



Noah asked G-d to never ever send another flood on the world. G-d promised Noah, "I will never again bring a flood of water to destroy every living thing in the world. As a sign of My promise, I will show you this: from time to time, after the rain falls, My rainbow will appear beyond the clouds. It will be a sign that I remember My promise never to bring another flood."

### These are the Seven Universal Laws given to Noah from G-d for all of mankind

- 1** Promote Justice - An imperative to pursue and enforce social justice, and a prohibition of any miscarriage of justice.
- 2** No Blasphemy - Prohibits a curse directed at the Supreme Being.
- 3** No Idolatry - Prohibits the worship of any human or any created thing.
- 4** No illicit Relationships. Prohibits adultery.
- 5** No Murder or Causing injury.
- 6** No Theft - Prohibits the wrongful taking of another's goods.
- 7** Don't eat a limb of a living creature - Promotes the kind treatment of animals.

# Noah's Ark Animal Match Parents Guide



O

f all of the miracles in the history of mankind, the story of Noah and his ark is certainly the most popular event known to children. The rich, visual imagery of Noah painstakingly building his ark, then assembling and filling it with at least two of each species of animals, followed by the catastrophic impact of the great flood itself, easily captures the fascination and wonder of every youngster. At the same time, the story encourages children to explore the underlying themes so basic to belief in G-d: Rewards for good behavior, the Almightyness of G-d, punishment for wrongdoing etc.



The purpose of this pamphlet is twofold. It is not only intended to serve as a guide to the parents to assist the child in understanding the events surrounding the miracle itself, but it is also hoped that the details described below will provide the parents with insight into the story of Noah and encourage parents toward greater involvement with their heritage.

#### --Jewish Educational Toys

*P.S. Throughout the booklet, G-d's name is spelled with a dash rather than the usual "o". We hope that those people who are not familiar with this spelling will understand.*



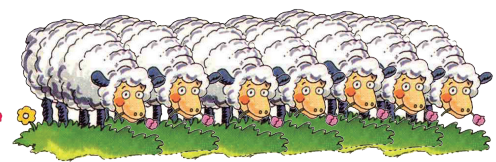
After 40 days, the rain stopped. It took another 110 days until the water began to diminish. The ark landed on top of Mount Ararat, which today, lies on the border of Turkey and the Soviet Union.

Forty days later, Noah opened the windows of the ark. He sent a raven out on the dangerous mission to find dry land. The raven was an impure creature and complained bitterly to Noah that he was sent out on such a dangerous mission. Noah sent him out of the ark only to find him circling it.

After seven more days, Noah decided to send the dove out. He put more trust in the dove because it is a pure creature and was considered more useful than the raven. If the dove found a dry place to rest, Noah would know that the water had subsided from the land. However, the dove returned from its short lived flight, clueing Noah in that the ground was too wet for it to settle any place.

Noah sent the dove out a second time after another seven days. On that day, there was no sign of the dove. In the evening, Noah saw an encouraging sign as the dove was returning to the ark with the new growth of an olive leaf in its mouth. By this sign, Noah knew the ground was dry enough for the dove to rest upon it, so it stayed away until darkness of the night came.

Noah waited another week and sent the dove out a third time. This time the dove did not return to the ark because the land was dry enough for the dove to settle permanently. Noah figured that the land was habitable and ready for himself, his family and the animals to leave the ark. After more than a year had passed since Noah had entered the ark, G-d commanded all of them to "Leave the ark".



The top floor was for people, the middle for animals, and the bottom floor was for trash and waste. There was a window to let in light and the roof was made of pitch with a slant to let the rain roll off. After it was completed, tar was spread over it to prevent the water from soaking through the cracks. We commonly view the ark as a boat, but it was actually flat on the bottom.

One of the many miracles regarding Noah's ark was its ability to house many types of animals, including very large ones, like the elephant and giraffe. There were a few unique ones that we no longer have on earth, like the Giant Og and the R'aim.

As G-d planned, it took Noah 120 years to build the ark because G-d wanted as many people as possible to see what Noah was doing and to learn the news about the flood so their fear of punishment by dying would help them reconsider their wrongful ways. But people will be



people, and as they watched Noah labor, they made fun of him for his beliefs.

These mean people were very tall and they reasoned that they would not drown in the flood. They thought they were too tall to be swept up by the waters. Besides, they were strong too, and they thought they would rely on their strength to climb to the highest mountains. If the situation actually did get worse, they believed their gods would save them.

G-d commanded Noah, "Bring a male and a female of each impure animal and seven pairs of each kind of kosher, or pure, kind. Bring a year's supply of food for yourself and the animals." "Kosher" means that an animal meets the specifications as commanded by G-d, including what and how a certain animal eats and how it is physically made. Some kinds of kosher animals were intended to be sacrifices. That is why more kosher animals were taken into the ark than the impure ones.

