice was to use the one we already chose for our preschool program, adding more content when needed in our lesson plans. Repetition is helpful, so don't worry if you used this Bible last year. As adults, we read though our Bible again and again and again. God's Word never gets old!

## Science

Science activities (Discovery Time) begin in Week 3 and focus on developing skills that are foundational for later learning. These activities were designed to do the following:

1. Encourage curiosity and a love for science. (It really is fun!)
2. Help your child grow in his ability to ask questions, make predictions (What do you think will happen?), and then carefully observe and discuss results. (What happened? How did things change?)
3. Develop an awe for God's amazing creation. (Wow! Look at how those colors changed. )
4. Develop fine motor and eye-hand coordination skills. (These are usually the weakest skills when a kindergarten child begins to read and write, so we'll focus on them this year ahead of time.)
5. Show in a practical way the reasonableness and need for following directions. (Obedience – there are reasons parents and God have rules!)

## Park Visit or Field Trip

Each week you will be encouraged to plan a park visit or other field trip for Day 5 (or another day that week if more convenient). There is space to write your plan in the lesson plan chart each week. These outings can be extended times at a nearby park that you can walk to. You might visit a nursing home monthly or weekly. If possible, plan to visit a zoo or nature center.

Some weeks the lesson plans suggest a specific community field trip to reinforce the week's learning. This information is repeated in the appendix so that you can see the year's plans at a glance and make arrangements in advance.

**Classroom:** If a field trip is not possible, plan to have community helpers visit you. Contact your local police, fire station, and ambulance service. Other options are the public health department or a dentist.

## Christmas

A special Christmas unit for the month of December is provided in the lesson plans where Weeks 16-17 would otherwise have been. These activities provide a meaningful and educational way to prepare for Christmas. Take a quick peek at the unit now, and plan to teach the Christmas unit in December. This unit is optional.

## Additional Activities

**Weekly Activities:** Beginning in Week 3, optional Additional Activities are listed at the end of each week's notes. These may be used on Day 5 or any time during the week.

**Readiness Activities:** If you would like more hands-on activities, consider the optional Simple Readiness Activities on page 230. You can prepare and use them any time of the year.

**Ocean Cookie Cutters:** If you have fish or other ocean-themed cookie cutters, try some of the ideas on page 223. These may be used any time of the year and are not scheduled in the lesson plans.

## Classroom Teachers

See the additional information and parent letters beginning on page 231.

# Preparation

- **Supplies for the Year** – Gather the following supplies. Store them in a plastic tub(s) or a handy spot close to where you plan to do activities so you can quickly find what you need. These supplies will not be listed again in the weekly lists.
  - colored construction paper, pack of white computer paper, glue, glue stick, tape, pencils, colored pencils, colored markers, child-sized scissors, regular scissors and stapler for adult use, watercolor paints (Crayola® 8-color set recommended)
  - variety of stickers, including silver or gold stars
  - index cards (any size)
  - bag of cotton balls
  - chalk for outside
  - colorful yarn (any color)
  - magazines and used gift wrap (to cut for pictures)
  - CD player – Keep *Hide 'em in Your Heart* CDs by the CD player so they're easy to find.
  - for *I'm Learning* book (ABCs and numbers) beginning in Week 3, per student:
    - 3-ring binder (Add *I'm Learning* student sheet to the binder as a cover.)
    - 25 plastic page protectors to keep completed sheets in better condition (or just 3-hole punch the student sheets as you add them to the binder this year)
  - 8 zippered quart-size plastic bags and 1 zippered gallon-size plastic bag (freezer bags are more durable) for the educational toys in the Deluxe Package (see below)
  - Vehicle Counters – Put them in a zippered quart-size plastic bag, and store with the Supplies for the Year, not with the Educational Toys.
- **Educational Toys** – Prepare the educational toys included in the Deluxe Package. Separate the Alphabet Puzzle Boards into six different sets to make the activity less overwhelming. Use six zippered quart-size plastic bags. Place four letters in each bag (five in the last two bags): ABCD, EFGH, IJKL, MNOP, QRSTU, VWXYZ. Store the six bags together in a gallon-size plastic bag.

Store the Lacing & Tracing Shapes in a quart-size plastic bag. Put all the Educational Toys and the Pre-K Activity Cards in a central location, out of younger children's reach.

