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| ***Bismillah ar-Rahman ar-Raheem***  <http://prophetsofallah.tripod.com/prophets/index.html> |
| http://prophetsofallah.tripod.com/imagelib/sitebuilder/layout/spacer.gif |
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Al-Gemeiah); Published by El-Nour Publishing  Stories of the Prophets by Ibn Kathir (trans. Azami); Published by Dar-us-Salam  The Prophets Appointed by Allah by Umm Muhammad; Published by Abul Qasim Publishing House  The History of Al-Tabari Vol. 2: Prophets and Patriarchs; Published by the State University of New York Press    **Web sites for Children:**  <http://www.jamaat.org/islam/lut.html><http://www.jamiat.org.za/kids/prophet_lut.htm>  <http://www.muslimtodaykids.hypermart.net/lut.htm> (All three of these pages contain the same article.  It is simple and clear for younger children but leaves out many details.)    **Web sites for Parents:**  <http://islam101.com/people/prophets/lut.htm>  <http://www.iad.org/islam/lut.html>  <http://www.anwary-islam.com/prophet-story/lut.htm>    **Week 1**    **Weekly Goal:** Introduce the story of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam)   1. **Reading:**   For children: any of the books or web pages listed in the childrens resources.  I recommend the Prophets of Allah Volume 2 by Mildred El-Amin.  (If you choose the article in the web resources, you will need to remind your children of the relationship between Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) and Prophet Ibrahim (alaihis-salaam).  Supplementary reading for parents: any of the books or web pages listed in the parents resources.   1. **Discussion Questions:**   1.  Why did Allah send Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) to the people of Sodom and Gomorrah?   (to teach and warn the people)  2.  When Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) brought the message of Allaah to the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, why didnt they listen to him and believe him?  (because they were evil and proud)  3.      Why did Allaah destroy the people of Sodom and Gomorrah?  (because of the evil things they did; because they disobeyed Allaah and denied His message; as a warning to other people to show what happens to those who disobey Allah)  4.      Why were Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) and his household saved from the punishment? (because they obeyed Allaah and stayed away from the evil of those around them)  5.      Why was the wife of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) not saved?  (because she was not a believer; see Quraan 66:10)   1. **Activity**   **Cause and Effect Chart**  Are there any actions that don't have consequences? In the long run, can you really "get away with" anything? If every action has a consequence, how does that knowledge affect the way you live?  The people of Lut (alaihis-salaam) were so evil and arrogant that they did their bad deeds in front of anyone and everyone, but even if you try to hide the things you do from people, Allaah (subhaanahu wa taaala) still sees all that you do.  Make a chart listing in the first column some possible actions, both good and bad, from everyday life. In the second column, write a possible consequence of this action being discovered by parents or other authority figures. In the third column, write the possible consequences in the aakhirah.  For example:     |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Action** | **Consequence of getting discovered** | **Consequence in the Aakhirah** | | Big sister hits little brother. | Sister has to apologize and gets time out. | Some of brothers bad deeds are given to sister. | | Big brother helps little sister make her bed. | Brother gets praise and a treat from mom. | Brother gets some of his bad deeds wiped out or gets raised to a higher station in Paradise. |       **Week 2**    **Weekly Goal:**  Reinforce knowledge and understanding of the story of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam)   1. **Narration**   Read (or re-read) the first article listed under web resources for children to review the story of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam).  Ask your child to tell you in his or her own words the story of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam).  Ex:  Lut and his uncle Ibrahim were prophets of Allaah.  Lut was sent to teach the people of Sodom and Gomorrah about Allaah.  The people were evil and proud and would not listen to him.  Allah sent angels who told Lut to leave the city before it was destroyed.  Everyone in his house was saved except his wife who stayed behind.   