

The Baby in the Basket

Bible Story

Exodus 1:8-14; 2:1-10

Anchor Point

We remember God's powerful acts.


Your Lesson

- Assemble the Crew
- Moses in the Basket
- Finding Moses
- Floating Baskets
- Baby in a Basket Snac
- The Baby in the Basket
- Baby Moses in Egypt
- Mission Moment
- Doing God's Work
- Worship

 Everyone

 Readers

 Nonreaders

 Requires preparation.

Bible Verse

"I'll set you free with great power." (Exodus 6:6)

Did You Know?

At the end of Joseph's story, Joseph's entire family moved from Canaan to Egypt to live near him. Joseph's family, the Israelites, thrived in Egypt, and for a time they received special treatment because of Joseph's importance and standing. But times changed—people died and new kings came to power.

At the beginning of Exodus, we learn that some time after Joseph died a king came to power who did not remember Joseph. Instead of granting special privileges to the Israelites, the king became afraid of them and made them slaves, but the number of Israelites continued to grow. The king decided population control of the Israelites, also known as the Hebrew people, was necessary and decreed that all Hebrew baby boys must be drowned in the Nile River.

Into this hostile environment a Hebrew baby boy was born. His mother, whose name was not included in today's passage, was understandably unwilling to follow the king's decree to drown her baby. Instead she hid him for three months until the baby was too noisy or too mobile to continue to hide. What was the mother to do? She became creative. The mother did end up putting her baby boy into the Nile River, but first she put him in a basket. Instead of drowning, the baby floated among the reeds in the river until another unnamed woman who happened to be Pharaoh's daughter discovered him. Pharaoh's daughter took pity on the child, whom she recognized as a Hebrew baby that was supposed to be drowned, and saved his life.

During October we will be exploring powerful acts of God. In this week's story we hear how God acted through unnamed women who courageously took action to save the life of a child. God would later use this child to lead God's people to freedom.

Use these tools to spread the word about your ministry!



Scan this QR code—go directly to "Free Logos and Images" page. Or visit www.deepbluekids.com to discover all of the tools you can use to promote your ministry.



Jump In!

The following activities may be done in learning centers as the children arrive or with the entire group.



ASSEMBLE THE CREW


Supplies: Attendance Chart, offering basket, marker or stickers

 Display the Attendance Chart.

- Greet the children as they arrive.
- Allow each child to add a sticker or mark his or her name on the attendance chart.
- Show the children where to place any offerings.
- Play music as the children arrive

MOSES IN THE BASKET

Supplies: Reproducible A, crayons

 Photocopy "Moses in the Basket" (Reproducible A) for each younger child.

SAY: When Moses was born, his mother was supposed to throw him in the river because he was a boy. Technically, Moses' mother did put him in the river.

ASK: What did Moses' mother do before she put him in the river? (She put him in a basket.)

- Give each younger child a copy of "Moses in the Basket."

SAY: This picture shows Moses' mother placing her baby in the river, but something is missing.

- Encourage each child to draw a baby in the basket and color the picture.

FINDING MOSES

Supplies: Reproducible B, pencils

 Photocopy "Finding Moses" (Reproducible B) for each older child.

- Give each older child a copy of "Finding Moses" and a pencil.
- Encourage each child to complete the maze.

FLOATING BASKETS

Supplies: aluminum foil, marbles or small rocks, trays for water, towels

- Fill the trays with water and set them on towels.
- Give each child a marble.

ASK: What would happen if you placed your marble in the tray of water? (It would

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sink.) **How could you keep your marble from sinking?**

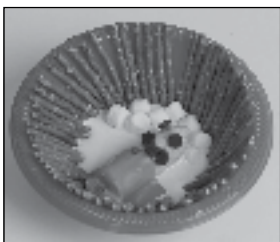
- Give each child a square of aluminum foil.
- Encourage each child to use the foil to design a basket that will support a marble when placed in water.
- Have the children test their foil baskets to see if they will float while holding a marble.
- If the trays are big enough, let the children blow their baskets across the water.

SAY: In today's Bible story we'll hear about a woman who used a basket to keep something important afloat.