For a fun surprise, gift wrap each educational toy separately and let your child have the joy of opening a new learning toy each day.
- **Book List** – If you would like more books for reading aloud, see our book list in the appendix. This is completely optional.
- **Week 1 Preparation** – Read the plans for Week 1, Day 1, and follow those preparation steps. The weekly chart is your primary lesson plan. When the chart says “see notes,” refer to the notes section on the next page.

Note: Alphabet letter activities begin in Week 3.

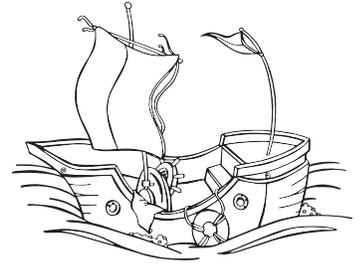
# Week 4

## Perseverance

	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 5
	Genesis 6	Genesis 7:1-16	Genesis 7:17-24	Genesis 8:1 – 9:17	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Helping Together</b> – Make Your Bed (see notes)				
Bible Verse, Story, Activity	Let us not grow weary while doing good; in due season we shall reap if we don't lose heart. Galatians 6:9 NKJV (Vol. 2, Track 7)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Noah Builds a Big Boat (Part 1)</b> – <i>The Preschooler's Bible</i> pp. 24-25 (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Noah Builds a Big Boat (Part 2)</b> – <i>The Preschooler's Bible</i> pp. 24-27 (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>God Sends a Big Flood (Part 1)</b> – <i>The Preschooler's Bible</i> pp. 28-29 (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>God Sends a Big Flood (Part 2)</b> – <i>The Preschooler's Bible</i> pp. 28-31 (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Big Thoughts for Little People – Bb</b> Pretend to buy and share a special treat. Also pretend to share toys. Bake bread (perhaps <i>banana bread</i> ) and enjoy sharing it.
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Build an Ark</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>People and Animals</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>In the Ark</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rainbow</b> (see notes)	
ABCs and More	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Voyage of Discovery Poster</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Introduce Letter b**</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pretend to Be</b> – balloon, butterfly, book, ballerina, bear, bicycle, bird (see notes)  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Letter b Snack</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Play Dough Letter and Objects – b</b> , ball, butterfly (see notes)  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Find Letter b</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Search for b Objects</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Letter b Art Activity</b> (see appendix)
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Discovery Time: Test Tubes and Eye Dropper</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Introduce Color Blue</b> (see notes) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Animal Crackers and Ark</b> – Fold brown construction paper in half; put the fold at the top. Open the ark so animal crackers can enter the ark in pairs. Enjoy snacking!	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Blue Activity: Playmat</b> (see notes)  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Voyage of Discovery Paint Card**</b> – Sit with your child and guide him how to correctly use watercolor paint.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Sequence Shades of Blue</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/>  Each week, optional Additional Activities may be added. (see notes)
Outside	<input type="checkbox"/> (see Outside Activities in appendix for ideas)	<input type="checkbox"/> Allow plenty of time for free play outdoors each day.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Outing at a park to enjoy God's creation.
Story Time	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Richard Scarry</i> – pp. 26-28 “A Voyage on a Ship”	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Richard Scarry</i> – pp. 29-31 “A Voyage on a Ship”	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Big Book of Things to Spot</i> – pp. 88-89 “Fishing Port” Point out that <i>buckets</i> and <i>boats</i> begin with letter <i>b</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Read a favorite storybook.	
Educ. Toys	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Alphabet Puzzle Boards</b> – Use ABCD bag.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Kids Puzzle</b> – Line up the KIDS in pairs.  Hint: Add a Pre-K Activity Card on days you want more activities.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lacing &amp; Tracing Shapes</b> – On colored paper, trace and cut out two horses. Use the word <i>pair</i> . Challenge: Make a pair of butterflies and color them exactly the same.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fit-A-Space</b> – Line up small shapes in pairs to enter the ark (brown paper rectangle). Count the pairs, name them (cows, lions, etc.), and make their noises. Challenge: Count by 2's.	

