

# Explore It FOR LEADERS



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## ESCAPE ACROSS THE RED SEA

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**📖 Exodus 13:18,21-22; Exodus 14:5-8,10-28,31 The way out of Egypt**

**🎯 Aim: To reflect on how God appears to you**

In today's session we join the Israelites desperately trying to escape slavery in Egypt. Through their story we learn that God is faithful as he guides them through the wilderness with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. God appears to them in many ways and guides them to safety through the parting of the Red Sea.

Each child will need:

- A range of craft resources – see Action It
- Bible verse wristband
- A prayer from the Prayer handout
- Explore It Ideas handout

You will need:

- To watch *God parts the Red Sea* by Willa's Arts and Crafts and perhaps make your own version, adapted if necessary – see Action It  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDil7zAbhkY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDil7zAbhkY)

## Start It

**🗣️ Say:** In our story today, the Israelites tried to escape from their life of slavery in Egypt.

**🗣️ Say:** For our starter you are going to watch the clip of a group of chickens trying to escape from the horrible farmers, and then answer questions about what you have seen. You will get a point for each question you answer correctly.

## Video

*Chicken Run (2000) Official trailer by ChickenRunMovie (2:21)*

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEOtT7hUcDs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEOtT7hUcDs)

1. What is the name of the farm? Tweedy's Farm
2. How many dogs are guarding the farm? Two
3. What plan does the Scottish chicken come up with to escape? To go over the wire in a catapult
4. What is the name of the American rooster that comes to their rescue? Rocky
5. What machine do the Tweedys create to help them make money? A chicken pie machine
6. What does Rocky try and teach the chickens to do? Fly
7. Why doesn't Babs, the knitting chicken, want to be a pie? She doesn't like gravy

## Sing It

**🗣️ Say:** Our memory verse for this month is found in the story we will hear later. The Israelites faced an uncertain future, but Moses gave them these words of reassurance.

## Memory verse

**'You will only need to remain calm. The Lord will fight for you.'**

— (Exodus 14:14 *ICB*)

Give each member of the group a memory verse wristband and practise saying it together. The children could create actions to go with the verse to help them remember it.

**Say:** Just like our memory verse, today's song reminds us that we are not alone. When we feel afraid, we can always remember that God is with us.

'I won't be afraid' Cross Culture Norway VBS Music Video by Lifetree Kids (2:40)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhAH2zU8UiU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhAH2zU8UiU)

## Tell It

**Say:** Our story for today is found in the Old Testament book of Exodus. We join the Israelites as they desperately try to escape their life of slavery in Egypt.

**Say:** The main character in our story today is Moses. In the first chapter of Exodus, we discover that the king commanded all the baby boys to be killed. To save his life, Moses' mother wrapped him up, placed him in a basket and kept him safe in the tall reeds of the River Nile. Let's watch the clip to find out what happened next.

## Video

*Moses and the Red Sea* Stories of the Bible by Saddleback Kids (4:24)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5Sj-ZotsXw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5Sj-ZotsXw)

**Watch: 0:00 to 1:34.** 'God led them by a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day.'

### Ask:

- Where did Moses grow up?
- Why did Moses run away from Egypt?
- What did God call Moses to do?

**Say:** There were ten plagues in Egypt until the Pharaoh finally gave in and told the Israelites they could leave.

**Ask:** What did the Israelites take with them?

(The bones mentioned belonged to Joseph, whom we heard about in June, with his amazingly coloured coat.)

**Say:** In Exodus 13:20-22 we discover how God led the Israelites to safety.

### Read:

**'The people of Israel left Succoth and camped at Etham. Etham was on the edge of the desert. The Lord showed them the way. During the day he went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud. And during the night the Lord was in a pillar of fire to give them light. They could travel during the day or night. The pillar of cloud was always with them during the day. And the pillar of fire was always with them at night.'**

— (Exodus 13:20-22 *ICB*)

### Ask:

- What do you think it would have been like to see God clearly guiding the people forward in such a dramatic way?
- In what way do you think it helped the people to keep trusting God?
- Would you like God to guide you in a similar way? What would that be like?

