

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
<b>Lower Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God frees us.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles
<b>PLAGUE PAINTING:</b> Kids use Kidpix or similar software to draw one of the plagues.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Computers with KidPix or similar software, chart paper, markers, tape, color printer and copy paper (optional)
<b>Upper Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God sends people to help us.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles
<b>RAP WRITING:</b> Kids write a rap about the 10 plagues.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Computers with KidPix or similar software, printer and copy paper, chart paper, marker, tape
<b>All Kids</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God saves us.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles
<b>PLAGUE POEM:</b> The kids write a poem together about the plagues.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Computers with KidPix or similar software, printer and copy paper, chart paper, marker, tape



Visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation's story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.



**Workshop Focus:** God frees us.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Plagues Storytelling

Greet the kids as they arrive. Show them their computer stations. Remember to introduce yourself because this may be the first time some kids are in your workshop. Distribute the Spark Story Bibles.

**Welcome to the Computer Lab Workshop. It's wonderful to see you all here today! Have you ever had something really bad happen to you? Today we are going to hear about some really bad things that happened to the Egyptians, because Pharaoh wouldn't listen to God and let the Israelites go free. Does anyone know what a plague is?** Give the kids an opportunity to respond. **Let's read The Plagues from our Spark Story Bible to see if we can find out. I will read the story to you and you can follow along in your book.** Read the story beginning on page 78. **Did Pharaoh listen when Moses said, "Let my people go"?** Let kids respond. **No, he didn't. Did Pharaoh listen when God turned the Nile River to blood? No, he didn't. Did he listen when he sent frogs? No, he didn't. You are really good listeners. It took many plagues to get Pharaoh's attention, didn't it?**

**Spark Resources**  
Spark Story Bibles

**Supplies**  
None

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Plague Painting

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**Set Up:** List the 10 plagues on the chart paper and hang it for all to see. Turn computers on and have the program open and ready to go.

### Activity Instructions

Make sure that all the kids are familiar with KidPix. If they are sharing computers, be sure that they are sitting evenly among the computers. **Today we are going to create pictures of what it took to get Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. We are going to create pictures of the different plagues using our KidPix software.** Point to the list of plagues and have each kid or group of kids choose which plague they would like to draw. Be sure each plague is chosen except the last one. Save it to talk about at the end. **Instead of drawing the saddest plague, the last one, we will save it to talk about at the end of the lesson.**

**Does everyone know which plague they are going to draw? Before you draw, think about what you want in the picture. Will you include Moses? Will you include Pharaoh? What colors, what backgrounds, and what other things might you like to include in your picture? Look at the stamps, stickers, and different textures and backgrounds in the program. Fit as many things as you can into your picture to make it look like a real plague. Be sure to let everyone at your computer have a turn drawing.**

**What was the first plague?** Have all the kids respond. **What was the second plague?** Have all the kids respond. Ask the question for each plague.

As the kids are creating their pictures, you and the Shepherds can circulate among the computers to encourage the kids and offer help when needed. Be sure the kids who are sharing computers are taking turns. Encourage those who may be having trouble getting started. Give them a few ideas. As you are circulating, read about each plague again in the Spark Bible Story or talk about each plague as they work.

When everyone's pictures are completed, gather the kids around you. **You have created some great pictures of the plagues. Let's go to each computer and see what everyone has drawn. When we visit your computer, tell us which plague you have drawn and what is happening in your picture.**

Visit each computer in the order the plagues were sent and discuss each picture. Be sure to affirm the kids' creativity and imagination. If some of the kids are shy and do not want to talk about their pictures, ask all the kids which plague it is and what they see in the picture.

**Let's talk about the last plague in which the firstborn Egyptian sons died. It was very sad. Our Spark Bible Story says that it was the "saddest plague of all." People throughout the land cried because their children died. Pharaoh's son died, but all the Hebrew firstborn sons lived. After this plague Pharaoh let the people go.**

### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

### Supplies

Computers with KidPix or similar software  
Chart paper  
Markers  
Tape  
Color printer and printer paper (optional)

### Color Printer Option

If your lab has a color printer, print the kids' pictures and display them in the room or someplace around the church. Help the kids keep them in the right order.

