

## Bible background

Exodus 1:6-22; 2:1-10

## Aim of lesson

To show that God does not like people to be cruel, and that he cares for babies and children.

## Preparation required

You will need plasticine, glue, one basket made from the activity sheet and one plasticine baby to fit in the basket (or you could make it during the lesson while telling the class about Moses).

## Suggested outline of lesson

1. Ask the children who has a baby brother or sister. Let them tell you about the babies they know.
2. Introduce baby Moses. Show the plasticine model of a baby as you tell them about him. Tell how when baby Moses was born his mother and father were worried and frightened for their baby. They were slaves to the cruel king of Egypt, Pharaoh, and because Pharaoh did not want his slaves to get too strong and fight against him, he had given a very cruel order. All the baby boys of the Jewish slaves had to be thrown into the river and drowned.  
  
Emphasise that Moses' mother and father loved their baby boy and did not want him to die. Tell how his mother made a basket (put the model baby in the basket) and hid him in the one place the soldiers of Pharaoh would not think of looking - in the river. Ask the children about how Moses' parents must have felt and for what they must have prayed.
3. Use the song 'Baby Moses' to tell the rest of the story. Stop after each verse to explain what happened next, and the appropriate action.
4. Ask the children to make their own basket from the activity sheet and a plasticine baby to place in the basket.

## Alternative activities

1. Make a collage picture with a river, fish, rushes, baby in a basket, Pharaoh's daughter, attendants and Miriam. Use shiny foil, coloured paper, thin card or textured paper for the basket. Wallpaper or wrapping paper are good for making rich clothing for Pharaoh's daughter or you can use sticky shapes as decoration.
2. If you have enough space, the children can dress up (robe, crown and jewels for Pharaoh's daughter, head-dresses and robes for the attendants and Miriam.) Use a doll to be Moses. 'Hide' the baby in a box or basket and act out the story.

## Relevance to the children's lives

Ask the children if they know anyone who is sometimes cruel - to other children or to animals. Ask what God thinks about that sort of behaviour.

## Prayer

Ask what Moses' parents might have prayed when they had baby Moses back safe. Ask someone to thank God for keeping us safe too.

## Verse

'Pharaoh's daughter took him and brought him up as her own son.' Acts 7:21.

# Song

## Baby Moses (Tune: Down By The Riverside)

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a D chord. The second staff has A7 and D chords. The third staff has G and A7 chords. The fourth staff is labeled 'Chorus' and has D, D7, G, and D chords. The fifth staff has G and A7 chords and includes a first ending bracket. The sixth staff includes a second ending bracket.

## Actions

- v.1 Baby Moses lay in a basket  
Down by the riverside (*three times - rock arms*)  
Baby Moses lay in a basket  
Down by the riverside (*twice*)
- Chorus: (Optional)  
Can you imagine how they'd cry  
Knowing their baby boy might die  
Their baby boy might die (*repeat*)
- v.2 Moses' sister kept a look out (*shade eyes with hand as a look out*)
- v.3 Pharaoh's daughter came to swim there (*swimming actions with arms*)
- v.4 Then she found the baby Moses (*open hands*)
- v.5 Then she sent for Moses' mother (*point*)
- v.6 She said, 'Will you nurse this baby?' (*rock arms*)
- Chorus: Can you imagine all their joy.  
When they got back their baby boy.  
They got back their baby boy. (*repeat*)

Music: Traditional.