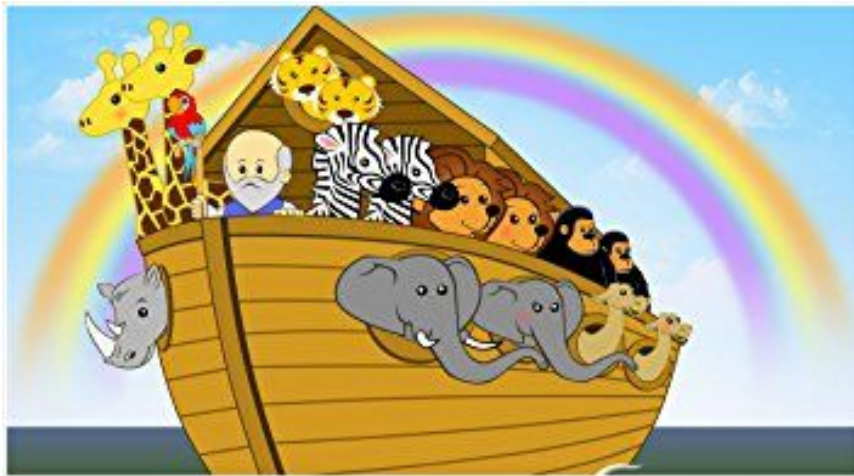


Playstage
Junior

www.schoolplaysandpantos.com

NOAH AND THE ARK



Noah gets a message and he has to act fast!
A musical tale from the Bible

Written by
Lynn Brittney

NOAH AND THE ARK**CAST LIST**

NOAH

EMZARA (MRS NOAH)

INNKEEPER

MERCHANT

THIEF

GAMBLERS (THREE)

SHEM (NOAH'S SON)

HAM (NOAH'S SON)

JAPHETH (pronounced 'Jafeth') (NOAH'S SON)

SALIT (SHEM'S WIFE)

NAHLAT (HAM'S WIFE)

SERAC (JAPHETH'S WIFE)

ANIMALS:

A DOG

AN ELEPHANT

A MONKEY

A LION

A SHEEP

TWO DOVES

21 Speaking parts but you can add as many pairs of animals as you wish!

Running time approximately 45 minutes.

MUSIC

Backing tracks can be purchased and downloaded for a modest fee from various sources, as shown below. Or, you could source the original artist's recording from amongst parents/grandparents and just have the children sing along to it, as many schools do. If you cannot source them from amongst the school community, then Amazon sell very cheap downloadable MP3 tracks for hundreds of thousands of songs. Below we give the song title and source of backing tracks. We also, where possible, give a YouTube link where your pupils can watch and listen to a song being sung. This is particularly useful for younger children.

Suggested songs:

BAD MOON RISING (Credence Clearwater Revival). Backing track can be purchased from:

http://www.backingtrax.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Bad+Moon+Rising

YouTube video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUQiUFZ5RDw>

IF I HAD A HAMMER (Trini Lopez or Peter, Paul & Mary) Backing track can be purchased from:

http://www.backingtrax.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=If+I+Had+a+Hammer

YouTube video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzhEihCEQXU>

THE ANIMALS WENT IN TWO BY TWO (Children's song) Backing track can be purchased from:

http://www.backingtrax.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=The+Animals+Went+in+Two+By+Two

YouTube video here:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+animals+went+in+two+by+two+song+with+lyrics

RAINDROPS KEEP FALLING ON MY HEAD (B.J.Thomas) Backing track can be purchased here:

http://www.backingtrax.co.uk/backing_tracks.asp?artist=B.J.%20Thomas

YouTube video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OT1HCQcSHW0>

HERE COMES THE SUN (The Beatles) Backing track can be purchased here:

http://www.backingtrax.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Here+Comes+The+Sun

YouTube video here: <http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x531lli>

NOTE: Small piece of gentle instrumental music needed in Scene 4.

NOAH AND THE ARK

SCENE 1

The market place. There is a stall selling food at the centre back of the stage. It is covered in pots and there is a pile of bowls to one side. (SEE PRODUCTION NOTES) and at one side of the stage there is a sign saying 'INN'. The INNKEEPER is sitting by the sign. A MERCHANT is standing behind his stall and three GAMBLERS are playing dice on the floor in one corner. NOAH and his wife EMZARA enter. They are carrying small bundles of clothing tied up in a cloth.

NOAH (*grumbling*)

I don't like coming into big towns! Bad things happen in these places!