"How can I fulfill your command?" asked Noah. "I am not a hunter who recognizes each and every animal,

plus catch them!" G-d told Noah, "Don't worry! The animals will come by themselves." The non-kosher animals came to the ark on their own accord. During the last seven days before the flood, Noah had to gather the kosher animals, because they did not come on their own will since they knew some of them were destined to become sacrifices.

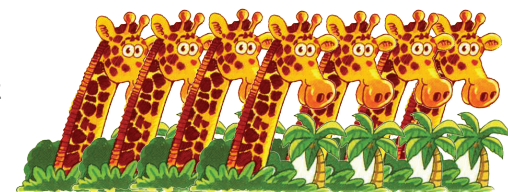
Noah gathered the fruits, vegetables and grain to keep them fed for the coming year in the ark. G-d gave Noah the wisdom to communicate with each kind of animal and know the nature of each animal, even the animals living in the far reaches of the earth. Noah found them the necessary food that sustained them. He gathered dry figs and dates so they could be eaten when there was no better food. At times, though, Noah had a few problems feeding some of the animals. Eventually G-d helped him figure out the "exceptional" creatures, as we will see.

When rain comes down, the skies darken. G-d told Noah to go to the river and pick up a special stone that would help those in the ark know day from night. In the night, the stone shed light and during the day it dimmed because the sun's light took over.

Seven days later, the rain began coming down lightly. Then it began pouring harder. The seas and the rivers surged wildly until the earth was flooded. The flood destroyed all human, animal and plant life outside of the ark.

The only animals that did survive outside of the ark were the fish. They had been given a special blessing by G-d when the world was created.

Noah and his family worked day and night to keep all the animals fed and clean on the ark. They had to do this because G-d wanted them to do so. One would wonder why Noah had to feed the animals, since he and the animals were ultimately taken care of by G-d. Remember, Noah came from a generation of selfish people. G-d's purpose of having Noah and his family tend to the animals was for people to learn how to be kind and sensitive. After the flood, they could teach this attribute to the following generations.





**T**here were many animals on the ark, including wild ones, like the lion. Noah had to be very careful in dealing with him since human flesh was a part of the lion's diet. There were many exotic kinds of birds and snakes on the ark, too. Noah often stepped on the snakes by mistake, but they never bit him. The lions became tamer on the vegetarian diet they received. Noah's son Shem, said at times they were difficult, but somehow, G-d helped keep them sustained and tranquil. Once, however, when Noah was late with the lion's food, the lion angrily swiped at him and caused Noah to walk with a limp.

On a different occasion, Noah tried to feed an animal by the name of Zikis, but he did not know what food to offer. Coincidentally, Noah cut a pomegranate and a worm fell out. The next thing he saw was the worm in Zikis' mouth!

While Noah was making his rounds, he realized he had forgotten to feed a bird called a Chul, which is what we know today as a phoenix. The bird sat quietly in its cage. Noah asked, "Aren't you hungry?" Chul replied". I see how hard you are working and I did not want to be the cause of additional work for you". "My blessing upon you" said Noah, "and may you never experience death."

**A**pproximately 4200 years ago, there lived a man named Noah. During Noah's lifetime, civilization was very different than we know it today. Man lived in perpetual fear and mistrust of his fellow man. People stole from each other and committed various atrocities under the belief that "Might makes right". Crime was rampant – rules or laws to protect one's family or property were non-existent. In short, chaos reigned throughout the world. Man's moral decay disappointed G-d. Man was created in G-d's image and these evil actions seemed to tarnish that image. Life had no value to man and G-d realized that He must purify and recreate a new world that would be worthy of His creation.

Although G-d was exceedingly patient, He became very angry and decided that He would create a flood to purify that generation. However, the people would be given a chance to change their ways, as will be explained.

Noah and his wife and children were the only family G-d saw fit to save from the impending disaster. He revealed to Noah, "Until now I have been patient. I have waited for the wicked to change their behavior and treat others decently. I want you to build an ark. During the 120 years it takes you to build the ark, people will

see what you are doing and ask, "Why are you building that ark?" And you shall tell them of My plan. They will be warned and have the chance to repent. But if they choose not, I will wipe them all out. This included the animals, birds, trees, grass and even the ground. Noah, you and your family will be spared, to renew the human race based on My precepts for running the world based upon truth, peace and justice."

G-d told Noah, "Build yourself a wooden ark to float on the flood waters." It was 300 cubits, roughly 600 feet long, 50 cubits, roughly 100 feet wide, and 30 cubits, roughly 60 feet high with three floors and many different rooms to accommodate all of the animals.

