



Theme: Bible Characters (BC) / Energize at home (EAH) Abraham
Aim: To see, through looking at Abraham's life, that God is a promise-keeping God.

Craft: Star collage (Aimed at younger children)

Create a collage full of stars. Choose a dark piece of paper/colour it in to make it dark to create a night sky. Add to stars to your sky—they could be stickers, stars cut out of magazines or you could draw as many stars as you can on your piece of paper. God told Abraham that it would be easier to count the stars than to count his family!

Worship: (aimed at younger children)

God gave Abraham a huge promise of having as many children as there are stars in the sky. Sing this song together 'Father Abraham' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5o_J30x6E6s&feature=emb_logo

As the body parts are mentioned, the children should wave them during the next verse. (Sorry parents and carers you're going to have to dig out those earplugs again haha).

Activity & worship:

Make a list of the biggest things you can name. e.g. A skyscraper, a dinosaur, a giant. Do you think God is bigger than all those things you just listed?

God is pretty big find out just how big his is by singing 'Bigger than big' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_Vwba3dGeY

OR follow Becky's friend Kirsty for the actions to this song https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Spjw6Jh3jHl&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0t2u-BVEQ1XHSJoz_NOq1JzlnTUF7u_uiSKdPJcE-hmsoaWnVfeRykmec

Story: Option 1

Watch <https://crossroadskidsclub.net/kid-bible-stories-abraham/>

After watching the video can you answer these questions?

- What was the name of the man in today's story? (Abram/Abraham)
- What was the name of the man's wife in today's story? (Sari/Sarah)
- What did God promise them? (A big family)
- How many did he promise? (More than the stars in the sky and grains of dust)
- How old were the man and woman when they had their baby? (100)
- What did they call their baby boy? (Isaac)
- Did God keep his promise? (Yes!)

Story: Option 2

Read this story- when you clap your hands everyone should stand up and make a facial expression that matches how Abraham or Sarah felt. God had promised Abraham that he would give him a land. He promised that Abraham would have children - but Abraham was old; he was already in his eighties and his wife couldn't have children. CLAP. Because he trusted God, Abraham had left his land and was living in the land that God had promised to give his children - and still he had no children at all! One day God spoke to Abraham.

"Abraham, I will bless you mightily - you can't imagine the things I'll give you!" Abraham felt fed up. "What's the point, God?". He asked. "I haven't got any children - no one to pass your gifts on to." CLAP. "Ah, but I'm going to give you children," God promised. "I will give you a son. And look at the sky!"

Story: Option 2 (continued)

Can you count all those stars? Your descendants will be like that - no one will be able to count them!" CLAP. Years passed. Sarah, Abraham's wife, got fed up. "Tell you what," she said, "I've got a servant called Hagar. You could have her as a second wife and maybe she will give you a son." So that's what happened - Abraham married Hagar and she did have a baby. Sarah was furious! CLAP. She was jealous of Hagar and Hagar wound Sarah up. But God appeared to Abraham again. When he was 99, God came to Abraham and promised him that he would be the father of more than one nation! Many nations would call Abraham their father - God made a solemn promise to Abraham, and as a sign that he believed it; Abraham made a private mark on his body. But still there was no baby! CLAP. One day three men came to see Abraham. Abraham recognised that they were God's men - perhaps angels disguised as men - so he asked Sarah to make a special meal for them. The men said to Abraham that he was going to have a son by the next year. CLAP. Inside the tent, Sarah heard - and laughed! She was over ninety; she was too old to have a baby now! CLAP. "Why is your wife laughing?" asked one of the men, we are telling the truth!" Sarah was scared and said, "I didn't laugh - Really I didn't!" "You did," the man replied, "but you will see - this time next year you will have a baby." CLAP. And it happened just as the man had said. A year later, when Abraham was a hundred and Sarah over ninety, Isaac was born. And Sarah named him Isaac because it means laughter! CLAP. Isaac had twins. One of the twins had 12 sons - and 400 years later Abraham had more great-great-great-grandchildren than he and Sarah had imagined! CLAP.

Questions:

- Did God keep his promise?
- Did Abraham and Sarah find it hard to believe God's promise?
- Did God reject Abraham when he tried to "help" God's promises to come true?
- Do you find it encouraging that people like Abraham got it wrong sometimes? Why?

When we believe God it can be hard to keep trusting him! It is helpful to know that even great "faith heroes" such as Abraham found it difficult to wait for God to answer!

Activity: Trust exercise

For this activity you are going to make a room as comfortable as you can, possibly using cushions/pillows OR this this outside on the grass. Blindfold your child/they blindfold someone in their household and guide them around the room/outside. Ask them to trust you as you are going to take them on a journey. Lead them around for a few minutes and stop somewhere with a tasty snack so when they take their blindfold off they have something nice to enjoy. Abraham went on a journey and decided to trust God - he went where God told him to and in the end he was taken to a great place. God keeps his promises and we can safely trust him! God keeps his promises because he knows what is going to happen: he knew where Abraham was going to end up. He knew that Isaac would be born when Abraham was 100 and not before! So we can trust God because he knows the future anyway!

Craft: Map making

Find a map you have at home or look up maps online. Abraham travelled a far distance before he found the place God had promised. God told him the way to go. We use maps or Satnavs to help us find where we need to go. Get creative and design a map-it could be a map of your home, garden or favourite place. You could even make a treasure map. You need a piece of paper and some pens to draw out your map. If you would like to make your map old you could tea dye your paper watch this video for instructions https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLI_MKRGpqQ

For more resources check out Urban Saints Energize website: <https://www.energize.uk.net/>

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