



Our first “Little Day Out” event took place on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013 in Streamvale Farm in Dundonald.

The aim:

An event for children aged 0-4 years to come and discover God’s rescue plan for Noah and his family through story, craft, games and interaction with animals in the surroundings of Streamvale Farm.

Objectives:

- To run a fun event for up to 100 children aged 0-4 years, accompanied by a responsible adult.
- To tell the story of God’s rescue plan for Noah and his family in an age appropriate way for the attending children.
- To make the resources for this event available for anyone to replicate it.
- To pilot an event for this age group for the first time within PCI.
- To fill 2 hours with fun activities that the majority of the children attending would be able to participate in.
- To create an event that can be easily replicated in any open farm or on a privately owned farm without too much difficulty.

Included for your use:

- Programme of event
- Story used
- Craft used
- Snacks made available
- Publicity that can be adapted for use
- Evaluation of what we did and what could be done differently

## Programme:

The programme was set up to incorporate 5 zones that were easily managed and moved between by the children and adults.

1. Story zone

This zone told the story of Noah using puppets and some drama.

Equipment:

2. Craft zone

The children made animal masks of cows and sheep from paper plates attached to lollipop sticks that they could then hold in front of their faces.

Equipment:

3. Games zone

In this zone, a parachute was used to play simple games that all the children got to participate in as they held the edges. Instead of simply playing games and leaving it at that, these games reinforced some of the Noah story by imagining what it would be like for the ark to be in the water, discussing who was in the ark and thinking about what it might have been like to be in ark. As this was done with the noise of the animals of the farm in the background, it worked really well and more importantly, it helped to reinforce what the children were hearing in the story zone.

Equipment: parachute, bag of plastic balls.

4. Snack zone

In this zone, it was decided to serve healthy snacks to the children and to give the adults something homemade to eat. The children were given a plate with a sandwich (either ham or cheese) cut out in the shape of an animal that they may see on the farm that day that corresponded to the sticker that they had for their group (see below), a couple of carrot sticks and a small packet of raisins and a carton of juice. The children then also received a re-sealable plastic bag containing a digestive biscuit, 2 small sweets and a small strip of red candy lace along with a small tub with some icing to make a "Mr Noah face" biscuit to eat afterwards. The adults had a cup of tea or coffee and a homemade traybake.

Equipment: flasks for coffee/tea, containers for icing, plastic spoons.

Each group moved around each of the above zones in groups of 25 children or less so that none of the groups was too large to deal with at one time.


5. Song zone

The song zone was done at the end and was the chance to get everyone together to sing some songs, remind them what they had been learning and to end the event well. A mixture of nursery rhymes and children's choruses was sung and then a simple prayer said at the end with all the children saying "Amen".

Equipment: person with guitar, cd player/iPod dock

The groups who attended were divided into 4 to match the zones and then designated a Streamvale animal to give them a group identity. The group then had a host who was one of our volunteers who had a timetable for their group to know which zone to go to at which time.

<b>SHEEP</b>	
	
<b><u>Group 1</u></b>	
TIME	ZONE
10.05-10.25	1 - Snack
10.30-10.50	2 - Craft
10.55-11.15	3 - Story
11.20-11.40	4 – Games
11.45-12.00	Finish all together (games area)

<b>RABBITS</b>	
	
<b><u>Group 2</u></b>	
Time	Zone
10.05-10.25	4 – Games
10.30.10.50	1 – Snack
10.55-11.15	2- Craft
11.20-11.40	3 – Story
11.45-12.00	4 – Finish all together (games area)

<b>CHICKS – <u>Group 3</u></b>	
	
TIME	ZONE
10.05-10.25	2 – Craft
10.30-10.50	3 – Story
10.55-11.15	4 – Games
11.20-11.40	1 – Snack
11.45-12.00	4 – Finish all together (games area)

<b>PUPPIES – <u>Group 4</u></b>	
	
TIME	ZONE
10.05-10.25	3 - Story
10.30-10.50	4 – Games
10.55-11.15	1 – Snack
11.20-11.40	2 – Craft
11.45-12.00	4 – Finish all together (games area)

Pricing:

The farm charged us a rate of £5 per “adult and child” ticket so we charged £5 for an adult, £3 for a child and then £1 for any additional children. This seemed like a good idea but got a bit confusing when the tickets were being booked and one child price ticket would have been easier.

## STREAMVALE PUPPET SHOW - STORY TIME

Welcome everybody. Today we're going to have some special visitors with us to help us tell a story. So if you listen very carefully, let's see who comes along.

