Nuh (peace be upon him)

**Week 1**  
  
Weekly Goal: Introduce this month’s Prophet  
  
READING: the following book is excellent for the under eights  
  
<http://www.angelfire.com/on/ummiby1/nuh.html>   
  
Online reading at:  
<http://www.sunnahonline.com/ilm/seerah/0008.htm>  
  
Cartoon of Nuh alaissalaam -- there are faces!  
<http://www.turntoislam.com/forum/showthread.php?t=379>  
  
  
Questions for this first week are based on the need to check if children have understood the overall story of Prophet Nuh alais salaam and the main details therein, (brief answers in brackets). Use as questions or `chat' points depending on your children and their levels.  
  
Who was Prophet Nuh alais salaam? ( he was a man of good character, and the first rasool/messenger sent Allah to the people of the Earth. Using hadith Qudsi, number 36 ).  
  
Why did Allah send him as a messenger? (because people had fallen into the ways of the non believers, idol worshipping, valuing status and wealth etc.)  
  
How were the people in Nuh alais salaam's community living? ( badly! They did not know how to worship Allah SWT correctly)  
  
What did Allah SWT command Nuh alais salaam to do? Why? (to build an ark, as all the non believers would perish in the flood Allah planned to send)  
  
How did the people who did not listen to Allah SWT react? (they laughed at Nuh alais salaam! Called him a crazy man for building a boat in the middle of dry land!)  
  
Who went into the ark? (animals in pairs, male and female, and the believers of Nuh alais salaam's community)  
  
Activity for this first week depends on how `work' orientated you want the first week to be: you could make a start on the Prophet's Book suggested below:

'My book of Prophets'. Make a book of prophets, with the first chapter 'Adam, the first man'. Talk about each chapter of the book being like a chapter in history. Remind the child that the Prophets were real (talk about fiction/non-fiction). Talk briefly about what is a Prophet and the reasons that Allah sent the Prophets. or using the book `Noah's Ark, a pop up playbook by M. Borgardt' play with the ark model and animals, the ark pops up, windows/ doors can open, roof can be raised to see animals in their compartments or build an ark and models! ( paper or play dough or cardboard cutouts)  
  
Some interesting `side' activities can be

\*\* listing all the animals children know, identifying them in books/dictionaries, always mentioning SubhanaAllah, what wonderful creatures Allah SWT has created  
\*\* listing alphabetically for the older ones or getting them to match animals to continents  
\*\* make word-find puzzles of animals using  
<http://www.puzzlemaker.com/>

**Week 2**  
  
Weekly Goal: Additional Reading highlighting message/relationship with Allah  
  
Read all the Quranic references for Nuh alias salaam.  
  
Read from the Quran about how Nuh alais salaam had to know that although Allah SWT had said Nuh's family would be saved that did not include those who were disbelievers, so even though Nuh alais salaam loved his son dearly and that love caused him to question and plead with Allah SWT for his son's life Allah SWT told him that if his son was a disbeliever then he was not of Nuh's family! (Quran surah 11, hud, lines 44,45)  
  
Important here to draw in that we are ONE FAMILY, ONE UMMAH, Our link is not race, colour, language, wealth or even blood, it is FAITH. A muslim is a brother to another muslim, (hadith-muslim). The believers are but brothers, (Quran surah 49, Al hujurat, line 10)  
  
Second point is the fact even an apostle questioned!! Questions are not bad! But they must be asked to aid our understanding and when we find an answer in the Quran we must be brave and trust Allah SWT knows best and follow it, inshaALLAH, no matter how difficult or far from the answer we wanted it is!  
  
We will be tested in life and we must show faith, point can be returned to with Prophet Ibrahim and the `sacrifice' of his son, or so he thought at the time!  
  
Thirdly, Nuh alais salaam was sent as a warner to the community then and to the rest of man kind, that Allah does not compromise in the matter of who you worship, even His chosen Prophet's son and wife were not spared! (Quran surah66 line 10,surah 7, line 69 and surah9, line 70)

**Week 3**  
  
Weekly Goal: manners of Prophet Nuh alais salaam  
  
Reading from the Quran again, how he was mocked, etc. but he did not return rudeness with the same! Highlighting manners towards the people.  
  
