

The Colors Of The Rainbow

UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: God's promises.

Scripture: Genesis 9:16

Memory Verse: Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth. - Genesis 9:16

The Children's Sermon

Orange peeks out from the night, bringing life through Jesus. Green paints the world with God's creation, like trees and grass, showing us the new life we have in Jesus. Blue, the color of water, reminds us of God's beautiful seas and our baptism, connecting us with Jesus.

Black shows our sins and the darkest day for God. Purple shares the story of Jesus' sorrow, so we can have eternal life. Pink whispers of our bright futures. White shines with God's purity, washing away our sins with grace.

Rainbows, oh, how they sparkle after big storms, when the sky is so dark. Just when everything seems gloomy, a rainbow arcs across the sky. God sent the first rainbow to Noah as a promise, a sign that He always keeps His word. This Rainbow Covenant still speaks to us, telling us God is always with us, guiding us through life's storms.

When life feels like a never-ending storm, and you're filled with doubts, remember God's Rainbow Covenant. It's a promise of hope, a reminder that God is always there for you.

Let's dive deeper into the colors of the rainbow and see what more they can teach us about God's love and promises.

Orange, with its warm glow, reminds us of the sunrise after a long, dark night. It tells us that, with Jesus, every day is a new beginning, full of hope and joy. It's like when you wake up in the morning and see the sun peeking through your window, promising a brand new day.

Green is everywhere in nature, from the tallest trees to the grass under our feet. It shows us God's never-ending love for what He has created and reminds us of the fresh start we get when we choose to follow Jesus. It's like the feeling of running through the park on a sunny day, feeling free and full of life.

Blue, the color of the vast sky and deep seas, speaks of God's creation and how He wants us to be a part of it through baptism. It's a sign that we belong to Him and are loved by Him. Imagine dipping your toes in a cool, blue pool on a hot day, feeling refreshed and renewed.

Black might seem a little scary because it represents our sins and the saddest day when Jesus died. But, it also shows us how much God loves us, enough to send Jesus to take away all the bad things we've done. It's like when you mess up, but your mom or dad hugs you and forgives you, loving you no matter what.

Purple is a royal color, reminding us of Jesus' suffering but also of the victory and eternal life that comes from it. It's like getting a small scrape on your knee but then getting a bandage and a kiss, making everything better.

Pink is the color of a beautiful sunrise, promising us that with Jesus, every day can be filled with new and wonderful things. It's like opening a present on your birthday, excited for the surprise inside.

White shines brightly, showing us God's perfect love and how He makes us clean from our sins. It's like taking a bath after playing outside all day, feeling fresh and new.

The Rainbow Covenant is God's promise that He will always be with us, no matter how big the storm. It's a reminder that after every hard time, there's something beautiful waiting for us. Just like the rainbow that comes out after the rain, God's promises bring color and hope to our lives.

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the beautiful Rainbow Covenant and the promises each color holds. Help us remember your love and care for us, especially when we face tough times. Teach us to trust in your promises and find joy in the colorful life you've given us. Amen.

So, kids, whenever you see a rainbow, remember God's promises and how much He loves you. Each color tells a part of God's big story and His plan for us. And just like Noah, we can trust that God will always keep His promises. The Rainbow Covenant isn't just a story from the past; it's a promise for us today and every day.

Bible Memory Verse

Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth. - Genesis 9:16

You Will Need:

- White paper plates
- Watercolor paints (rainbow colors)
- Cotton balls
- String
- Glue
- Scissors

Get Ready:

- Cut the paper plates in half to create a 'rainbow' shape.
- Set up a painting area with watercolors, brushes, and water.

Do This:

1. Have each child paint their half-plate with the colors of the rainbow, encouraging them to remember the order of colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet).
2. While the paint dries, discuss the significance of the rainbow in Genesis 9:16 as a sign of God's promise and how it applies to our lives today.
3. Glue cotton balls around the curved edge of the half-plate for clouds, then attach a string at the top for hanging. This craft serves as a visual reminder of God's everlasting covenant.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A large roll of paper (enough to create a big rainbow on the wall)
- Markers or paint in rainbow colors
- Cotton balls or white paper for clouds
- Tape or sticky tack for attaching the rainbow to the wall
- Printed copies of Genesis 9:16
- Scissors
- Glue

Get Ready:

1. Cut the large roll of paper into an arc shape to resemble a rainbow.
2. Write Genesis 9:16 on the printed copies and cut them into individual strips.

