Lesson Plan: Action Heroes Book 1, Lesson 4 \sim God cares for the Israelites

Ages 2-3 years

Activity	Materials
Warm up / welcome game: Helpers	
• Let's see if we can put these puzzles together < take it in turns with the group helping each child to complete their puzzle, practicing sharing pieces and helping each other>	• Simple Bible story puzzles (3-4 pieces each)
Attention grabber: Going on a trip	
 When I go on a trip I pack my suitcase. Would you like to see what is inside? Do you know what these things are? <map, about="" camera="" do="" each="" food,="" hat,="" talk="" thing="" water,="" what="" with="" you=""></map,> Today's story is about some people who had to pack for a long journey. These people didn't have a map. God showed them the way! 	• Small suitcase or bag with some travel items in it (e.g.map, water, food, hat, camera)
Story and question time: Crossing the Red Sea	Blue cellophane strips
 Tell the story using a sand tray, peg dolls and strips of cellophane for the sea (two pieces overlapping so they can be rolled back on either side when the wind blows) Give all the children a peg doll for each hand, they will help tell the story by walking people through the sea on dry land. Show the picture of the Egyptian army that they were running away from. Pharaoh was very cross that his slaves were escaping <can cross="" faces?="" make="" you=""></can> 	 Peg dolls Sand tray Picture of Egyptian army in chariots (optional)
Craft time: Pharaoh and his army	Pre-printed templates
• Give everyone a copy of the picture of the Egyptian chariot	• Pre-cut circles of shiny
• Collage / colour the picture, add a cloak (shiny fabric or paper). Talk about circles and ask the children to find the circle in the picture. Make a wheel out of shiny paper to glue on.	paper (wheels)Shiny fabric for cloakGlue and colouring pens
Song time: (to the tune of The Grand Old Duke of York) "Oh the people of Israel, Their God led them the way, He used a pillar of fire at night and a pillar of cloud by day."	
Activity time: party blowers a mighty wind	• Bowl of water
• set the bowl of water in the middle of the table	• Party blowers (1 each)
• give each child a party blower and a straw	• Straws (1 each)
• talk about how God made the wind blow really hard to move all of the water, then let them try blowing with the party blower and the straw to see if they can make waves on the water surface then talk about how much power God has to move a whole ocean.	
Activity time: floating and sinking (exploring)	• Bowl of water
• Some things sink to the bottom of the water and some things float, let's see which is which. <give a="" before="" chance="" child="" each="" float="" guess="" if="" object="" or="" sink="" test="" their="" they="" to="" will=""></give>	 Objects to float and sink (teaspoons – metal + plastic; coins; pebbles, feathers, small toys etc.)
Craft time: Lift the flap picture	• Clip art image of people
• Use a clip art image of people walking, glue it in the centre of the A4 page and glue the strip of sandpaper below their feet	walking
 Attach a flap of blue paper over the picture that opens down to show the people walking 	 Sand paper strips Blue paper
on dry land, try blowing the paper open like the wind.	Blue paperGlue and tape
Memory verse: The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. Hebrews 13:6	
• Can you remember our new memory verse. I am going to say it a few times, can you say it too? <give a="" everyone="" for="" sticker="" trying.=""></give>	Memory verse sheetsStickers
Take home:	• Colouring sheet (p. 33
Colouring sheet	in Action Heroes 1 teacher's book)

NB: mix and match the activities to suit your students and the materials you have available

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Notes:

Making props

- **Bible story puzzles** can be made from the pages of a worn out Bible storybook, trim to size and cut the pages into 3 or 4 pieces. You could laminate them to make them more hard wearing. Alternatively, make your own using clip art.
- A sand tray can be made from a clean oil drip tray, large baking tray or similar. Fill with clean sand.
- Egyptian army images can be found in Wikimedia Commons (a source of free public domain images) eg. Egyptian Chariot By Joseph Bonomi [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Tricky topics

• The first time I taught this lesson I was worried about the children being upset that the pursuing army drowned, but 2-3 year olds are very matter-of-fact and they all accepted it without any concern.

Sharing and working together

• At this age many children engage in 'parallel play' – they play beside each other but not together. Encouraging sharing through playing games as a group helps to build social skills. Pausing to ensure each child has their turn is important, they will wait if they know their turn always comes.