BABY IN A BASKET SNACK

Supplies: small styrofoam bowls, bananas, bag of miniature marshmallows, bag of pretzel sticks, jar of marshmallow cream, bag of mini chocolate chips, fruit roll-ups, spoons, napkins or paper towels

- Give each child a bowl with marshmallow cream in the bottom.
- Place pretzel sticks vertically from the bottom of the bowl to the edge of the bowl to form the walls of the basket.
- Put small marshmallows on one end of the marshmallow cream to make a pillow.
- Cut and place a piece of a banana the length of the bottom of the bowl for the baby.
- Add mini chocolate chips for the eyes and mouth on the part of the banana on the pillow.
- Cut a piece of fruit roll up to make a blanket for the baby.
- Hand out spoons and napkins or paper towels.
- Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the snack and allow the children to enjoy their babies in baskets for a snack.



Dive Deeper

THE BABY IN THE BASKET

Supplies: Bibles, Reproducible C

 Photocopy "The Baby in the Basket" (Reproducible C) for each child to take home.

SAY: Our Bible story today is from the second book in the Bible.

- Have children find the second book in their Bibles.
- Encourage older children to help younger children.

ASK: What is the second book in the Bible? (Exodus)

SAY: Last month we heard the story of Joseph and his family. You may remember that Joseph's entire family moved to Egypt to be near Joseph. The story we'll hear today happened after Joseph died.

- Invite a confident reader to help you tell the story. Have the child follow along and read the words in bold type as you read the Bible story from “The Baby in the Basket.”
- Thank your volunteer for helping you tell today’s story.

ASK: According to Pharaoh’s decree, what should have happened to baby Moses? (He should have been thrown in the river to drown.)

SAY: Moses’ mother took a chance to save her son. It was a brave thing to do. Pharaoh’s daughter was brave, too. She knew her father’s law about Hebrew baby boys, but she chose to save the baby’s life.

BABY MOSES IN EGYPT

Supplies: Reproducible D, pencils

 Photocopy “Baby Moses In Egypt” (Reproducible D) for each child.


SAY: Let’s see how much we know about Moses’ birth in Egypt

- Your children can work together on this activity as a group, or you may pair up an older child with a younger child to work together. The older child can read the information on the activity sheet and discuss the answer with the younger child.
- Go over the correct answers found at the end of this session, and talk about their importance in Moses’ life.

Grow Stronger

MISSION MOMENT

Supplies: Reproducibles E

 Photocopy “Mission Letter” (Reproducible E) for each child.

SAY: This month you’ll have the opportunity to participate in a mission project. Today you’ll take a letter home about the mission to share with your family. We’ll be collecting donations throughout the month.

This quarter we will be raising money for the Children’s Defense Fund and their program *Freedom Schools*. You can learn more about this program at this website: <http://www.childrensdefense.org/programs/freedomschools/>.


This program seeks to build strong, literate, and empowered children prepared to make a difference in themselves, their families, communities, nation, and the world.

The model curriculum supports children and families around five essential components:

1. high-quality academic enrichment,
2. parent and family involvement,
3. social action and civic engagement,
4. intergenerational servant leadership development, and
5. nutrition, health, and mental health.

DOING GOD'S WORK

Supplies: basket, variety of items useful in ministry such as a Bible, soup pot, telephone, shovel, coat, offering plate, chalice, musical instrument, bandages, coffee cup, bread, envelope, crayons, and so forth

 Spread out the items you have gathered on a table or the floor.

- Show the children the basket.

ASK: What role did a basket play in today's story? (Moses' mother placed him in a basket in order to save his life.)

SAY: In today's Bible story we heard how the courage and creative thinking of a baby's mother saved his life. Pharaoh's daughter and the baby's sister also played a role in saving the baby.

ASK: What was the baby's name? (Moses)

SAY: As we'll hear in the next few weeks, Moses played an important role in God's plan to free the Israelites from slavery. If Moses' life had not been saved, the story would have turned out differently. God was at work through the actions of Moses' mother and sister and the Pharaoh's daughter. They may not have realized it, but they were doing God's work.

ASK: What does it mean to do God's work? (to do ministry, to live as God would want you to live, to help others, to love others)

SAY: There are many ways to do God's work. God is at work today through our actions. Moses' mother used a basket to do God's work when she placed her baby in a basket.