EMZARA (*exasperated*)

Noah, how else are you going to sell the wool from our sheep? People won't come out into the desert to buy it, you know! Honestly, some people have husbands who are only too happy to take their wives to the city for a bit of excitement! I spend all my days cleaning and spinning wool. I deserve a bit of a break!

NOAH

Of course you do my dear! Don't mind me. Cities just make me grumpy. Why don't we put our luggage into the rooms we have reserved at the inn and then you can go and shop for all those nice things you want?

EMZARA

Good idea!

(They approach the INN sign and speak to the INNKEEPER)

NOAH

Excuse me...are you the innkeeper?

INNKEEPER

I am. What can I do for you?

NOAH

Ah. We have several rooms reserved in your inn. The name is Noah. It should be four rooms. One for myself and my wife and the other three are for my three sons and their wives.

INNKEEPER

Ah yes. You sent a messenger. Yes. Your rooms are ready but I'm afraid the price has gone up.

NOAH

What?! Why?

INNKEEPER

There was a lot of demand. I decided to double the price of the rooms.

EMZARA

Why would you do that?

INNKEEPER

Because I could. If you don't like it you can always go elsewhere. But I doubt if you will find anywhere during market week.

NOAH

That's daylight robbery!

EMZARA

No honourable man would do such a thing!

INNKEEPER

Ah well – I'm not honourable. I'm a city businessman and I'm here to make a profit. I'm not a charity.

NOAH

No, you're not! Well, as you say, we don't have much choice. We'll take the rooms.

(NOAH reaches into his bundle and produces some gold pieces. He reluctantly hands them over to the INNKEEPER.)

INNKEEPER

Your rooms are on the second floor. Take your pick.

NOAH

Thank you.

(NOAH and EMZARA exit behind the INN sign. SHEM, HAM and JAPHETH enter, also carrying bundles.)

SHEM

This must be the inn that father talked about. Let's go and get our rooms. I'm worn out after unloading all that wool at the merchant's yard!

HAM

Sorry, we'll have to wait for our wives. They've got distracted again.

SHEM

Not more shopping! I hate coming to the city every year with our wool. We seem to spend more than we earn!

JAPHETH

We should leave the women at home. They can't resist all the goods on display, you know that.

HAM

Mind you...we're just as bad. I bought a knife I don't really need, you bought a leather belt and Shem bought some new sandals.

JAPHETH

True. We're all as bad as each other. Buying things we don't need with money we can't really spare.

(SALIT, NAHLAT and SERAC enter. They are laughing and carrying some new purchases.)

SALIT

Shem, do you like my new necklace? It's so pretty, I just couldn't resist it! *(She shows him the necklace round her neck)*

NAHLAT

And look, Ham, I got these beautiful bangles! Aren't they gorgeous? *(She holds out her hands to show off the bangles)*

HAM *(without enthusiasm)*

Lovely, dear.

JAPHET *(to SERAC)*

And what did you get, my dear?

SERAC

This lovely scarf. Look! *(She drapes it round her head)* Although I don't know where I'm going to wear such a lovely thing. Certainly not surrounded by sheep in the middle of the desert! I wish we could live in a town, Japheth. There is so much more to do!

JAPHETH

We're farmers, dear. We can't farm in the middle of a town.

(NOAH enters, from the Inn.)

NOAH

Ah! There you all are! I do hope you haven't spent any money.

SHEM

Why, father?

NOAH

Because the Innkeeper has doubled the cost of our rooms – that's why!

HAM

What a crook!

JAPHETH

I think we should have a word with him.

(The three sons put down their bundles and are just walking over to speak to the INNKEEPER when a THIEF walks by and picks up one of the bundles and starts to walk offstage. SALIT screams.)

SALIT

Thief! Thief! Shem, stop him!

SHEM

Stop! Thief!

(The three sons run offstage after the THIEF.)

NOAH

What a disaster! This trip is getting worse and worse! The people in this city are so nasty! I wish God would do something about the way the world has become.

(There is a sudden shout from the three GAMBLERS. One of them has won the game)

GAMBLER 1

I've won! I've won!

GAMBLER 2

You cheated!

GAMBLER 3

Yes – you cheated!

GAMBLER 1

I did not! I won that game fair and square! Hand over the money!

GAMBLER 2 *(pushing GAMBLER 1)*

Try and make me! Cheater!

GAMBLER 3 *(joining in)*

Yeah! You're not getting any of my money!

GAMBLER 1 *(struggling with GAMBLER 2)*

Give me my money, you crook!

NOAH *(intervening between them, pushing them apart)*

Stop this! Stop it at once! No good ever came of gambling! You men should be ashamed of yourselves!

