

Learn by Doing

Choice

Cross the Red Sea

Reenact the story of Moses leading the children of Israel out of Egypt. The story pictures the way the Lord leads us away from bad choices to safety.

1. Have you ever been to the sea or the ocean? Have you run in the crashing waves? Or turned your back against the wind?
2. We are going to act out the story of the Lord helping the children of Israel to cross the Red Sea. The Lord had led the children of Israel out of Egypt to the sea so that he could free them from the Egyptians by means of a big miracle.
3. Assign key roles. *Note:* This play offers opportunities for a larger group of children. If you have a small group, you might want to have children be both Israelites and Egyptians at different points in the script.
4. *Optional:* hand out costumes.
5. Get the children in the starting positions with the children of Israel camped next to the Red Sea and the Egyptians standing at the side of the room, ready to follow them. Act out the story using the *Cross the Red Sea Script* (pp. 2-3).



Materials Needed

copies of *Cross the Red Sea Scripts* pp. 2-3, space for acting, rod for Moses, blue plastic tablecloth or 2 blue sheets for the Red Sea
optional: costumes, e.g. large t-shirts, scarves, shawls, etc.

Prepare in Advance

Gather props and costumes. Arrange your classroom so there is enough space to set up a Red Sea that can be parted. Print the script.

New Church Concept

East Wind

'The east' means the good of love and charity.... The good of love and charity is in origin very gentle, and consequently is also such in its movements when it passes into heaven. But when it comes down into hell it becomes rough and fierce, because the inhabitants of hell make it so. *Arcana Coelestia 7679*

Cross the Red Sea Script

Characters: Speaking: 2 Narrators, Moses, Pharaoh, Israelite; non-Speaking: Israelites, Egyptians, Angel, Pillar of Cloud, people to move the Red Sea

Props: Rod for Moses, blue plastic tablecloth cut in half lengthwise or two blue sheets to represent the Red Sea

Optional Costumes: large t-shirts, scarves, shawls, etc.

Set-up: Arrange the room so there is space to set up a Red Sea that can be parted (separated and held up at each end so that it stands up, creating walls on each side as the children of Israel walk through).

1st Narrator:

Moses, children of Israel, pillar of cloud

The children of Israel went out with boldness.

Moses and the children of Israel follow the pillar of cloud out of “Egypt” and march to the Red Sea.

2nd Narrator:

Pharaoh, Egyptians

The Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and overtook them by the sea.

Pharaoh and the Egyptians leave “Egypt” and follow the children of Israel to the sea.

1st Narrator:

Moses, children of Israel

And the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and said to Moses,

Children of Israel point to the Egyptians and act afraid.

Israelite:

Children of Israel, Moses

“Why have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than die in the wilderness.”

Children of Israel surround Moses and gesture complaints.

Moses:

Children of Israel, Moses

“Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord. For you shall see the Egyptians no more. The Lord will fight for you. You shall hold your peace.”

Moses speaks to the children of Israel.

2nd Narrator:

Children of Israel, Moses

“Tell the children of Israel to go forward. Lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and the children of Israel shall go through the sea on dry ground.”

Moses listens to the Lord. The children of Israel look at Moses.

1st Narrator:

Pillar of Cloud, Angel of God

And the Angel of God moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud stood behind them, between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. It was a cloud and darkness to one, and gave light by night to the other.

Pillar of Cloud and Angel of God walk from the front of the group to the back of the group.

Cross the Red Sea Script *continued*

2nd Narrator: Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

Moses, Red Sea

Moses stretches his rod over the Red Sea. The Red Sea “parts”. The children move the sheets apart and stand them up to create 2 walls.

1st Narrator: So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall on their right hand and on their left.

Moses, children of Israel, angel, pillar of cloud

Moses and the children of Israel cross the Red Sea, followed by the Angel and the Pillar of Cloud.

2nd Narrator: And the Egyptians went after them into the sea. In the morning the Lord looked down upon the army of the Egyptians, and He troubled it. He took off their chariot wheels, so that the Egyptians said,

Pharaoh, Egyptians

Pharaoh and the Egyptians start to cross the Red Sea but stop in the middle.

Egyptian: “Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians.”

Pharaoh, Egyptians

Pharaoh and the Egyptians turn back and try to get away.

1st Narrator: “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen.”

*Children of Israel,
Moses*

Moses listens to the Lord.

2nd Narrator: And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the sea returned while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. The waters covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not one of them remained.

*Children of Israel,
Moses*

Moses stretches out his hand over the sea. All Egyptians leave the sea and lie down on the shore. The sea settles back down again on the ground.

1st Narrator: So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Thus Israel saw the great work which the Lord had done in Egypt; so the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.

*Children of Israel,
Moses*

Moses and the children of Israel kneel to thank the Lord and raise their hands in praise of the Lord.