1. **Quraan Reading**   Read Soorat al-Anbiyaa (21) verses 74-75.  In verse 74, Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) is described as having hikmah (good judgment) and ilm (knowledge).  Discuss the meanings of hikmah and ilm with the children and help them to recall experiences in which they demonstrated their own hikmah and ilm.  In verse 75, Allaah mentions His rahmah (mercy) which was bestowed on Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) because he was saalih (righteous).  Discuss the meanings of rahmah and saalih with the children and explain to them that everybody, even the most saalih such as prophets are in need of Allaahs rahmah.   1. **Activity**   **Prophet Lut Word Search**    l h n u z h l s l e g n a p a  v n b t i b w p t y v p v r w  m w h l d a r i u i t w r o g  a e a a r f n i m f l n s p k  o a s n m n u e f t o m n h l  s p i s v k o d h h t h q e x  r n i m e y i b a t o s v t m  g p f u o n s h m l u t e m z  f m d o b q g a h d w r v e t  f o f i u l a e a n j i u i g  c j d f k i w p r v o y e y t  p u n i s h m e n t t u c q i  m x w e v k u k o i u d i q e  s c q x t p n i j e u q f q q  q u h q v t a w k n k y u a k    angels  hikmah  ilm  lut  messenger  prophet  punishment  rahmah  saalih  warning    **Week 3**    **Weekly Goal:**  Introduce the nature of angels  Supplementary resource:  Knowing the Angels; Part 2 of the Eemaan Made Easy series by Muhammad al-Jibaly (excerpts from this book are included below)   1. **Reading**   An important pillar of our faith is believing in the angels, and that they are real.  This is usually called the second pillar of belief.              A true believer must believe in the angels and know about them as much as possible.              The angels are beings that we cannot see.  We only know about them as much as Allaah tells us in His Book (the *Quraan*), or His Messenger Muhammad (salla allaahu alaihi wa sallam) tells us in his *Sunnah*.  (KTA p. 3)   1. **Discussion**   From the story of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) we can learn several things about angels.  Encourage your children to try to come up with some of the following things.  Discuss them all with your children.   * 1. Angels do not need food or drink.  Allaah (subhaanahu wa taaala) sent some angels to Ibraaheem (alaihis-salaam) and then to Loot (alaihis-salaam).  Their job was to tell Ibraaheem that his wife will carry a baby called Ishaaq.  They came to him in the form of men.  A good Muslim is supposed to be very generous, and so was Ibraaheem.  He quickly cooked a fat calf (baby cow) and put it before them to eat.  But they refused!  A guest should eat from the food offered to him unless he means harm.  So Ibraaheem (alaihis salaam) was worried, but they told him not to worry, because they are angels sent by Allaah to him, and also to Loot (to punish his people).  (KTA p. 22) See Soorah Hood 11:69-70.   2. The angels are beautiful.  When the angels came to Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam), they appeared in the form of beautiful young men.   3. The angels can take different forms.   Normally the people cannot see the angels.  But the angels can change their form whenever Allaah wants them to do so, so that the people can see them.  (KTA p. 24)  We saw from the story that the angels came to Prophets Ibraheem (alaihis-salaam) and Lut (alaihis-salaam) in the form of men.   * 1. The angels know as much as Allaah teaches them   The angels get their knowledge from Allaah (subhaanahu wa taaala).  They cannot know more than what He teaches them.  Nor would they know any less than that.  (KTA p. 27)  When the angels came to Prophet Ibrahim (alaihis-salaam) and told him they were sent to destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, Prophet Ibrahim was worried about Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) and told the angels he was there.  They answered, We know best who is there.  They knew because it was knowledge they got from Allaah.   * 1. The angels obey Allaah.   The angels are most obedient to Allaah (subhaanahu wa taaala).  They never disobey Him.  (KTA p. 41)  When the angels came to prophet Ibrahim (alaihis-salaam), he asked them to save the people of Lut.  They replied, The order of your Lord has been sent.  They could not grant Ibrahim his wish because they could not disobey Allaah.   * 1. The angels punish the disbelievers.   Sometimes the angels bring down the punishment and anger of Allaah over the people who disbelieve and do evil things.  An example of this is the angels who came to Ibraaheem, and then to punish the people of Loot, as we have seen earlier.  