Questions.  
How did the people treat Nuh alais salaam? ( they grew `averse' to him as he pleaded with them to worship only Allah SWT, surah 71, nuh line 6, pleaded openly and secretly, they were puffed with pride and stuff fingers in their ears, their cloaks over their heads! Line7)

When was Nuh alais salaam told to build the ark? ( when Allah SWT knew that no other believers remained to be convinced so Nuh alais salaam need not carry on preaching –surah hud line 36)

Did Nuh alais salaam give up when people laughed at him? Why not? ( no, he had faith in Allah SWT's plan)

How did he respond to people laughing at him? ( he held on to his faith and followed Allah SWT's command)  
  
Activity, a few are possible depending on what kids will enjoy!  
  
\*\*look at the possible ark photos from the [http://www.islam101.com](http://www.islam101.com/) and draw your own! Or paper machie make your own!! Using newspaper and pva glue you can just put layer on layer on layer, leave to dry and paint. If you make a large enough one you can them put their small farm toy animals in!  
  
\*\* for those children who have an interest / inclination mention the parts of the boats, its function etc. Also draw in a bit of science! Take a slim wooden piece and float it in a tub of water. Add their little toy animals , eventually as weight is added to it it will sink! (Keep a note of how many animals before it sank.) Then take a wide bottom piece like you would see for a barge, and add animals to that, weight is dispersed evenly so it doesn't sink! Surah 69, line 11, Allah SWT says it floated! Make a point of mentioning Nuh alais salaam followed Allah SWT's instructions in the building of the ark.  
  
\*\* `pretend' situation where person A has to convince person B that the curtains are blue, or whatever color they r NOT! Person B has to resist! , A should be the more articulate, persuasive talker! -- try it again with A being forceful/using pressure this time! Point is that when someone tells you what you know is not true, don't fall for it no matter how well they speak/ how frightening they can make their speech!  
  
\*\* older ones write a poem about Nuh alais salaams feelings when he realized people would not listen, especially his own son `Is truth so hard to believe?' or a poem of relief for the believers, when the flood ended.  
  
\*\* younger ones , mum to find all words that they understand that can be used to describe sorrow/unhappiness, let the children `draw' a picture of the ark in preparation and use dark colours to reflect those feelings or they dictate sentences and mum writes them out repeat with `happiness' words when the ark `landed' and Allah SWT told the earth to swallow up its waters.

**Week 4**  
Weekly Goal: Then and Now  
The regions then and now (putting the message into context)  
  
This one is a wee bit difficult in that the only concrete thing we can say is that it was Mount Judi as the Quran states that in surah 11 line 44,

BUT where is Mount Judi? Exact reference I have not found! But general take it to be Syria / Iraq.  
  
There are various opinions on this: Armenian plateau to Kurdistan, in that mountain range from the link above, or from M Asad's work to it being ` situated in the region of Lake Van, 25 miles north east of the town of Jazirat ibn Umar, capital of the modern Syrian district of Al Jazirah'. note 66 to translation of Quran surah 11, line 44  
  
(The opinions that consider mount Ararat to be the arks resting place are not that way out when we remember that south of lake Van is Jabal Judi and at one time this WHOLE area was given the name mount Ararat! ) (Asad's work) The closest general area then is Syria / Iraq. (If you use search engines `mesopotamia' will bring up the area too)  
  
Discussion and Activity will be combined.

How have the land and people changed since the Prophet first called the people to Islam?  
  
Use your local library for books on Syria and Iraq for pictures of clothes, food etc. of each culture.  
  
Online resources are :  
Iraq : <http://www.arab.net/iraq/iraq_contents.html>  
<http://www.mythinglinks.org/NearEast~Iraq.html>  
Syria: <http://geography.about.com/library/cia/blcsyria.htm>  
<http://geography.about.com/library/blank/blxsyria.htm>  
<http://geography.about.com/library/maps/blsyria.htm>  
  
Each of these contains an overview of the country, history, geography, business, transport, culture, government, transport. Do as much or as little as suits you!  
  