### Materials

- shoe box with lid (Day 1)
- animal crackers (Day 2)
- choose a letter *b* snack – Blueberry Breakfast Bake (p. 40), bananas, bread and butter, bagels, blueberries, homemade biscuits (Day 2)
- ingredients for banana bread or any kind of bread (Day 5)



### Preparation

- Make many raindrops by cutting blue paper into long strips about ¼" wide. Then stack several strips together and cut them to make many small squares. (Day 3)
- Plan a park visit or other field trip. Write your plan in the weekly chart. (Day 5)

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## Day 1

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### Make Your Bed

Suggested chores are listed for several weeks so they can more easily become habits. You may prefer other chores; modify as you see best.

### Noah Builds a Big Boat (Part 1)

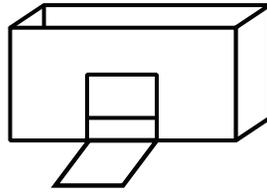
Say:

Adam and Eve had children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. There were many people on the earth. I'm sad to tell you that most of them did not love God. But there was a man who was different – Noah. Noah loved God. Noah listened to God and obeyed him. God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark. A big flood was coming, and the ark would keep him safe – and his family and the animals. Noah did just what God told him to do. Noah obeyed God and built a huge ark. He worked and worked and worked.

Read *The Preschooler's Bible*, only pages 24-25. Talk about what you see.

### Build an Ark

Use a shoebox with a lid. Cut a door in the middle of one side. Cut wooden boards (1" strips of brown paper) and glue them on the ark. Talk about perseverance (we don't quit) as you build the ark. Noah kept working for 100 years! Build your ark in several short sessions throughout the day if needed.



**Optional:** Later today, practice perseverance. Together with your child, construct a building from Legos® or blocks. Talk about how it can take a long time to finish a building project. It's important to learn to work and not quit.

## Introduce Letter *b*

For today's activity, which you will repeat each week, find the *b* student sheet and follow these steps:

1. Point to the letters at the top. Say, "This letter says 'b'. Can you say 'b'?" Remember to say the letter sound, not the letter name.
2. Select the two picture cards beginning with letter *b* from the Alphabet Match Flash Cards. Help your child glue them on the sheet.
3. Demonstrate how to write the capital letter, using your finger as a crayon. Let your child try several times, also using his finger.
4. Using a pencil or crayon, your child begins at the gray dot and carefully writes the capital letter. The goal is to stay inside the gray, but don't expect perfection! Help your child repeat this several times, using a different color each time.
5. Repeat the same procedure to write the lowercase letter.
6. When the glue is completely dry, add the page to your *I'm Learning* book.

## Discovery Time: Test Tubes and Eye Dropper

Help your child fill a test tube halfway with water. Teach him how to use the eye dropper – squeeze and let go. Have him move the water to a second test tube. Then give exploration time.

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Day 2

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## Noah Builds a Big Boat (Part 2)

Read *The Preschooler's Bible*, pages 24-27.

Then look at pages 26-27 and say:

It took more than 100 years for Noah to build this big boat called the ark. But he didn't quit. He worked and worked and worked. Finally the ark was finished. It was a huge ark – bigger than three houses!

Do you see how the animals are lined up together? Can you find two elephants? We call them a pair of elephants. Just like we say a pair of shoes. Can you find a pair of giraffes? a pair of horses? They all go in the ark so they will be safe from the big flood. Noah and his family go in the ark too. Then God shuts the door.

## People and Animals

Draw simple stick figure people and pairs of animals. Cut them out and put them safely in the shoebox ark. Add bits of paper to show that Noah brought food for the people and all the animals. Then close the door. Remind your child that God closed the door when the animals and people were safely inside.

## Pretend to Be

This activity encourages creative thinking, problem solving, vocabulary/language skills, motor skills, and alphabet skills. Pretend to be one, two, or all of the items listed. Model for your child how to be creative. Have fun acting out a little story together and talking about what is happening. For example:

- balloon – “Let’s be balloons: b-b-balloon” (say the sound, not the letter name). Hold your arms out in a big circle to resemble a balloon. Say, “It’s very windy. I’m getting blown everywhere.” Move as if blown by the wind. Continue with your story.
- Other items: banana, butterfly, book, ballerina, baseball, bear, bicycle, bird

Extra challenge: Give hints and have your child guess the item before you begin acting it out.

## Letter *b* Snack

Choose a snack beginning with letter *b*. See suggestions at the beginning of the notes. Let your child help as much as possible—finding and buying the ingredients at the store, putting groceries away at home in the correct place, washing fruit, helping measure and stir, etc.