Do this:

1. Invite the children to read Genesis 9:16 together as a group. Discuss the significance of God's promise to Noah and how the rainbow is a sign of that promise.
2. Have the children color or paint the paper rainbow using markers or paint, encouraging them to follow the order of the colors in a real rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet).
3. While the rainbow is drying, have the children cut out cloud shapes from white paper or gather cotton balls to represent clouds.
4. Once the rainbow is colored and dry, use tape or sticky tack to attach it to a wall at the children's eye level. Then, glue the cotton balls or paper clouds around the ends of the rainbow on the wall to complete the scene.
5. Give each child a strip of paper with Genesis 9:16 printed on it. Have them read the verse aloud again and then place their strip somewhere on the rainbow or the clouds as a way of acknowledging and remembering God's promise.

6. Conclude the activity with a group discussion on the importance of promises and how they can trust in God's promises in their own lives.

Snack Activity: Rainbow Promise Fruit Skewers

You'll Need:

- A variety of fruit (strawberries, oranges, pineapple, green grapes, blueberries, and grapes)
- Wooden skewers
- A small bowl of yogurt or honey for dipping

Get Ready: Wash all the fruit and cut them into bite-sized pieces if necessary.

Do this:

1. Read Genesis 9:16 together and discuss God's promise to Noah and how the rainbow is a sign of that promise.
2. Arrange the fruit on the wooden skewers in the order of the colors of the rainbow. Start with grapes for purple at the bottom, then blueberries for blue, green grapes for green, pineapple for yellow, oranges for orange, and strawberries for red at the top.
3. Once your rainbow skewers are made, dip them in yogurt or honey to enjoy a sweet reminder of God's faithfulness and promises.

Game Activity: Rainbow Promises Tag

You'll Need:

- A large open space, preferably outdoors
- Several pieces of colorful cloth or paper (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet)

- Safety pins or tape

Get Ready: Before the game, discuss Genesis 9:16 and how the rainbow is a sign of God's promise to never flood the entire earth again. Explain that each color of the rainbow will represent a promise that God has made to us in the Bible. Assign each color a specific promise (e.g., red for love, green for provision, blue for forgiveness, etc.). Pin or tape a piece of each color cloth or paper onto the backs of the children, making sure each child has a different color.

Do this:

1. Designate one child as 'It' who will try to tag the others. Explain that 'It' represents life's challenges trying to make us forget God's promises.
2. When 'It' tags someone, they must freeze and recite a Bible verse that corresponds to the color of the promise they're wearing (prepare these verses in advance). For example, if tagged and wearing blue, they might say, 'If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness' (1 John 1:9).
3. After reciting the verse, they can be 'unfrozen' by another player who touches them, reminding them of God's constant presence and help. The game continues until everyone has had a chance to be 'It'.

This game helps children learn about God's promises through physical activity and memorization, reinforcing the message of Genesis 9:16 in a fun and engaging way.

Craft Activity: Rainbow of Promises

You'll Need:

- Watercolor paper

- Watercolor paints
- Paintbrushes
- A jar of water
- Black marker
- Bible or printed verse of Genesis 9:16

Get Ready: Read Genesis 9:16 together and discuss the significance of God's promise to Noah, and how the rainbow serves as a reminder of that promise.

Do this:

1. Using the black marker, have each student draw a large arc on their watercolor paper to represent a rainbow. Encourage them to leave enough space between each arc for different colors.
2. Guide the students to paint each arc with different colors of the rainbow, reminding them of the diversity and beauty in God's promises. Allow the paint to dry.
3. Once the paint is dry, have the students write Genesis 9:16 along the bottom or back of their painting. Discuss how they can remember God's promises in their daily lives and how they can be a promise of hope to others.
4. Display the finished artworks in the classroom or allow the students to take them home as a reminder of the lesson.

Prayer Activity: Rainbow Promises

You'll Need:

- A blank notebook or paper for each child
- Colored pencils or markers
- Bible or printed copy of Genesis 9:16

Get Ready: Gather all materials and set up a comfortable seating area for the children to sit and write. Make sure each child has access to a Bible or a printed copy of Genesis 9:16.

Do this:

1. Begin by reading Genesis 9:16 together as a class. Discuss the significance of the rainbow as a sign of God's promise to Noah and to all living creatures.
2. Ask each child to think of a promise God has made to them or a general promise from the Bible that they find comforting. It could be about God's love, protection, guidance, etc.
3. Have each child draw and color a rainbow in their notebook or on their paper. Underneath or around the rainbow, encourage them to write the promise they thought of, using their own words or a Bible verse that reflects that promise.
4. Once everyone is done, create a 'Promise Gallery' where the children can share their drawings and the promises they wrote. This can be done by having each child present their work to the class or by displaying the artworks around the room.
5. Close the activity with a prayer, thanking God for His promises and asking for faith to trust in them every day.