

Lesson 7: Jesus Controls the Weather

Activities

Science Activity: Sea of Galilee in a Bottle

Map Activity: Topographical Map of the Sea of Galilee

Craft Project: Make a Boat

Memory Work: Review the Books of the New Testament

Coloring Page: Jesus Calms the Storm

Science Activity

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Sea of Galilee in a Bottle

Materials

- Empty plastic soda bottle (1 or 2 liter), label removed
- Oil (baby oil or mineral oil are best because they're clear)
- Water
- Blue food coloring
- Craft glue
- Funnel (you can do without this if you are careful)
- OPTIONAL: Glitter, sand, plastic sea creatures

Directions

- 1 The student should fill the bottle halfway with water. She should add a few drops of food coloring to turn the water blue. If you want to add glitter, sand, or sea creatures, do so now.
- 2 Using the funnel (this prevents mess), help the student carefully fill the rest of the bottle with oil.
- 3 Have the student squirt some glue around the inside of the bottle cap. Screw the cap tightly on the bottle.
- 4 Tilt the bottle back and forth gently to make a stormy Sea of Galilee.

Map Activity

Topographical Map of the Sea of Galilee

Materials

- Sea of Galilee map (Student Page 67)
- Scissors
- Broiler pan or rimmed baking sheet
- Aluminum foil
- Plastic knife
- Salt dough (see recipe below)

SALT-DOUGH RECIPE

Ingredients

- 1 c. salt
- 1¼ c. warm water
- 3 c. flour
- Plastic bag
- OPTIONAL: Food coloring

Directions

- 1 In a large bowl, have the student mix the salt with the water.
- 2 Gradually add the flour, enough to make a smooth (but not goopy) dough. Knead into a ball.
- 3 Knead in food coloring if desired, or you can paint the project at the very end. Make the dough green or brown (for brown, mix equal drops red, blue, and yellow).
- 4 The dough can be stored overnight in a plastic bag in the refrigerator.

Map Directions

- 1 Have the student cut out the Sea of Galilee from the map on Student Page 67.
- 2 The student should place the Sea of Galilee cut-out in the center of the pan. Now add the dough around it, shaping it into mountains that border the sea. The Sea of Galilee is surrounded by tall mountains; the highest are on the east (right) side. The actual Sea of Galilee is quite low, 680 feet below sea level. The cool dry air from the mountains mixes with the warm, moist air over the sea, and storms result.
- 3 Once the student is finished shaping the dough mountain range, remove the paper Sea of Galilee. Tear off a sheet of aluminum foil that is larger than the Sea of Galilee paper. Assist the student to shape the foil inside the dough basin to make an aluminum “bowl” representing the Sea of Galilee. The student should press the foil edges into the dough to seal.

- 4 Bake the map in a 300 degree F. oven until dry (about 1 hour). Once baked, have the student paint it if she likes.
- 5 The student can add a little water into the foil Sea of Galilee. The actual Sea of Galilee is quite shallow, only 200 feet at its deepest. The water is easily churned up by the wind, making storms there treacherous. Have the student blow on her sea to create waves.

Craft Project

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Make a Boat

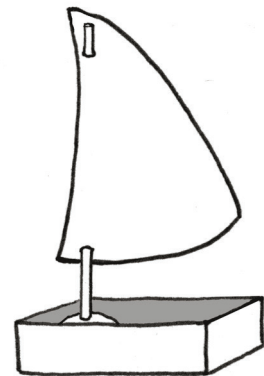
This boat really floats!

Materials (for each student)

- Empty soap box (the box a single bar of soap comes in)
- Aluminum foil
- Scissors
- Drinking straw
- White paper or notebook paper
- Crayons
- Play dough OR salt dough, small amount (to make your own salt dough, which can be substituted for play dough in several of the activities in this book, follow the recipe at the bottom of this activity)
- Hole punch

Directions

- 1 Have the student help you cut off one of the large sides of the soap box to make a container (imagine a shoebox without the lid).
- 2 Tear off a sheet of aluminum foil and place the soap box in the center. Wrap the soap box with the aluminum foil to make the boat waterproof.
- 3 Cut a square or a triangle (whichever shape you prefer) out of the paper. This will be the sail. Let the student decorate it if she wants to. Punch a hole in the top and the bottom of the paper.
- 4 Thread the drinking straw (the mast) through the holes in the paper. Take a tiny clump of play dough and stick it in the center of the boat. Stick the straw in the play dough to keep the sail upright.
- 5 Later the student can put her boat in the bathtub and blow it across the sea!