**Lucy (offstage)** Who built the ark, Noah, Noah, who built the ark, Mr Noah built the ..... Ahh! Bert, Bert, come quickly. There's a whole lotta people out here.

**Bert (offstage)** What are you fussing about Lucy? I'm sure you're just pulling my leg. *(he comes up)* Ahh! I see what you mean. Look at them. They're staring right at us.

**Lucy** Do you think they're friendly?

**Bert** Let's hope so. I don't fancy making a quick escape if they're not.

**Lucy** Well I think we should introduce ourselves. My name's Lucy

**Bert** And I'm Bert

**Lucy** And we're here today to hear a story about something that happened many many years ago.

**Bert** Oh I love stories. Especially ones about aliens, and rockets and spaceships.

**Lucy** Well I'm afraid our story has no spaceships in it. But it does have a big boat.

**Bert** A boat? A big pirate ship like in Pirates of the Caribbean?

**Lucy** No not that that. But it was a really big boat – filled with all sorts of animals

**Bert** Loads of animals all stuffed in a boat? I bet you that was smelly.

**Lucy** Huh! Smelly – a bit like you.

**Bert** I'll have you now I smell lovely. Why I had a bath just last month.

**Lucy** Bert, I think it's time to get on with our story, and *(insert name of narrator)* is going to help us.

**Bert** Has she had a bath?

**Lucy** I don't know if she's had a bath. Now let's go and sit down so that we can listen to what she has to tell us.

*(they exit)*

**Narrator** Many, many years had passed since Adam and Eve. By this time most of the people living on the earth chose not to care about God

anymore. They lied and cheated and this made God very sad and very angry. He wished he'd never created people in the first place. Now it was time to get rid of everyone he had created once and for all.

Thankfully for us there was one man who was different. His name was Noah.

*(Noah comes out)*

Noah often asked for God's help, listened to God's answers and then obeyed him. This pleased God greatly.

One day, God told Noah: "I am going to put an end to all people. I will cause a huge flood to cover the land and everyone will drown."

<b>Noah</b>	A flood? But I can't even swim.
<b>Narrator</b>	Do not worry, God said. I will save you, those you love and all who listen to my warning.
<b>Noah</b>	Oh Thank you God. But I still can't swim.
<b>Narrator</b>	Noah! God said. I want you to build me a great big boat and build it exactly the way I say to.
<b>Noah</b>	A boat? OK. If you say so, but how?
<b>Narrator</b>	You will build me an ark made out of gopher wood.
<b>Noah</b>	Gopher wood.
<b>Narrator</b>	Then seal it with tar.
<b>Noah</b>	OK, seal it with tar.
<b>Narrator</b>	It has to be 450 feet long
<b>Noah</b>	450 feet long
<b>Narrator</b>	75 feet wide
<b>Noah</b>	75 feet wide
<b>Narrator</b>	And 45 feet high
<b>Noah</b>	45 feet high
<b>Narrator</b>	Make 3 decks inside
<b>Noah</b>	3 decks inside
<b>Narrator</b>	And a door in the side and a window on the top
<b>Noah</b>	Right then, a door in the side and a window on top

**Narrator** Oh and don't forget to build some stalls inside for all the animals.

**Noah** OK, Build some stalls inside for all the an..... all the what?

**Narrator** I want you to fill it with two of every type of animal to save them all from the flood.

**Noah** Well, OK God. If you say so.

**Narrator** So Noah and his family went to work building an ark, just the way God had told him to.

**Noah** Oh, I'm going to need all my tools in my tool bag. I know. I think a little song would help me work quicker.

**Narrator** OK boys and girls. Let's sing to help Noah and you can join in with the actions too.

**SONG**

*(Noah goes off)*

**Narrator** Noah had worked very hard. Finally the ark was finished. Noah told his family to climb on board and then he left the door open for whatever was coming along next. Soon animals and birds of all kinds made their way to the Ark. What a sight! All the noise had brought Noah's neighbours out to watch. And they thought he was crazy. He was going to turn the big ark into a big zoo.

God spoke to all the animals and told them of the coming danger, but that Noah would care for them.

Looking out into the distance, Noah could see a long parade of animals heading straight for the ark. On they came. Two by two.

I wonder who were the first to arrive.