Allaah (subhaanahu wa taaala) punished them by making the angels drop down upon them poisonous stones from Hell.  (KTA p. 54)   * 1. The angels help and protect the believers.   The angels love the believers and protect them from the *jinn*, Satan, disaster, and harm.  (KTA p. 47)  As we saw in the story of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam), the angels saved Prophet Lut and his followers from the destruction of their city.  Why do the angels protect the believers?  And why do they stay with them everywhere?  The answer is that a believer always tried his best to obey Allaah and His Messenger (salla Allaahu alaihi wa sallam) and do good deeds.  He tries to keep remembering Allaah all the time with his tongue and in his heart.  There are so many ways that a believer stays in remembrance of his Lord.  They are too many to mention them here.  This is why the angels guard a believer and love him.  (KTA pp. 47-48.)   1. **Activity**   In the following table, check for each statement whether it is True or False.     |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Statement** | **T** | **F** | | 1.  The angels are beautiful. |  |  | | 2.  The angels sit down when they eat or drink. |  |  | | 3.  The angels told Ibrahim (alaihis-salaam) that his wife will have a baby. |  |  | | 4.  The angels were going to destroy the people of Lut (alaihis-salaam). |  |  | | 5.  The angels refused to eat the meat because it did not have enough salt. |  |  | | 6.  The angels can appear in the form of people. |  |  | | 7.  The angels know only what Allaah teaches them. |  |  | | 8.  The angels obey Allaah most of the time but sometimes they dont. |  |  | | 9.  The angels stay with the believers all the time. |  |  | | 10.  The angels bring the messages from Allaah to the people. |  |  | | 11.  The angels would never harm anyone. |  |  |   (questions from Eemaan Made Easy Part 2: Knowing the Angels)    **Week 4**    **Weekly Goal:**  Become familiar with the people and places of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam)   1. **Map Work**   Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) was originally from Ur, a city in Babylonia in southern Mesopotamia.  (see map 1)  He left Ur with Prophet Ibrahim (alaihis-salaam) and traveled to Palestine.  (see map 2)  From there, Allah sent Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) to the people of the cities of the plain, Sodom and Gomorrah.  (see map 3 Sodom and Gomorrah are believed to lie now under the southern waters of the Dead Sea.)     |  | | --- | | palmap.jpg | | Map 1 The Fertile Crescent (Babylonia in dark green) |  |  | | --- | | palmap2.jpg | | Map 2 Palestine |  |  | | --- | | deadsea.jpg | | Map 3 Dead Sea |   Using the black-line map below, color Palestine red and label Ur and the Dead Sea. Trace Prophet Luts travels.  Color the water blue and the rest of the land green or brown.    (note:  I made the map below because I wanted to represent historical Palestine and not Israel and the Palestinian-controlled areas and I had no success searching for such a map online.  Throughout this section when I refer to Palestine, it includes the area currently occupied by Israel.)  blankmap.jpg  **2.**      **Houses and Transportation in Prophet Luts Time**  Supplemental resources:  Great Civilizations of the East by Daud Ali et al. Published by Southwater Press  Ancient Egyptians and Their Neighbors by Marian Broida. Published by Chicago Review Press    Homes in the time of Prophet Lut (alaihis-salaam) were built primarily of mud bricks.  The mud bricks were made from a mixture of clay or dirt and water.  To keep the bricks from cracking they added either straw or sand.  This mixture was pressed into square or oblong molds and left to dry in the sun.  Sometimes bricks were baked in ovens to make them last longer.  Homes were usually rectangular, with rooms around a central roofless courtyard.  Doors and windows were narrow to keep the house warm in the cold winters and cool during the hot summers.  The houses had flat roofs with stairs leading to them.  Families did much of their cooking, sleeping, and working in the courtyard.  They did not have much furniture in their houses, perhaps only some benches made of mud bricks for sitting and sleeping.  They probably had rugs, cushions and wall-hangings to make their homes more comfortable.    Whenever possible, people traveled by water because the roads in Prophet Luts time were not very good.  People and goods were often carried on rafts or boats made of reeds.  The wealthier people sometimes traveled by horse and chariot on the well-maintained main roads.  