ASK: How could we use a basket to do God's work?

- Allow children an opportunity to offer their ideas. Some possibilities include using the basket to collect offerings or serve Communion. Encourage the children to think creatively.
- Have a child choose one of the other items.

ASK: How could we use this item to do God's work?

- Together as a group think of ways to use the chosen item for ministry.
- Continue having children pick items and discussing them until you've discussed all of the items.


SAY: There are many ways to do God's work.

Worship

PRAISE AND PRAYER

Supplies: Exodus 6:6 Bible Verse Poster; Exodus 6:6 Sign Language Poster, Reproducible

G

 Learn the signs from the Sign Language Poster so you can teach them to the children.

Display the Exodus 6:6 Bible Verse Poster and Sign Language Poster in your worship area.

ASK: In our Bible story today, who might have wanted to be free? (the Israelites or Hebrew people) What did they want to be free from? (being slaves to the Egyptians)

- Play familiar music and encourage children to sing and move along with the music.
- Show the children the Bible verse Poster. Encourage readers to read the verse with you.

SAY: In this verse God is talking to the Israelites.

ASK: What do you think God is going to set the Israelites free from? (slavery)

- Teach children the Sign Language for the Bible verse.
- Encourage all children to sign and say the Bible verse with you.

SAY: The Bible stories we hear this month will tell us of some of God's powerful acts. Today we heard how God acted through some women to save the life of Moses. As we hear the stories of God's powerful acts, we remember that God is still at work today.

PRAY: God, thank you for stories of your powerful acts. Thank you for the ways you are at work in today's world. Help us find ways to do your work by loving and helping other people. Amen.

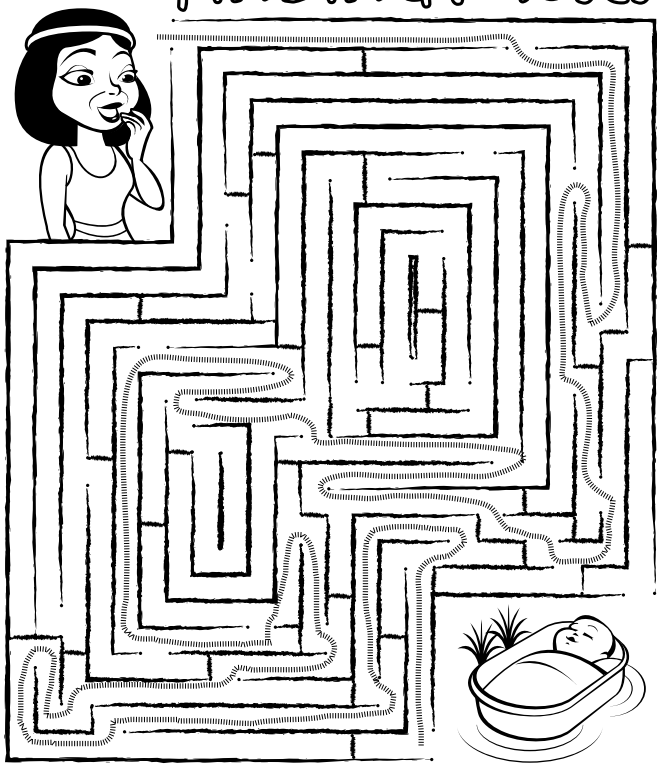
- Give each child a copy of "Talk About" (Reproducible G) to take home.

SAY: Share the "Talk About" page and the "Mission Letter" with your parents when you go home.