*(Camels come up)*

**Camilla** Oh Hello everybody. My name is Camilla

**Achoo** And my name is ...Ah.. Choo!

**Camilla** Oh, don't sneeze over all the poor children

**Achoo** I'm not sneezing. I just told them my name. Ah.. Choo!

**Camilla** I'm sorry but we can't hang around and talk. We are in a rush.

**Achoo** Oh Goodness Gracious Me. Why are we always in such a hurry? And why are we the first on board?

**Camilla** Well I want to make sure I get one of the best cabins on board this ship. I only travel first class you know.

**Achoo** First class? This isn't a luxury cruise you know.

**Camilla** Isn't it? I thought we were going away to relax. Lying in a Jacuzzi, dining at the Captains Table and sunbathing by the pool.

**Achoo** Sunbathing? I don't think we'll be doing much sunbathing. Have you seen those big grey clouds? I think it's going to rain.

**Camilla** Rain, rain, go away. Come again another day.

**Achoo** And I think it's going to get pretty crowded. Look at the queue of animals behind us.

**Camilla** OK then we'd better get a move on. I don't want to have to bunk down with all that riff raff.

**Achoo** That's the trouble with you, Camilla. You always end up taking the hump! Hump! Camel! Get it? Oh, never mind.

**Camilla** Enough of your dilly dallying. Achoo bring me my suitcases. We must bid you all farewell or as they say on board a ship 'Anchors aweigh!'

**Achoo** Tally ho! Keep me the top bunk.

*(they rush off)*

**Narrator** So two by two the animals filled the ark. All different shapes and sizes.

Along came two sheep.

**Sheep** Baa! Come on Woolly. Get a move on. Did you remember to pack your woolly fleece? You know who cold it can get at night. Baa! Oh, I hope there are no wolves on board. Baa!

**Narrator** Then along came two little dogs.

**Dog** Ruff! Ruff! I hope they've got a ball I can chase. I just love chasing balls. Or a stick. I just love chasing sticks. Or a cat. I just love chasing cats. Ruff! Ruff! In fact, I just love chasing anything. Ruff! Ruff! Wheeee! Let's go chasing.

**Narrator** And along came two donkeys.

**Donkey** He Haw! He Haw! Oh, Hello. I'm a donkey. Has anyone seen my carrot? I like carrots. I hope Noah's remembered to pack some carrots for us. Oh well, off we go.

**Narrator** Then along came two cows.

**Cow** Moo! Moo! Mum. Mum. I'm thirsty. I want some milk. Please mum, please mum. Maybe you can give some nice fresh milt to Mr Noah too as a thank you. Moo!

**Narrator** Then along came two chickens

**Chicken** Cluck! Cluck! On come on, come on. I think I need to lay an egg. Maybe that will do Noah for his breakfast.

**Narrator** Then along came two big wolves

**Wolf** Grr! Oi! Alright mate! Oh don't those chickens look delicious. I don't have fancy a bit of tasty chicken. Or better still. A lovely piece of lamb. I'm sure I saw some sheep up there.

**Narrator** But God had told the animals that they were not to eat each other and that they would all have to live together while on the ark.

**Wolf** Spoilsport! Looks like it's salad for us again tonight!

**Narrator** And then along came two pigs

**Pig** Oink! Oink! Hey was that a big bad wolf I say ahead of us? I hope he doesn't want to huff and puff and blow us all down.

**Narrator** Don't worry. Noah will keep you all safe.

Then along came two tortoises. They moved very slowly and very quietly. In fact, tortoises don't really make any sound at all. At last they had made it on board.

When next to arrive were two snakes. They slithered and slimed all the way up the ramp into the ark, hissing as they went.

**Snake** Hiss! Are you sure this is the way. It's a bit slippy and slimey, just the way we like it. I hope there's a nice stone I can curl up under to go back to sleep.

**Narrator** The ark was almost full, but we mustn't forget all the birds and insects too. There were all types of birds. Black birds, white birds, blue birds, big birds, and small birds too. And when all the animals and birds were safely inside God closed the big door so that no-one would fall out.

Seven days passed and it did not rain. Outside the sun shone brightly.

*(camels come up)*

**Camilla** Oh I don't know what all the fuss is about. It's a beautiful day outside.

**Narrator** Then suddenly everything changed.

*(clouds come out)*



**Achoo** Oh look at those clouds. And the sky is getting very dark.

**Camilla** And what is that rumbly sound? I hope it's not thunder.

**Achoo** I think I felt a drop of rain fall on my nose.

**Camilla** Yes I think I did too.

**Achoo** Oh no, it's starting to get really heavy now.

**Camilla** I think a storm's coming. Quick. Let's go and get my umbrella.

*(camels go off)*

**Narrator** So it rained and it rained and it rained. The water kept pouring down for 40 long days and 40 long nights. Noah's ark floated up higher and higher. It even went over the tallest mountain peaks.