To increase print awareness, write the name of the snack on a small card and read it to your child. Let him circle letter *b* at the beginning of the word. This is not intended to teach your child to read words; this is to help your child become more aware of letters and words.

## Introduce Color Blue

Print the word *blue* in the center of a white paper plate.

Help your child look through magazines or stacks of old gift wrap. Have him select things that are blue, cut them out, and glue them on the plate. For a child who knows colors well, it’s interesting to note the wide variety of shades of blue. Alternately, the adult may draw shapes or objects on blue paper for the child to cut out. Use a magnet to post the blue plate on the fridge for a week or so.

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## Day 3

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## God Sends a Big Flood (Part 1)

Read *The Preschooler’s Bible*, only pages 28-29. Then say:

Noah waited inside the ark for the rain to start. He waited one day, two days, three days, four days, five days, six days! Finally after seven days it began to rain. It rained and rained and rained for forty days and nights. Everything flooded. All you could see was water. The ark floated safely on top of the water. Noah and his family stayed in the ark a whole year. They must have been very busy feeding the animals and keeping everything clean.

## In the Ark

Place the shoebox ark on blue paper to represent the water. Drop small pieces of blue paper for rain. Drop a lot of paper rain. Remember it rained for 40 days!

Then use stuffed animals or just your imagination. Pretend to feed the animals (all are plant eaters) and clean their messes. Talk about perseverance (we don't quit). Noah and his family took care of the animals for one whole year!

Play an auditory memory game with animal noises. Make two animal noises and have your child copy you. Then make three animal noises (two the same and one different) and have your child copy you.

## Play Dough Letter and Objects

**Play Dough Letter:** Both you and the child make a lowercase letter *b* from play dough. Demonstrate for the child, having him follow your example step-by-step, giving help as needed. Use words to describe what you are doing. You might say:

Let's pull off a small piece and roll it like this to make a snake. That will be the straight stick part of our letter. Now let's take another piece and make it into a circle. Let's be sure our circle is round. Oops, my circle is too big, let's make it smaller. We just made a letter. Do you remember this letter? It makes the *b* sound, doesn't it?

**Play Dough Object:** Both you and the child make a ball from the play dough. Demonstrate for the child, having him follow your example step-by-step. Use words to describe what you are doing. Encourage a lot of squishing and squeezing – it's great for motor development. Repeat the process and make a butterfly.

## Find Letter *b*

Look for the week's letter in books or on a paper on which you have written a variety of letters. Your child might take a card with letter *b* on it on a car trip and look for his letter on signs or at the grocery store.

## Blue Activity: Playmat

Use the playmat and Vehicle Counters. Give directions using the word *blue* such as: Put 1 blue train on the train track. Then put 1 train that isn't blue on the train track. Put 1 blue airplane in its hangar at the airport.

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Day 4

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## God Sends a Big Flood (Part 2)

Read *The Preschooler's Bible*, pages 28-31. Then say:

Noah kept busy taking care of the animals on the ark for one whole year. He fed them and cleaned their messes. He worked hard and didn't quit. Finally the flood was gone. All the people and all the animals left the ark. Noah and his family thanked God for taking care of them. God put a beautiful rainbow in the sky for Noah.

## Rainbow

Finally it is dry outside! Open the door of the ark you made. Remove the animals, Noah, and his family. Have Noah thank God. Together with your child, draw and color a rainbow.

## Search for *b* Objects

Select an object below, and give clues to help your child find it. Example: “What do you lie in at night time? Let’s go find it.” (“Yes, *bed* starts with *b*.”)

After you find the object, write the word for the child. Example: Say, “This word says *bed*.” Point to the first letter and say “*b*.” (Say the sound, not the letter name.) The goal is to show that the letter is a part of a real word. The goal is **not** to teach your child to read the word. Search for several more objects if there is time and interest.

**Option:** Hide objects in a pillowcase and give clues until your child guesses correctly. For variety, let him reach into the pillowcase and guess the object without looking. Larger items that won’t fit in a bag are marked with an asterisk.

