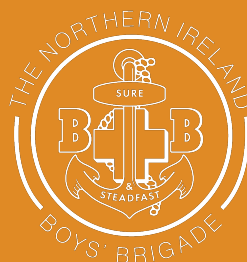


# THE BIBLE



Anchors Leaders' Resource Guide

**This resource has been created in partnership with The Northern Ireland Boys' Brigade (BBNI) and Scripture Union (SUNI). In SUNI and BBNI, we want to share God's Good News and Advance Christ's Kingdom with children, young people and families.**

**This resource is designed to help you lead a session about the Bible with Anchors. We want to encourage children to understand what the Bible is, why it's so important and how to engage with it.**

**This session is 40 minutes long.**

**For this session you will need:**

- **A Bible**
- **Play dough (enough for each child)**
- **Projector & Audio (for the video)**

**Tip: If some of the children don't have a Bible, the Church or BB may think about providing some.**

# THE BIBLE

## Introduction (1 min)

Take time to explain to the children that over the next 40 minutes you'll be exploring the Bible, what the Bible is, why it's important and how we can use it today as we follow Jesus.

## Discussion: What's your favourite book (5 mins)

- Ask a leader to share what their favourite story is and why. (They could bring in the physical book so that the children can see it).
- Lead an open discussion asking the children the questions below:
  - ***What's your favourite story?***
  - ***What makes a good story?***
- Finish the discussion by explaining that today we're going to be exploring the biggest and best story, God's big story, which we find in the Bible!

## Video: Play until the pause at 05:24 (5 mins)

- Gather the children together to play the video. You might want to explain you'll be pausing in the middle to ask some questions.
- Pause the video at the marked time of 05:24 (there will be a countdown on screen to give you space to do this).

## Interactive Bible Story:(10 mins)

- Using the interactive drama script on the next page, take the children through the drama based on the passage from Matthew 21:1-11
- Take time to ask the children the questions below:  
(If you have a child that's younger, has additional needs or less Biblical knowledge, you might want to read out options for them to vote on for each question.)

- ***Do you remember from the story what the people were waving?***  
(Answer: Palm leaves)
- ***What were they shouting?***  
(Answer: “Praise God, Hosanna, Glory to God”)
- ***Why were they so excited?***  
(Answer: Jesus was the King)
- ***I wonder what you would have shouted if you saw Jesus riding on a donkey?***

## **Interactive Bible Story**

Explain to the children that you’re going to read out the story. They have to listen out for the key words (written below) and when they hear them say the following lines:

Key Words:

**Donkey:** “eee- aww”,  
**Can’t do that:** “oh yes, you can!”  
**Grumble/grumbling:** “it’s not fair!”

Jesus and his followers have been travelling for a long time and they are tired and worn out. Some of the disciples are even starting to **grumble!**

So Jesus gets them all together and says:

“Listen guys, I think it’s time for the **donkey.**”

“What **donkey?**” his disciples ask.

“The one that you are going to get for me from the next village”, Jesus replied.

“Right, hmmm, hang on a minute Jesus – a **donkey?**”

Yes, a **donkey.**

Jesus...look...**we can’t do that!**

So Jesus sat them all down and said –“Here’s the deal guys –this **donkey** is part of an important plan that I made a long time ago.

So Jesus chose two of his disciples and said “this is the job for you”. I want you to go to the next village and when you see the **donkey**, untie it and bring it to me”.

But the two disciples weren't sure about this plan so they started to **grumble**...in fact they were complaining so much that the rest of the disciples started to **grumble** with them, they even said these two men '**can't do that!**'

But Jesus said to all of them– “there's no point moaning'. You two go to the village as I've told you and bring back the first **donkey** that you see. If anyone bothers you just say 'the master needs it' and all will be fine”.

So the disciples headed off into the village, sure enough they saw the **donkey** that Jesus was talking about and they began to untie it. But as they were untying it some men arrived and started to **grumble**... “you **can't do that**' they said “it's our **donkey**”.

But the disciples explained “the Master needs it” and sure enough, just as Jesus had said, the men allowed them to take it with them.

As soon as the disciples got back, Jesus got onto the **donkey**. Then he rode into Jerusalem. As he rode in, huge crowds of people all lined up along the street to meet him and started shouting and singing praises to God. They were saying things like “Hosanna, Glory to God, Praise God”

Some of the people even spread out their clothes in the road in front of Jesus and others cut down branches from trees and waved Palm leaves to greet him. Most of the people were so excited to see Jesus on the **donkey**, but some of the religious leaders started to **grumble** and complain. But the people didn't care - they were really excited, because to them Jesus was their King.

### **Back to the video! (5 mins)**

- Play the remainder of the video with the children.
- Please note that at 07:00 there's a game of “Rachel says” where the children are invited to stand up and take part. (You might want to pause the video to allow everyone to get ready for the game).

### **Let's create! (5 mins)**

- Give each child a piece of play dough.
- Explain that as you remind them of some of the things you learnt about the Bible from the video, you want them to create different objects out of the play dough to help them remember.

- They will have just one minute to make something out of the play dough!
- The first thing you want them to create is a **book**!
  - Explain that today we learnt that the Bible isn't just one book but it's.... (ask them if they could guess how many) 66 books!
- The second thing you want them to create is a **cross**!
  - Explain that the Bible has lots of different stories in it like God creating the world, appearing through a burning bush to Moses, Joshua who brought down the walls of a city by walking around and blowing a trumpet or even his disciple, Peter walking on water. Although there are lots of stories in the Bible there is one big story, God's rescue story that runs through the Bible. At the start of the Bible the rescuer is promised and in the New Testament the rescuer is sent who is Jesus coming down to earth, dying on a cross and rising again so that we can have a friendship with God.
- The third thing I want you to create is a **stick person**.
  - The Bible tells us that God is like our Father, He's the best dad we'll ever have, He loves us, cares deeply for us, He's always ready to listen to us and He always works for our good! He's given us the Bible because He wants us to know what He's like and get to know Him better!
- Ask the children to roll their play dough into a ball as fast as they can to finish and collect.

### **Game: Follow the leader (5 mins)**

- Ask the children to make one long line with a leader at the front and a few leaders in different stages of the line.
- Explain everyone has to follow the leader at the front. The leader at the front will sometimes move fast or slow, in long or short steps, they might move in a straight line or in circles, or freeze, they might even move like an animal! You have to follow exactly what they do!
- To help pass on the instruction to the line, the leader can shout out their next move. e.g. walk like an elephant! If you have time you could change the leader.

- At the end of the game gather the children and explain that God wants us to follow Him and He tells us the best way to live and what to do through the Bible!

### **Song: Ask, Seek, Knock (3 mins)**

- Play the video on YouTube.
- With a few leaders doing the actions from the front ask everyone to join in!

### **Pray (1 min)**

- Take time to pray collectively for the children as they take time to read the Bible this week.



# THE BIBLE

[www.suni.co.uk](http://www.suni.co.uk)

[www.boysbrigadeni.org](http://www.boysbrigadeni.org)



**Scripture Union**  
Northern Ireland

**BBNI**  
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