Answers

REPRODUCIBLE A FINDING MOSES

FINDING MOSES

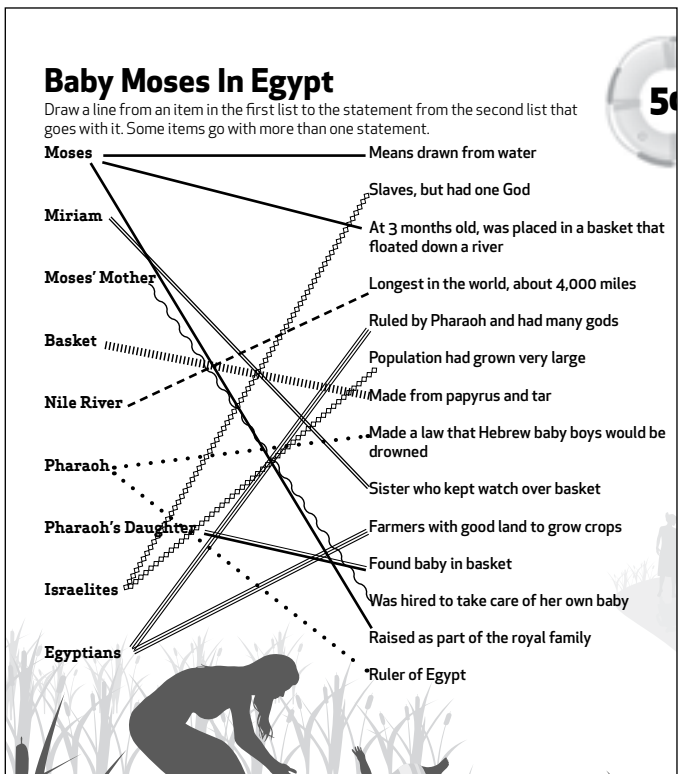


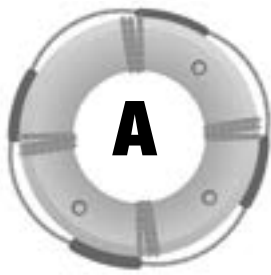
REPRODUCIBLE D BABY MOSES IN EGYPT

Baby Moses In Egypt

Draw a line from an item in the first list to the statement from the second list that goes with it. Some items go with more than one statement.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Moses | Means drawn from water |
| Miriam | Slaves, but had one God |
| Moses' Mother | At 3 months old, was placed in a basket that floated down a river |
| Basket | Longest in the world, about 4,000 miles |
| Nile River | Ruled by Pharaoh and had many gods |
| Pharaoh | Population had grown very large |
| Pharaoh's Daughter | Made from papyrus and tar |
| Israelites | ...Made a law that Hebrew baby boys would be drowned |
| Egyptians | Sister who kept watch over basket |
| | Farmers with good land to grow crops |
| | Found baby in basket |
| | Was hired to take care of her own baby |
| | Raised as part of the royal family |
| | *Ruler of Egypt |





Moses in the Basket

Draw what is missing from the picture.