Objects: banana, balloon, book, ball, Band-Aid, bell, belt, bib, block, bottle, bowl, brush, bracelet, boot, bear (toy)

\*basket, blanket, bed, bicycle

## Sequence Shades of Blue

Note: If you used our preschool program, *All Aboard the Animal Train*, you may occasionally recognize an activity from that program. This is one of those. We’ve included a few that were too good to miss. Children learn a lot from repetition, so even if you’ve already done this, try it again now that your child is a year older.

Set four clear glasses in a line on the table. Put 2 cups of water in a large jar (or clear mixing cup). Add 1 drop of blue food coloring and stir. Pour about ½ c. of the blue water into one of the glasses.

Add 2 more drops of food coloring to the jar and stir. Pour about ½ c. of the blue water into a second glass.

Add 2 more drops of blue food coloring to the jar and stir. Pour about ½ c. into a third glass.

Add 2 more drops of blue food coloring to the jar and stir. Pour the remaining water into a glass.

Talk about light blue and dark blue. Mix the order of the glasses. Help your child put them in the correct sequence from light to dark blue.

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## Additional Activities

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### Animal Pairs

Fold a large sheet of brown paper in half to form a long narrow rectangle. This is Noah’s ark. Find two identical stickers of a number of animals. Open the ark and add sticker animals in pairs inside the ark. Use the word *pair*.

## Blue Activities

If your child needs extra practice:

- Give your child a small blue paper square to hold. Go on a color hunt, finding five things that are blue. Put them in a pile to talk about.
- Have him wear something blue each day all week.
- Serve blue foods. Choose from blueberries, blueberry juice, blue corn chips, blueberry pancakes, blueberry muffins, yogurt parfait (layers of yogurt, blueberries, and granola).

## Blueberry Breakfast Bake

Work together with your child to prepare this delicious baked oatmeal dish. Preheat oven to 375°. Grease an 8" square pan. Talk about the shape of the pan. Stir to mix in a large bowl:

- 2 ½ c. rolled oats (not quick cooking)
- 1 t. baking powder
- 1 t. ground cinnamon
- ½ t. nutmeg
- ½ t. salt

Pour oat mixture into the pan. Add evenly on top and press into the oats with the back of a spoon:

- 2 c. blueberries, fresh or frozen

Mix together in a bowl:

- 2 c. milk
- 2 T. oil
- 1 egg
- ½ c. 100% maple syrup
- 1 t. vanilla extract

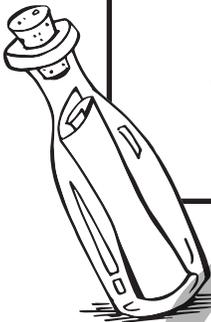
Pour liquid over the oats and blueberry mixture. Bake 35-40 minutes, until light golden brown. Cut into nine squares and count them. Talk about the shape of each serving. Serve warm in bowls with milk.



## Message from Marie

The time and effort you spend each day as you work with your child on Helping Together tasks can reap huge benefits later, according to a study in *World Teen* May/June 2015.

What's the key predictor of success in adulthood? If you guessed getting good grades or playing a sport in high school, guess again. According to an article in *The Wall Street Journal*, it's doing household chores. In 2002, Professor Marty Rossman analyzed data from about 84 kids. They were followed from preschool through their mid-twenties. Her research found that kids who started chores at an early age were the most successful. They had better relationships with family and friends, did better in school and their careers, and were better able to manage taking care of things without help.



