

Hope



Hope is more than just wishing that things could be different.
Hope is about believing things can be better and being prepared to act on that belief.



The Bible and Hope



The Bible opens with the line, 'In the beginning, God made the heavens and the Earth'.

It goes on to say how God was pleased and happy with the Earth He had made and that it was brimming with life and colour, sound and beauty.

It was a precious gift given to people with God's love.

God **hoped** that people would care for it and care for each other, but it wasn't long before they were doing just the opposite! There was fighting and snatching when God wanted kindness and care.

So, God decided to start all over again.

However, not everyone on the earth was acting so meanly. One man and his family were trying their best to listen to God, be kind to other people and look after the world. That man was Noah.

One day, God spoke to Noah and told him to build an ark - a huge boat.

Noah scratched his head. He was puzzled because he lived far from the sea and was not sure why he would ever need a boat. But he trusted God and followed what God told him.

Word soon got around about the enormous boat and Noah's neighbours all laughed and mocked him. "Why are you building a boat so far from the sea?" They mocked. "You must be crazy!" Noah told them about God's plan, but they only jibed more at him.

In the midst of their taunts, Noah was sometimes tempted to lose **hope**, but he knew that he could trust God for the future, so he and his family kept on building.

When the work was finally finished God brought Noah two of every kind of creature to go onto the ark with him and his family.

Then the skies opened and water poured down. The rain didn't stop for forty days and forty nights.

When Noah was beginning to lose hope of ever getting back on dry land, the rain suddenly stopped. He sent out a dove and when it did not return, he knew that the bird had found dry land on which to build a nest. They were safe at last!

When the day came for Noah to finally leave the ark, God displayed a rainbow across the sky. It was a sign of hope and promise. The world had been washed clean and was all ready for a new beginning.



Hope Quote

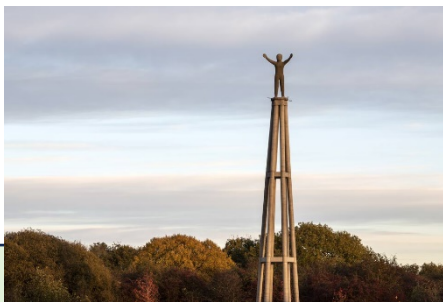
'Hope lies in dreams, in imagination,
and in the courage of those who
dare to make dreams into reality.'

(Jonas Salk; worked to tackle polio)

Fantastic Rainbows

On a sunny day with showers,
you might be lucky enough to
see a rainbow.

- Rainbows occur when rain droplets in the air reflect the sun.
- Because rain droplets are round, rainbows always curve.
- Each raindrop splits the sunlight into a spectrum of colours, making rainbows multi-coloured.



The Hope Sculpture

The Hope Sculpture stands 23m tall in the Cuningar Park and was given by over fifty companies to the site in Glasgow. Cuningar Park provided a colliery that produced coal as part of the Industrial Revolution. Now the site where it stands is undertaking research into forms of renewable energy. The statue is a reminder that collaboration can deliver hope for the future and benefit everybody.



Noah's Wordsearch

Find these words:

- NOAH
- ARK
- BOAT
- BUILD
- RAINBOW
- HOPE
- PROMISE
- FLOOD
- DOVE
- FORTY