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids have not already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**We celebrate important events. We celebrate Christmas, Easter, birthdays and other events. The Hebrews celebrate important events, too. They celebrate the Passover, which is the name given to the night that the firstborn sons of the Egyptians died, but the Hebrew sons were "passed over." God promised Moses that he would free the Israelites. God continues to keep promises. Thank you for coming today.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

### Prayer Time

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**Gracious God,**

**Thank you for keeping your promises not only to the Israelites, but also to us. Help us to see that your rules are only for our own good, and it is best for us if we obey you. Help us to love you more and more each day.**

**Amen.**



**Workshop Focus:** God sends people to help us.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Plagues Storytelling

Distribute the Spark Bibles as kids arrive.

**Welcome to the Computer Lab workshop! It is great to have you all here today. We all have had bad things happen to us, but probably not as bad as the plagues that God sent to Pharaoh and the Egyptians, so that Pharaoh would let the Israelites go. Do you know what a plague is? The dictionary says that a plague is an appearance or outbreak of something unpleasant, in very large numbers. That is exactly what we are going to learn about today. We are going to learn how God sent Moses to convince Pharaoh to free the Israelites. Let's get out our Spark Bibles and read about the plagues starting on page 66. Have your stickers ready to place in your Spark Bibles in appropriate places.** Have the kids take turns reading (using these chapters/verses: Exodus 7:14-17; 8:1-4; 8:16; 8:20-21; 9:1-3; 9:8-9; 9:13-19; 10:3-6; 10:21-23; 11:4-5). Some may be too shy to read aloud. Ask the kids if they would like to share where they put their stickers and why.

#### Spark Resources

Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

#### Supplies

None

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Rap Writing

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**Set Up:** List the 10 plagues on the chart paper and hang it for all to see. Turn computers on and have the program open and ready to go.

### Activity Instructions

Have the kids work in groups of 2 or 3 at a computer to write a rap. Ask a few questions to help them get started.

**Who can name one of the 10 plagues?** Repeat until all have been named. **God sent Moses to Pharaoh to convince him to let God's people go. Eventually, Pharaoh did, and God's people were free.**

**Who can tell us what rap is?** Allow time for the kids to respond. **Today we are going to try our hand at writing a rap. The story of the plagues lends itself to rhythm and rhyme, so I thought you might have fun trying it. Each group will write a rap to one of the plagues. There are three things you want to remember when writing your rap. They are rhythm, rhyme and a strong beat. You can use your Spark Bibles for some ideas. Try to show Moses working to convince Pharaoh to let God's people go. When you are finished writing, you will have an opportunity to perform your rap for the rest of us.** Have the kids look at the list to see which plague they would like to use for their rap. Try to cover all the plagues.

While the kids are working on their raps, you and the Shepherds can rotate to the computers to help and encourage them. Help with rhyming words or rhythm. The rap does not have to be very long. Four or five lines are fine.

When the kids are finished writing their raps, use the printer to make copies for the kids. Allow a few minutes for them to practice their raps before performing them. Not all the kids will want to perform in front of the class. Ask them if it would be all right if you read it instead.

The last plague may especially bother some of the kids. This is a difficult one to understand. If your kids have questions you can't answer, ask a pastor for help.

**How were the Hebrew firstborn sons saved? God told Moses to tell the Hebrews to take the blood from a perfect lamb or goat and put it on the door frames of their homes. The firstborn sons in the homes would be spared. The homes would be "passed over." Jewish people descended from the Hebrews, and they still celebrate this event today. Passover is the name given to that night and is celebrated by Jewish people around the world.**

**Now it is time to hear your raps.** Be sure to affirm the kids' work. **We have heard a lot of great raps today. Be sure to share them with your families!**

### Spark Resources

Spark Bibles

### Supplies

Computers with KidPix or similar software

Printer and copy paper

Chart Paper

Marker

Tape

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**God promised Moses that the Israelites would be free and God kept that promise. God always keeps promises. God promises always to be with us and God is! God also promises to speak to us. What are some ways that God speaks to us?** (*God speaks to us in many ways—through the pastor, Sunday School teachers, friends, when we read the Bible, etc.*) **God speaks to us all the time. It's important to listen for God.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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**Gracious God,**