At rivers, the chariots were dismantled and carried across on boats.  The horses had to swim across.  Common people sometimes traveled by carts pulled by oxen or mules on their local roads, which were often little more than dirt paths.    **Activities**    a.  In the Quraan, Soorat al-Anbiyaa (21) verse 71, Allaah (subhaanahu wa taaala) describes Palestine as al-ardh il-lattee baraknaa feehaa lilaalameen (the land We blessed for the world). Palestine was the home of a long line of prophets, including Lut, Ibrahim, Ishaq, Yaqub, Musa, Harun, Dawud, Sulayman, Zakariya, Yahya, and Isa. Its coastal plain is one of the most fertile areas of the world.  Have your child imagine what a land blessed by Allaah for all the world would look like and draw a picture of how s/he imagines Palestine. Scan the drawing and post it to the group.    b.      Build a model house from Lego bricks.  Use a flat Lego base and build the rooms around an empty courtyard with doors leading to the courtyard.  On the outside walls, leave narrow openings for windows.  Make a room with an outside door as a place for greeting guests.  Make a staircase leading to the roof.  Make one of the rooms a storeroom and another the kitchen.  Roll cardboard or paper tubes to represent clay storage jars for wheat, barley, beans, and oil, and make a cardboard oven.  Tape small scraps of fabric to the walls for hanging and put fabric on the floor for carpeting.  Make benches from Lego bricks or cardboard and place in the rooms.  Take a photo of your house and post it to the group.    c.  Make a chariot.  You will need cardboard, scissors, tape, 2 wooden skewers and a push pin.  Cut four circles about 2 ¾ inches across from cardboard.  Use the push pin to poke a small hole in the center of each circle.  Cut out two sides for the chariot 4 ¾ inches long by 3 inches high; cut out one back 3 ½ inches by 3 inches; cut out one front 3 ½ inches by 6 inches; one top 3 ½ inches by 2 ¾ inches; and one base 4 ¾ inches by 3 ½ inches. Starting at the corner cut a 2-inch wide half-circle along one long edge of each side piece (the doors).  Trim the top of the front into a double arches shape (like a short MacDonalds sign).  Tape the sides to the front and back, then tape on the base and top.  Push each skewer through two wheel pieces and tape the skewers to the bottom of the chariot in front and back with the wheels in proper position.  Trim the skewers to the desired length. Decorate the chariot as desired.  Take a photo of your chariot and post it to the group.  d.Make a "reed" boat:You will need a large bundle (approximately 50 strands) of straw 12 inches long, scissors, and string.  1.  Divide the straw into five equal bundles.  Cut three of them to 6 inches in length.  Tie the five individual bundles securely at both ends and in the middle.  2.  Take the two long bundles and tie them together at one end.  3.  Take the three short bundles and tie them together at both ends.  These will form the inner surface of the boat.  4.  Place the short bundles between the long bundles and push them into the center of the long pair as far as you can.  Tie the bundles together just below where they meet.  5.  Bring the open end of the long pair of bundles together and tie them securely.  Bind the long and short bundles together at this end as well.  Bind the boat about an inch above and below where the long and short bundles are bound together and again in the middle.  (There will be a total of nine bindings.)  6.  Tie a string at one end and thread it under the middle binding and tie it to the other end, pulling it some so that the tension creates a curved prow and stern.    Early boats such as these were made from papyrus reeds, bound with string made from the reed fibers.    **Geography word scramble**  Use the clues in the column on the left to help you unscramble the words in the column on the right.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Clue** | **scramble** | **answer** | | 1.  This city was the birthplace of Prophets Ibrahim and Lut | rU |  | | 2. The land between the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers | toopamaMise |  | | 3.  The southern part of the land between two rivers | bianoBlay |  | | 4.  Lut traveled with Ibrahim to this blessed land | steelinaP |  | | 5.  One of the cities of the plain to which Lut was sent | doomS |  | | 6.  The other of the cities of the plain | mahoGorr |  | | 7.  The body of water which now covers the cities of the plain | ADed eSa |  |     The outline map, charts, and puzzles can all be included in either a lapbook or the book of the Prophets. | |