

Learn by Doing

Choice

Crossing 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 and toward 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:* help the children dress in costumes.
5. Start with the children of Israel camped next to the Red Sea and the Egyptians standing at the far side of the room, ready to follow them. Act out the story using the script provided (p. 2).
6. If there is interest and time, repeat the story, either with the same actors or with children changing roles.



Materials Needed

Crossing the Red Sea Script, p. 2, open space for acting, 2 blue sheets or blue plastic tablecloth cut in half for Red Sea, rod for Moses, white washcloth or small towel for child to hold as cloud pillar

optional: hobby horses for Egyptians, costumes for angel, Moses and others

Prepare in Advance

Gather supplies. Purchase blue plastic tablecloth if needed and cut in half lengthwise. Set up room so there is space for two groups and the Red Sea. Think through the size of your group and how to assign parts. If you have a large class it might be a good idea to get additional help.

New Church Concept Seas and Floods

Seas, depths, and abysses mean the hells where the falsities of evil are. *Apocalypse Explained* 538:2.



Crossing the Red Sea Script

Roles: Moses, pillar of cloud, angel, children of Israel, Pharaoh, Egyptians

Set-Up: Create an open space. You will need an area for the children of Israel to sit and “camp”, an area for Pharaoh and the Egyptians to “camp” and an area to set up the “Red Sea”. Create the sea using your choice of a blue plastic tablecloth cut in half lengthwise, two blue or green sheets, or two towels. Four children should hold the sea in place and be ready to create walls of water by holding up the ends of the sheets or tablecloth.

Props: Rod for Moses, white hand towel or washcloth for pillar of cloud, simple angel costume, blue plastic tablecloth cut in two lengthwise, or blue sheets or towels. *Optional:* hobby horses for Pharaoh and the Egyptians

Teacher reads the story aloud, pausing to direct the action. Start with the children of Israel camping by the sea.

Story to Read	Actions
The children of Israel camped by the sea. And Pharaoh king of Egypt pursued them with his horses and chariots.	Children of Israel sit down in a “camp” by the “sea”. Pharaoh and the Egyptians “chase” them on horses and sit down near them. The Angel of God and the pillar of cloud should stand between the children of Israel and the sea.
The children of Israel said to Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt?”	Children of Israel stand up around Moses and complain to him.
Moses said, “Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The Lord will fight for you.”	Moses stands up with his rod in his hand.
And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.	The Angel and the pillar of cloud move away from the sea and stand between the children of Israel and the Egyptians.
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 holds his rod up over the middle of the Red Sea. Students holding the corners of the “sea” lift up their corners to create walls wide enough apart for the children of Israel to walk through
So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.	Children of Israel walk through the walls of water to the other side of the sea.
And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.	Egyptians go after them and stop in the middle of the sea.
Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea....” And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea.	Moses holds up his rod over the sea from the far side.
And when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth.... Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.	The sea walls are flattened and laid on the ground. Try not to cover the Egyptians to prevent injury. The Egyptians should lie down on the ground as if dead.
So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. So the people feared the Lord and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.	Children of Israel “cheer” and show happiness that Pharaoh and his army are defeated.