For Nonreaders

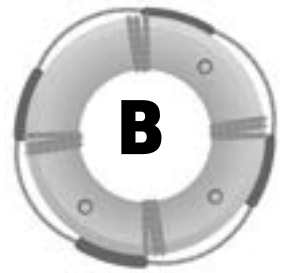
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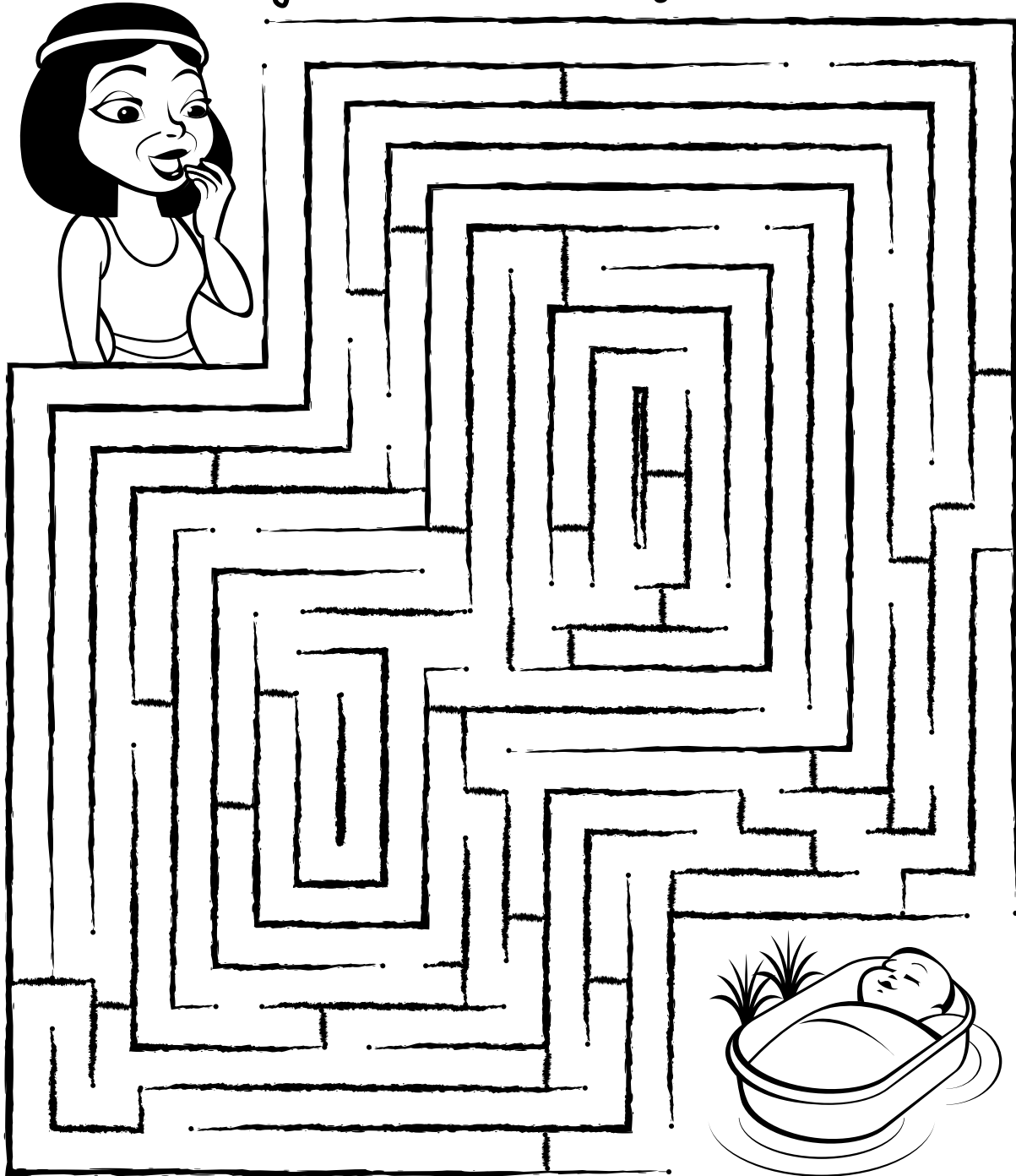
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Finding Moses

Help Pharaoh's daughter find her way to the baby in the basket.



FINDING MOSES

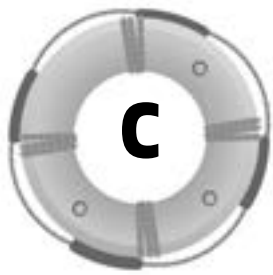


For Readers

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The Baby in the Basket



When Joseph was in charge of food distribution in Egypt, his family moved from Canaan to Egypt. This included Joseph's father, Jacob, and Joseph's 11 brothers and all of their families. While they lived in Egypt they became known as the Israelites or the Hebrews.

How long did they live in Egypt?

The Israelites continued to live in Egypt for many years, even after Joseph, his father, and all of his brothers had died. After some time a new Egyptian king came into power. This king did not remember Joseph and how he had saved Egypt during the time of famine. The king became worried that there were more Israelites than Egyptians. He was afraid the Israelites would take over Egypt. He decided to use his power to prevent this from happening.

This doesn't sound good for the Israelites.

It wasn't good. The new Pharaoh made the Israelites slaves. He forced them to make mortar and bricks, work in the fields, and do other hard labor for the Egyptians. Even while they were working as slaves, the numbers of the Israelites continued to grow. The king was still afraid.

Uh oh. What did he do?

Pharaoh ordered that all baby boys born to the Hebrews should be thrown into the Nile River where they would drown.

That's terrible!

It was a scary time for the Israelites. But one mother found a way to save her son.

How did she do that?

This Hebrew woman gave birth to a boy. At first she was able to hide him from the Egyptians. When the baby was three months old, she realized she would no longer be able to hide him. So she made a basket and covered the inside of the basket with tar so it would be waterproof. She put the baby in the basket and placed that basket among the reeds in the river. The baby's sister watched to see what would happen.

What happened?

Pharaoh's daughter found the baby in the basket when she was walking with her servants by the river.