# Week 5

## God Loves the World

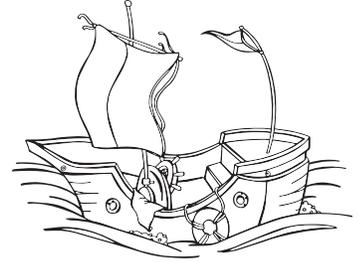
	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Day 5
	John 3:16-17	Genesis 9:18-19, 10:32-11:9	Genesis 12:1-9	Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7	
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Helping Together – Make Your Bed</b>				
Bible Verse, Story, Activity	For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 NKJV For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16 NKJV (Vol. 1, Track 18)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>God Loves All People</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Tower of Babel</b> – <i>The Preschooler’s Bible</i> pp. 32-35 (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Abram Moves to a New Land</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>When Isaac Is Born</b> – <i>The Preschooler’s Bible</i> pp. 36-39 (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Big Thoughts for Little People – Cc</b> Pretend to fall and skin your knees. Let your child comfort you and put on (real) band-aids. Make a card for someone who is sick.
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Listen to Languages</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Listen to Languages</b> – Continue from yesterday.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Moving to a New Land</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Baby Pictures</b> – Look at family baby photos. Talk about how precious each person is.	
ABCs and More	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Voyage of Discovery Poster</b>  <b>Introduce Letter c**</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pretend to Be</b> – caboose, caterpillar, clown, clock, castle, cow, cap, crocodile, cat  <b>Letter c Snack</b> – Write name of snack on a card. Have your child circle the first letter.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Play Dough Letter and Objects</b> – c, cookie, cat  <b>Find Letter c</b> – in books, on signs, on food boxes, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Search for c Objects</b> (see appendix)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Letter c Art Activity</b> (see appendix)
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Discovery Time: Tweezers</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Introduce Square</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>I’m Learning Book**</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Square Activity</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outside	<input type="checkbox"/> (see Outside Activities in appendix for ideas)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Park or Field Trip</b>
Story Time	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hello!**</b> (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Big Book of Things to Spot</b> – pp. 56-57 “The Rice Fields” Notice things different from how you live (oxen, rice paddies, donkeys and carts, different clothes).	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hello!</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Read a favorite storybook.</b>	
Educ. Toys	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Kids Puzzle</b> – Talk about how the KIDS look similar or different. Talk about colors – people have different color skin, but do real people have blue or green skin? blue or green eyes? Complete the puzzle.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Alphabet Puzzle Boards</b> – Use ABCD bag.  Reminder: Besides doing the puzzles, you can use a different Pre-K Activity Card each week.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fit-A-Space</b> – Find all the discs with a square. What color are the discs? Remove all the small shapes. Can you find the squares that fit in these discs? Can you fill the discs with other shapes?	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lacing &amp; Tracing Shapes</b> – Put two shapes in a pillowcase: the circle and square. Can your child find the square using only the sense of touch? Add 2-4 different shapes; have your child find the square.	

# Week 5 Notes

## Cc – Square

### Materials

- choose a letter *c* snack – carrots and cauliflower with dip (p. 47), cantaloupe, coleslaw, crackers (with cheese or peanut butter), make cornbread or cookies (Day 2)
- family baby photos – If not available, use baby pictures from books or the Internet. (Day 4)



### Preparation

- Read “Listen to Languages” in Day One notes and prepare as needed. (Day 1)
- Cut about ten squares from colored paper – different sizes and colors – for a hiding game. (Day 2)
- Plan a park visit or other field trip. Write your plan in the weekly chart. (Day 5)
- Looking ahead: You will need an empty paper towel tube for Week 6 to make a spyglass.

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## Day 1

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### God Loves All People

Say, “God loves the whole world. He loves everyone.” Have your child name people he knows, one by one. After each name, answer “God loves him (or her).”

**God Loves All People poster:** In the middle of a large sheet of paper, write “God loves all people.” Help the child cut out pictures of people from magazines (or printed from the Internet) and glue them to the poster using a glue stick. (Hint: Draw an oval around the person to show your child where to cut.) Talk about how the people are similar and how they are different from each other. God loves us all!

### Listen to Languages

Discuss with your child that we speak the English language, but many people speak different languages. Give him opportunities today and tomorrow to hear other languages. Try at least one of these ideas:

- Speak words you know in other languages.
- Watch a familiar DVD in Spanish (see the set up at the beginning of the DVD).
- Borrow a children’s book from the library – written in Spanish with a CD to listen along.
- Briefly watch a non-English television show (if available).
- On the Internet, find [jesusfilmmedia.org](http://jesusfilmmedia.org) and watch a very short part of the Jesus film in a non-English language.

## Introduce Letter c

You'll do the same activities each week for ABCs, so you'll soon become familiar with them. We won't include detailed instructions from this point on. Refer to the appendix for detailed directions as needed.

## Discovery Time: Tweezers

Put cotton balls, a cup, and a bowl on the table. Give directions: Use tweezers to put one cotton ball in the cup. Put one cotton ball next to the bowl. Etc. Then give exploration time.

## Hello!

You will make a little book using three student sheets. It should be interesting for your child to watch you, and it might inspire him to make his own book sometime!

The adult cuts apart the pictures. Place the cover (four children saying hello) on top, then the boy from the U.S., and then the other children. The globe is at the end, followed by the back cover (four children saying good-bye). Staple the pages near the left edge to form a small book.