**We thank you for always being with us. Thank you for listening to us. Help us to be better listeners. Teach us that obedience is best for us, and thank you for putting so many good people in our lives, people who want what's best for us, too!**

**Amen.**



**Workshop Focus Statement:** God saves us.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksondayschool.org](http://www.sparksondayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Plagues Storytelling

**Welcome to the Computer Workshop. It is great to see you all here. We are going to be studying plagues that God used to free the Israelites. Does anyone know what a plague is? Let's read from our Spark Bibles or Spark Story Bibles to see if we can learn what a plague is.**

Depending on the age and attention span of your kids, read The Plagues on pages 78-84 of the Spark Story Bible or from the Spark Bible on page 66 (using these chapters/verses: Exodus 7:14-17; 8:1-4; 8:16; 8:20-21; 9:1-3; 9:8-9; 9:13-19; 10:3-6; 10:21-23; 11:4-5). After reading the story, encourage the kids using the Spark Bibles to use some of the stickers. Ask them if they would like to share where they put their stickers and why.

**Can anyone tell us what a plague is now?** Allow kids to respond. **Why did God send the plagues? God wanted Pharaoh to let the Israelites go and Pharaoh wouldn't do it. God wanted the Egyptians to believe in the true God and to realize that Pharaoh wasn't a god.**

**Spark Resources**  
Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

**Supplies**  
None

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Plague Poem

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**Set Up:** Write the 10 plagues on the chart paper and hang it for all to see. Turn on the computers and have the program all ready to go.

### Activity Instructions

Have older and younger kids share a computer. Encourage the older kids to let the younger ones help create the poem.

**We have learned what the plagues are from our story. We learned that Pharaoh wouldn't listen to Moses. We have learned that God had to send many plagues to get Pharaoh to finally change his mind and let the Israelites go. Now we are going to use what we have learned to create some short poems. Each group will create their own poem. When everyone is finished, you will have an opportunity to share your poem with the class.**

Have each group look at the list and pick a plague for their poem. **The last plague is the saddest. We will leave it and talk about it at the end. Decide which other plague you would like to use for your poem. Do poems have to rhyme? No, but they should have a rhythm. If they do rhyme, sometimes it is every other line that rhymes. Sometimes two lines in a row will rhyme. That is up to you. Your poem should be about six lines long. Will your poem include Moses? Will it include Pharaoh? Let's look at some of the plagues and see what might rhyme with some of them.** Frogs—jogs, bogs, dogs. Gnats—bats, hats, mats, pats. Flies—lies, cries, dries, fries. Sores—pours, bores, cores, scores. **You can use your Spark Bibles or Spark Story Bibles to help you. When you are finished with your poem, you can use KidPix to illustrate it.**

As the kids are working you and the Shepherds can circulate around the computers to help and encourage the kids. Help with the rhythm and rhyming words as they need it.

When the kids are finished with their poems and illustrations, use the printer to make copies for the kids. Allow a few minutes for each group to practice saying their poem together.

**Let's talk about the last plague. It was the saddest plague of all. Why do you think God sent a plague that would kill the firstborn sons?** Allow the kids to respond. **God had promised Moses that the Israelites would be free and God always keeps promises. Pharaoh's heart was hardened and it took the last plague to finally change his mind, because his own son was one of the many who died. If Pharaoh had listened and obeyed God the very first time, none of those plagues would have happened.**

**God saved the Hebrew firstborn sons, and God saves us.**

### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles

### Supplies

Computers with KidPix or similar software  
Printer and copy paper  
Chart Paper  
Marker  
Tape

**Now it is time to hear your poems and look at your illustrations.** If some of the kids are too shy to read their poems in front of the group, ask them if it would be all right if you could read them. Be sure to affirm the kids' works. **We have heard some great poems and seen some good pictures today. Be sure to take them home and share them with your families.**

## Send (5 minutes)

### Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**God promised Moses that God would free the Israelites and God did. God continues to free us. God continues to keep promises. We can always count on God.**

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None

### Prayer Time

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**Gracious God,**

**All through our lives you do wonderful things to get our attention. Help us always to listen to you. No matter what happens in our lives, both good and bad, may we turn to you for strength and comfort, and know that you are always with us.**

**Amen.**