Oh no... what did she do?

Pharaoh's daughter recognized that the baby was a Hebrew and she felt sorry for him. The baby's sister appeared and offered to find a Hebrew woman to take care of the baby. When Pharaoh's daughter agreed, she went and got their mother. Pharaoh's daughter asked the woman to care for the baby until it was old enough to come and live with her at the palace.

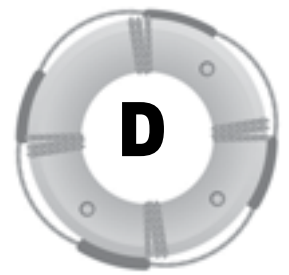
So the baby's mother was able to keep him after all?

Yes, the baby's mother took care of him until he was old enough to go and live with Pharaoh's daughter. Then Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and named him Moses.

(Based on Exodus 1:8-14, 2:1-10)

Baby Moses In Egypt

Draw a line from an item in the first list to the statement from the second list that goes with it. Some items go with more than one statement.



Moses

Means drawn from water

Miriam

Slaves, but had one God

Moses' Mother

At 3 months old, was placed in a basket that floated down a river

Basket

Longest in the world, about 4,000 miles

Nile River

Ruled by Pharaoh and had many gods

Pharaoh

Population had grown very large

Pharaoh's Daughter

Made from papyrus and tar

Israelites

Made a law that Hebrew baby boys would be drowned

Egyptians

Sister who kept watch over basket

Farmers with good land to grow crops

Found baby in basket

Was hired to take care of her own baby

Raised as part of the royal family

Ruler of Egypt



For Everyone

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Mission Letter

Dear Guardians,

This quarter we will be financially supporting The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) and their program *Freedom Schools*.

The CDF Freedom Schools® program seeks to build strong, literate, and empowered children prepared to make a difference in themselves, their families, communities, nation, and world today. By providing summer and afterschool reading enrichment for children who might otherwise not have access to books, the CDF Freedom Schools program plays a much needed role in helping to curb summer learning loss and close achievement gaps—and is a key part of CDF's work to ensure a level playing field for all children. In partnership with local congregations, schools, colleges and universities, community organizations, and secure juvenile justice facilities, the CDF Freedom Schools program boosts student motivation to read, generates more positive attitudes toward learning, increases self-esteem, and connects the needs of children and families to the resources of their communities. Since 1995, more than 135,000 preK–12 children have had a CDF Freedom Schools experience and more than 18,000 college students and recent graduates have been trained by CDF to deliver this empowering model.

The CDF Freedom Schools model incorporates the totality of the Children's Defense Fund's mission by fostering environments that support children and young adults to excel and believe in their ability to make a difference. Site coordinators and project directors are also trained by CDF to provide supervision and administrative oversight.

The program provides an exciting Integrated Reading Curriculum (IRC) including carefully chosen developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant books. The model curriculum supports children and families around five essential components—high-quality academic enrichment; parent and family involvement; social action and civic engagement; intergenerational servant leadership development; and nutrition, health, and mental health. Learn more at www.childrensdefense.org/programs/freedomschools/

Your child's class will collect an offering for this service organization. You may send the offering with your child to class, or donate online at childrensdefense.org by clicking the "Donate" link on the left-hand side of the webpage.





Talk About The Baby in the Basket

Say the Bible verse together:

"I'll set you free with great power." (Exodus 6:6)

Talk about today's Bible story at home:

Although they may not have realized it at the time, Moses' mother and sister and Pharaoh's daughter were doing God's work when they saved Moses' life. God was working through them. You may have heard the saying, "You are God's hands and feet." What do you think this saying means?

What are some ways you can be God's hands and feet?

How can God use you to do God's work?

How does it make you feel to know God is working through you?

Pray:

Thank you, God, for loving us and allowing us to be your hands and feet to the world. Amen.

5a

Bible Story

Exodus 1:8-14; 2:1-10

Anchor Point

We remember God's powerful acts.



The Deep Blue Crew are waiting to hang out with you!

Scan this QR code to download the **Deep Blue Kids App**.
Or visit www.DeepBlueKids.com.



Attendance Chart

Week

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

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Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools®

The Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools® program seeks to build strong, literate, and empowered children prepared to make a difference in themselves, their families, communities, nation, and world today.