Explain that this book has children from many different countries. The first time through, read only the "hello" bubbles. (Just do your best to pronounce the words!) Then begin at the back of the book and go forward, reading only the "good-bye" rectangles at the bottom of the page.



## The Tower of Babel

Read *The Preschoolers Bible*, pages 32-35. Then look at the pictures again and say:

A long, long time ago everyone spoke the same language, so they could all talk to each other and understand each other. Look carefully at the people in this picture. What do you think they are doing?

They are building a tall, tall tower. Do you see how high it is? These people weren't thinking about God. They didn't want God to tell them what to do. God knew the tower was a bad idea. So He did an amazing thing. He changed the people's language. Before, everyone talked the same. Now people spoke different languages. They couldn't understand each other. They couldn't work together to build the tower. So, the Tower of Babel was never finished.

## Introduce Square

**Preparation:** Cut about ten squares from colored paper – different sizes and colors. Hide the shapes in a room. Keep one to show your child.

**Find the Shapes Game:** Show your child the square and tell him it is a square. Squares have four straight sides: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4. Let your child look for the squares you have hidden. Give him clues for those that are difficult to find. Have him say "I found a square" each time he finds a shape.

## Day 3

### Abram Moves to a New Land

Today's story introduces Abram. (That was Abraham's name before God changed it). You won't read from *The Preschooler's Bible* today. Just look at the picture on page 36 and say:

Do you remember yesterday's story about the people building the Tower of Babel? Those people didn't want to listen to God. But I'm glad to tell you about a different man, named Abram, who loved God.

God told Abram to go to a new place. God told him to leave his house and his city and move to a new place. So Abram took his family and some other people to help them. There were no cars or trucks long ago. They had to walk or ride camels or other animals. Abram loved God so he obeyed God even when it was hard.

### Moving to a New Land

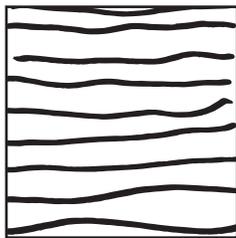
Dramatize the story of Abram's move to a new land. Events to include:

- God tells Abram to go.
- Abram prepares. (Gather food and water for the trip – no McDonald's to stop at! Put pajamas and a few clothes in a pillowcase.)
- Abram obeys and goes on the journey. (Walk outside for a "long" time.)
- Abram arrives and sets up a tent. (Put a sheet over a table or two lawn chairs outside.)
- Eat your food in the tent and talk about obeying God in everything.

### I'm Learning Book

Today's student sheet will help develop fine motor and eye-hand coordination skills. Read the student sheet together and talk about squares. How many lines does a square have? 1 – 2 – 3 – 4. All the lines are straight. What color is the square?

Have your child use a blue crayon or colored pencil. Show him how to draw a line straight across at the top of the shape. He should always start on the left line and stop when he reaches the right line. Have him draw a second line very close to his first line and then continue to draw lines left to right until the square is filled.



Put the finished paper in the *I'm Learning* book. Keep ABC pages in order at the front of the book and these number/shape pages in order at the back.

# Day 4

## When Isaac Is Born

Say:

Do you remember Abram? God changed his name to Abraham. Abraham loved and obeyed God. Today I'll tell you about something special that happened to Abraham.

Read *The Preschooler's Bible*, pages 36-39. Then close the book and say:

I'm going to tell you more about how Abraham and Sarah got their new baby. It's pretty amazing. God came to them and ate with them and told them some good news. What would you think if God came and ate with us? Here's a true story about God visiting Abraham.

One hot summer afternoon Abraham was sitting by the entrance to his tent. ... Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. He quickly ran to meet them, bowed with his face to the ground, and said, "Please come to my home. ... Let me get you some food to give you strength before you leave. ..."

"Thank you very much," they answered. ...

Abraham quickly went to his tent and said to Sarah, "Hurry! Get a large sack of flour and make some bread." After saying this, he rushed off to his herd of cattle and picked out one of the best calves, which his servant quickly prepared. He then served his guests some yogurt and milk together with the meat.

While they were eating, he stood near them under the trees, and they asked, "Where is your wife Sarah?"

"She is right there in the tent," Abraham answered.

One of the guests was the LORD, and he said, "I'll come back about this time next year, and when I do, Sarah will already have a son."