The days dragged into weeks. Noah and his family along with all the animals were safe and dry inside the ark.

*(clouds come off)*

Then one morning Noah woke up.

*(Noah comes out with umbrella)*

**Noah** That's funny! I can hear the waves splashing against the side of the boat.

**Narrator** Until now, the rain had been pouring down so loud that he couldn't hear the waves hit the boat.

**Noah** Yippee! It's stopped raining.

*(Noah takes down umbrella)*

**Narrator** Noah was so excited that he started to wake everyone up and praised God that the rain had finally stopped. Many more days passes and Noah opened the window to have a look.

**Noah** Still nothing but water.

**Narrator** No hills or mountains. Just water, as far as he could see.

**Noah** I've got an idea. I'll send out one of the birds to see if they can find any land.

**Narrator** So Noah went and got a raven, which is a big black bird and told him what he wanted him to do.

**Noah** Now I want you to go out and have a good fly round and then come back and tell me if you can see any land. Then I'll know that the floods are almost over.

**Narrator** So off went the raven and he waited... and he waited.... and he waited... but the raven never came back.

Then he decided to ask a little white dove to do exactly the same thing. The dove flew away but soon it came back again looking very tired.

**Noah** Oh dear! She mustn't have found anywhere to land.

**Narrator** So a week later he asked the dove to do exactly the same thing all over again.

The dove flew away only this time it came back to Noah with a branch in its mouth.

**Noah** Look a branch! That must mean she found a tree somewhere and that the water has almost gone.

**Narrator** So he waited one more week. The dove flew out again but this time she did not come back.

**Noah** No sign of my little dove. She must have found some dry land.

**Narrator** Noah went to tell his family the good news. The ark finally settled onto dry land high up on a mountaintop. The day came to lower down the great door on the side of the ark.

*(animals start to rush out)*

The animals seemed so excited to get off that they made even more noise leaving than when they got on.

When Noah and his family set foot on the dry land, they gave thanks to God for saving them and keeping them safe during the terrible floods.

When God heard their thanks, he promised never to destroy the world with water ever again. Then as a sign of his promise he painted a beautiful and colourful rainbow in the sky.

*(rainbow comes up)*

So whenever we see a rainbow today, think of God and remember good old Noah and how important it is to be kind and caring to animals and to each other, and look after this wonderful planet in which we live.

Rain, rain, go away! God is good, and so were they!

**THE END**

## STREAMVALE SONGS

- 1) Noah makes the hammer go bang, bang, bang.  
Bang, bang, bang. Bang, bang, bang.  
Noah makes the hammer go bang, bang, bang.  
As he builds the ark.

Noah makes the saw go saw, saw, saw.  
Saw, saw, saw. Saw, saw, saw.  
Noah makes the saw go saw, saw, saw.  
As he builds the ark.

Noah makes the axe go chop, chop, chop.  
Chop, chop, chop. Chop, chop, chop.  
Noah makes the axe go chop, chop, chop..  
As he builds the ark.

- 2) Good old Noah built an ark. Like God told him to.  
And on that ark he had two sheep. Like God told him to.  
With a Baa Baa here and a Baa Baa there.  
Here a Baa, there a Baa, everywhere a Baa Baa.  
Good old Noah built an ark. Like God told him to.
- Good old Noah built an ark. Like God told him to.  
And if you do what God says do. He will bless you too.



Little  
Resources

What people said who attended the event:

*Fun, well organised, age appropriate activities and lovely break food. Good even in rain.*

*The event was marvellous and everyone was very positive about it. I had a few single mums along and some mums who don't attend church so I thought it was a great opportunity to involve them and easily be inclusive. It was a treat for me too not having to organise an event and to be able just to turn up and enjoy my group.*

*A **BIG THANKYOU** to all of you. More please!*

*This was a well planned event, from start to finish.*

*The programme was well planned for the toddlers as all the activities were suitable for them. The toddlers especially enjoyed the dancing and praise time.*

*The venue was well suited towards the toddlers. It was brilliant that it allowed children freedom to run around and explore the many animals on show. For a lot of our children it gave them an opportunity to see life on a farm and to see some animals for the very first time.*

*Such variety! We loved all the different activities.*

*Do it again – same venue – it will be a different crowd – they all move onto school so quickly!*

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