**Watch: 1:35 to 2:16.** 'Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness?'

**Ask:** How did Pharaoh react when he found out that the Israelites had escaped?

**Say:** As the Egyptian soldiers approached the camp, the Israelites began to panic.

### Read:

**'The Israelites saw the king and his army coming after them. They were very frightened and cried to the Lord for help. They said to Moses, "What have you done to us? Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in the desert? There were plenty of graves for us in Egypt. We told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone! Let us stay and serve the Egyptians.' Now we will die in the desert.'"**

— (Exodus 14:10-12 ICB)

### Ask:

- Why do you think the Israelites wanted to go back to a life of slavery with the Egyptians?
- How do you think Moses felt when the people started to complain about their situation?

**💬 Say:** Sometimes, when we are uncertain about the future, it can be tempting to stick with what we know, rather than trust God to take us into the unknown. Moses reassured the people with the words of our memory verse for this month. Let's see if you can remember it.

### Memory verse

**'You will only need to remain calm. The Lord will fight for you.'**

— (Exodus 14:14 ICB)

### Watch: 2:17 to 4:24.

### Ask:

- What amazing miracle happened when Moses raised his stick over the water?
- How did the Israelites escape?
- What happened to the Egyptian soldiers?
- How do you think this event changed the way the Israelites viewed God? Do you think it made them trust God more? If so, how?

### Read:

**'When the people of Israel saw the great power that the Lord had used against the Egyptians, they feared the Lord. And they trusted the Lord and his servant Moses.'**

— (Exodus 14:31 ICB)

**💬 Say:** The story of the Israelites' escape from Egypt reminds us that we serve an amazing, powerful God who can be trusted.

## Action It

The clip below is only for the leader's use to explain how to create the basic parts of the craft project. It may be useful to attempt your own version prior to the session so that the children can see what they are making.

*God parts the Red Sea* by Willa's Arts and Crafts

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDil7zAbhkY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LDil7zAbhkY)

You can adapt this activity depending on the time and resources you have available. The aim is to create a 'Red Sea' that parts to reveal the memory verse for this month. In the clip a lot of time is spent painting the different elements of the craft project. You could speed up this activity by using pre-cut coloured paper and giving the children a card version of Moses to cut out.

## Pray It

**💬 Say:** In today's story God guided the people through the wilderness with a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night. God guides us in lots of different ways, and although we may not have the same dramatic experience as the Israelites, he walks with us every day.

**Ask:** How does God guide you to trust and follow him?

**Say:** Our memory verse for this month reminds us that we can stay calm and trust in God as he is always with us.

Give each child a copy of the following prayer, from the Prayer handout. Read it together as a group and then encourage the children to use it in their prayer time at home.

**Dear God,**

**Thank you that no matter what I face, you are always with me. Help me to trust you in the good times and the bad times. When things are difficult, remind me of all the ways you have been faithful to me in the past. Help me to stay focused on you, rather than moaning and complaining like the Israelites. Help me to remain calm, certain that you are with me every step of my journey.**

**Amen.**

## Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

# Explore It

## IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

AUGUST  
SESSION 01

### ESCAPE ACROSS THE RED SEA

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🎯 Aim: To reflect on how God appears to you

## FOR ME



### Discover

In this week's session we briefly mentioned what happened to Moses when he was a baby. Watch the clip to discover the full story.

*Baby Moses* Stories of the Bible by Saddleback Kids

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=hI9rDikU-FM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hI9rDikU-FM)

## TOGETHER



### Share

In this week's session we watched the trailer from the animation classic *Chicken Run*. Grab some popcorn and have a movie night with the people at home to join in the adventures of Ginger, Rocky and all the other chickens at Tweedy's Farm.



### Song for the week

'I won't be afraid' Cross Culture Norway  
VBS Music Video by Lifetree Kids (2:48)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhAH2zU8UiU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhAH2zU8UiU)



### Memory verse

**'You will only need to remain calm.  
The Lord will fight for you.'**

— (Exodus 14:14 ICB)

### KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive)

*Kids Alive!* The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!