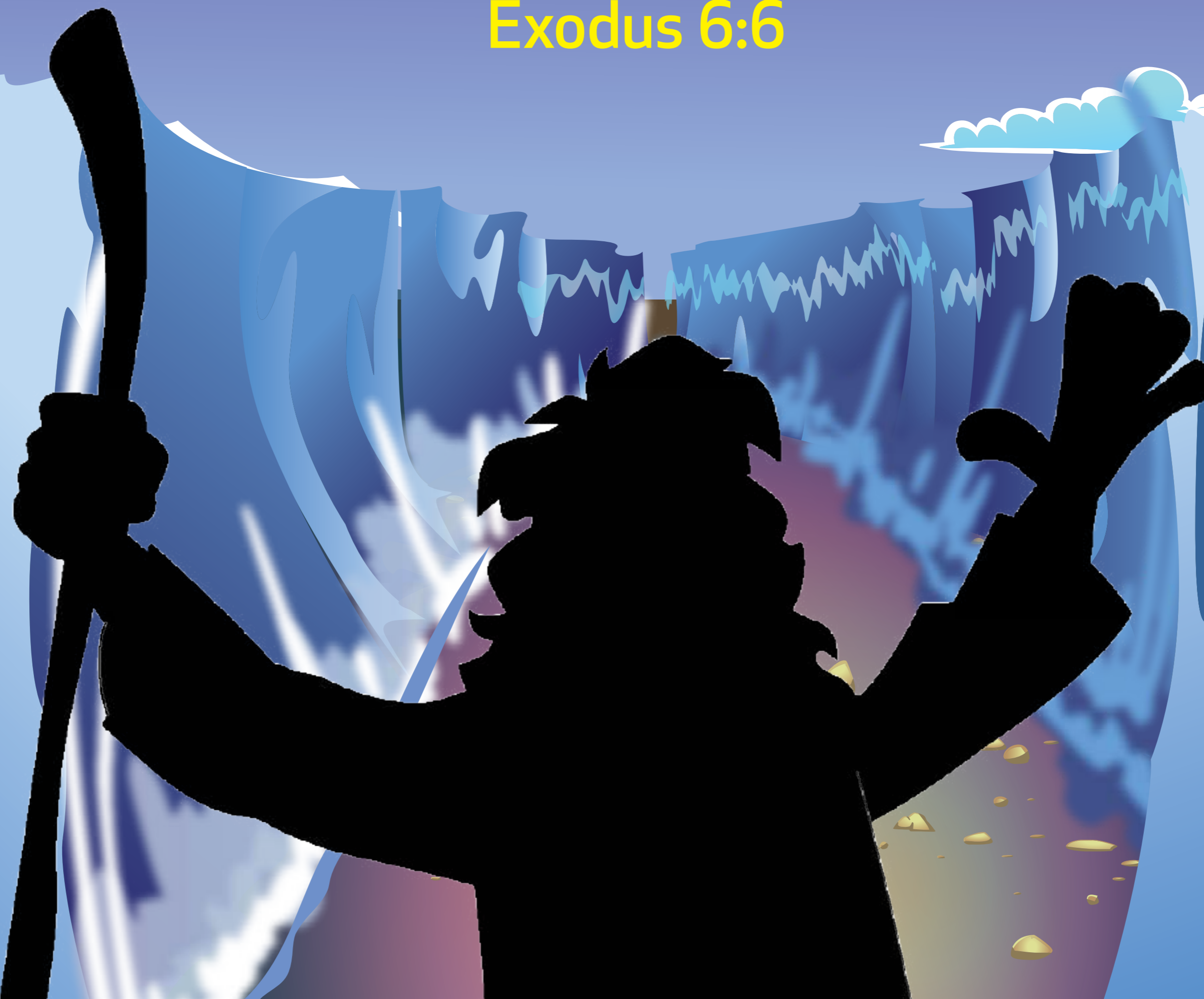
Bring your offering to Sunday school this month to support the Children's Defense Fund and their program, Freedom Schools®.



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"I'll set you free with great power."

Exodus 6:6



"I'll set you free with great power."

Exodus 6:6



God



free



you



with



great



power