SALT-DOUGH RECIPE

Ingredients

- 1 c. salt
- 1¼ c. warm water
- 3 c. flour
- Blue, red, and yellow food coloring
- Plastic bag

Directions

- 1 In a large bowl, mix together the salt and warm water.
- 2 Gradually add the flour. Knead into a ball. Set aside one third of the dough.
- 3 Add a few drops of blue food coloring to this smaller portion. Knead the dough until it is uniform in color. Then add equal drops red, yellow, and blue to the larger portion of dough to make the color brown. Knead until brown in color.
- 4 The dough can be stored overnight in plastic bags in the refrigerator.

Memory Work

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Review the Books of the New Testament

Directions

Say to the student: “Remember, in the last lesson we learned the names of the first five books of the New Testament. They were Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts. Let’s chant those together five times.”

(Together, five times): Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts.

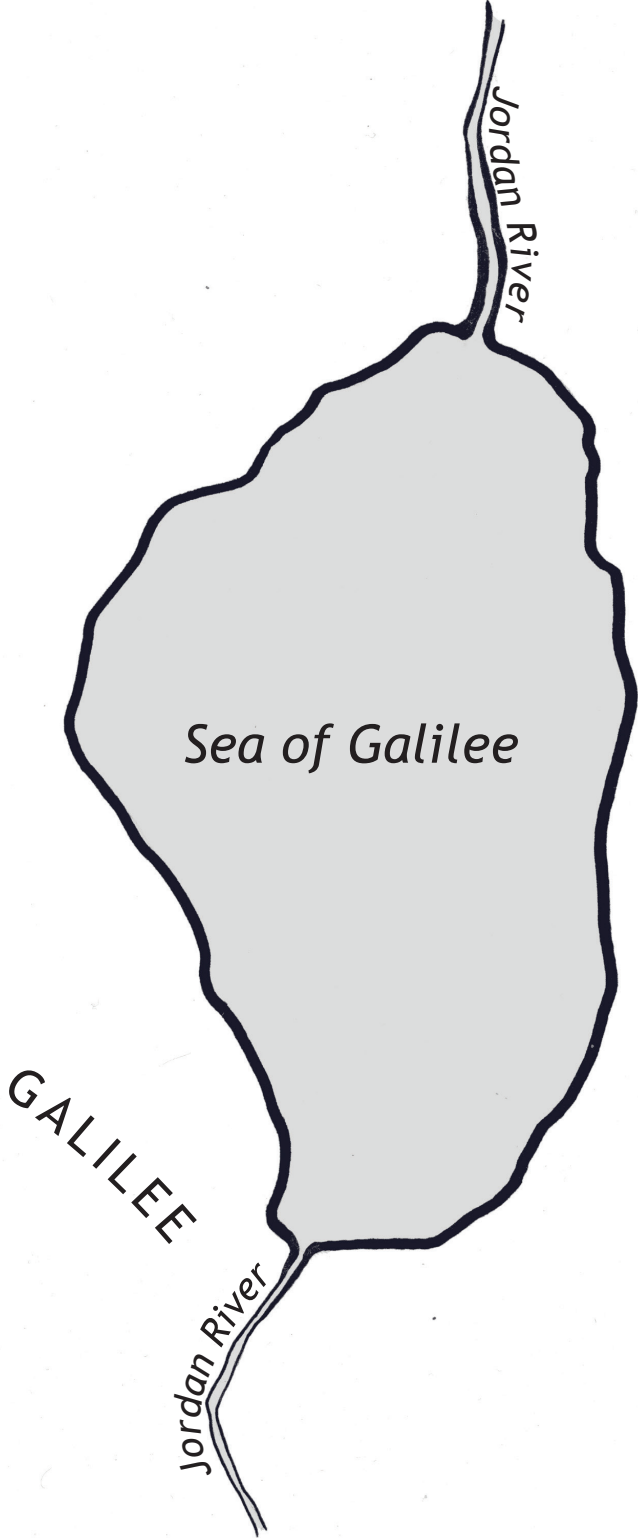
Coloring Page

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Jesus Calms the Storm

The disciples were afraid of the big storm and thought their boat would sink. But Jesus made the storm stop just by telling it to stop. That showed the disciples that Jesus had God’s power to command the weather.

Sea of Galilee Map





Matthew 8:23-27