Sarah was behind Abraham, listening at the entrance to the tent. Abraham and Sarah were very old, and Sarah was well past the age for having children. So she laughed and said to herself, "Now that I am worn out and my husband is old, will I really know such happiness?"

The LORD asked Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Does she doubt that she can have a child in her old age? I am the LORD! There is nothing too difficult for me. I'll come back next year at the time I promised, and Sarah will already have a son."

The LORD was good to Sarah and kept his promise. Although Abraham was very old, Sarah had a son exactly at the time God had said. Abraham named his son Isaac (Genesis 18:1-14; 21:1-3 CEV).

## Square Activity

Working together, use a table knife to cut one large square from play dough. Cut it into four small squares, and count them. Make many different sizes of squares.

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## Additional Activities

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### Carrots and Cauliflower with Dip

Mix together and put in the refrigerator:

½ c. plain yogurt

¾ c. mayonnaise

1 t. dried parsley

1 clove garlic, crushed

1 t. minced onion

½ t. salt

dash of pepper

Serve with raw veggies for dipping: carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, and/or pepper slices.

Sample

# Classroom Information

The following information and parent letters are for those teaching a group of children.

1. Purchase one Voyage of Discovery Deluxe Package per room; it can be reused each year. The teacher uses the set of Student Sheets in the package to demonstrate activities.
2. Purchase Student Sheets and Alphabet Match Flashcards – one per student.
3. Also purchase additional Science Discovery Sets and Vehicle Counters.
4. You can do almost all activities as written; you might modify a few based on the size of the group and do them in small groups. For example: Modify the chores to fit your classroom routine; you might send home a parent letter about age-appropriate chores.
5. Send home a parent letter at the beginning of the year to introduce the program and provide a curriculum overview (see the next four pages).
6. Send parent letters weekly (or monthly) to highlight the goals and activities you have completed (see sample and blank master).

Hints for photocopying the parent letters:

Make one master copy; cover the spiral while photocopying or cut it off your sheet afterwards. Add your signature and any additional notes to your parents in the white spaces, and then make copies for all parents.

# Voyage of Discovery

Dear Parents,

Our class will enjoy a hands-on learning adventure this year, using the *Voyage of Discovery* curriculum from My Father's World. Our goals include:

## Spiritual Growth

- Key Themes: God loves us, so we love God. We love our neighbor as ourselves.
- Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation with related hands-on activities
- Weekly Bible verses
- Character Development

## Reading and Math

- Read-aloud stories to develop reading readiness and a love for books
- Hands-on alphabet activities
- Print awareness, visual and auditory skills
- Numbers to 10, colors, and shapes

## Science and Social Studies

- Simple activities to encourage curiosity, a love for science, and an awe for God's amazing creation
- Opportunities to learn to make predictions, ask questions, observe carefully, and discuss results
- Community Helpers: post office, fire station, church, grocery store, and more as well as suggested field trips

## Physical Development

- Gross motor skills: outside play, both structured and unstructured
- Fine motor skills: paint and color and draw, squeeze play dough, begin writing letters and numbers
- Health – focus on nutrition by enjoying healthy snacks

## Art and Music

- Hands-on crafts
- Songs (on CD) for Bible memory verses

## Cognitive Development

- Creative thinking
- Problem solving
- Imaginative play



## *Voyage of Discovery*

Dear Parents,

This week we learned about  
obedience

Letter of the Week  
**Aa**

Concept  
1 (one)

Memory Verse  
I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You.  
Psalm 119.11

We learned about the Garden of Eden and were sad when we learned about that tricky snake and how Adam and Eve didn't listen to God.

We've been enjoying our outside time. Sometimes we do lessons outside and sometimes we just explore and play.

One of the books we really enjoyed this week was *Over in the Meadow*. We noticed that the animal babies in this book are careful to obey their mamas.

Looking forward to a great year,

P.S. If you hear a sweet little voice at home or in the car singing new songs, you may be hearing the memory verses we are learning. Each week we learn a new song from *Hide 'em in Your Heart (Volumes 1 and 2)* by Steve Green. If you want to sing along, consider getting a copy of this CD for yourself.



# *Voyage of Discovery*

Dear Parents,

This week we learned about

Letter of the Week

Concept

Memory Verse

Sample