Map work from <http://www.mrdowling.com/603mesopotamia.html>

The Fertile Crescent  
  
Civilization developed slowly in different parts of the world. People began to settle in areas with abundant natural resources. A section of the Middle East is called the Fertile Crescent. The Fertile Crescent is a rich food-growing area in a part of the world where most of the land is too dry for farming. The Fertile Crescent begins on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea, and curves around like a  
quarter moon to the Persian Gulf. Some of the best farmland of the Fertile Crescent is in a narrow  
strip of land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. The Greeks later called this region Mesopotamia, which means "between the rivers." Many different civilizations developed in this small region.  
First came the Sumerians, who were replaced in turn by the Assyrians and the Babylonians. Today this land is known as Iraq and was ruled by a dictator named Saddam Hussein.  
  
<http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/index.html>  
<http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/geography/home_set.html>  
  
Gives information from the British Museum, geography material is there but depending on childrens level you may just want to mention old name and area, (was Mesopotamia, today its Syria and Iraq, perhaps go into meaning of 2 rivers and land between, show the mountain ranges, mention one of these is the Mount Judi that Allah SWT tells in the Quran is the resting place of the ark after the flood subsided).  
  
Some maps at  
<http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/geography/explore/exp_set.html> and in the `choose a map' box you can select the `geographical' one where the rivers are visible and the possible lake mentioned by Asad , lake Van - below is off the same site but could be a possible activity for us!  
  
The explore section offers a variety of maps that illustrate different points about the land. The maps include: a geographical features map, a natural resources map, a modern political map of Mesopotamia (modern Iraq and eastern Syria) and surrounding countries, a terrain map, a map showing civilizations over time and an ancient map of the world. It also includes a series of maps of Mesopotamia through time. This section could be used to introduce pupils to the landscape of Mesopotamia, and how modern changes, such as the building of dams on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, have affected the landscape and way of life in the region today.  
  
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION TO THE MONTH:

Let children write for themselves, if possible, or younger tell mum and mum writes it down, what they feel they have learnt about the Prophet, and what they feel they can aim to achieve just as the Prophet did inshaAllah. ( `chat' triggers, who, what, where, why, for first part eg. who was he, why was he sent, where was he sent, what did he do? Remember to add that this is a lesson for ALL time for all people too). `Chat' trigger for second part, `I would like, inshaAllah to……. …Eg. to have patience like Nuh alais salaam showed , strength of faith when they laughed at him).

REFERENCES FOR ''PROPHET NUH alaissalaam'' QURAN

surah 10, lines 71,87  
surah 11, lines 25,26,28,29,31,32,33,34,35,36,40,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,89  
surah 14, lines 9  
surah 17, lines 3,17  
surah 19, lines 58  
surah 21, lines 74,76,  
surah 22, lines 42  
surah 23, lines 23,26,30,32  
surah 25, lines 37,  
surah 26, lines 105,106,116,119  
surah 28, lines 53  
surah 29, lines 14,40  
surah 3, lines 33  
surah 33, lines 7  
surah 36, lines 41  
surah 37, lines 75,76,77,79,83  
surah 38, lines 12  
surah 4, lines 163  
surah 40 , lines 5,30,31  
surah 42, lines 13  
surah 50, lines 12  
surah 51, lines 46  
surah 53, lines 50,52  
surah 54, lines 9  
surah 57, lines 26  
surah 6, lines 84  
surah 61, lines 9  
surah 66, lines 10  
surah 69, lines 9,11  
surah 7, lines 1,59,65,69,73,87,93  
surah 71, lines 1,9,16,21,24,26  
surah 77, lines 16  
surah 9, lines 70  
  
HADITH  
volume 6 number 3, volume 8 number 570, volume9 number 532c,  
all in al bukhari,  
hadith Qudsi, number 36  
the first rasool sent by Allah to the people of the Earth. Nuh was the first rasool sent by Allah  
  
  
  
ALIM software  
Thn Abbas narrated that Prophet Muhammad said: "The period between Adam and Noah was ten centuries."  
  
Noah's wife was not a believer with him, so she did not join him; neither did one of Noah's sons, who was secretly a disbeliever but had pretended faith in front of Noah. Likewise most of the people were disbelievers and did not go on board.  
  
The scholars (Ulama) hold different opinions on the number of those who were with Noah on the ship. Ibn Abbas stated that ther were eighty believers, while Ka'ab Al-Ahbar held that there were seventy-two. Others claimed that there were ten believers with Noah. The Quran draws the curtain on Noah's story. We do not know how his affairs with is people continued. All we know or can ascertain is that on his deathbed, he requested his son to worship Allah alone. Noah then passed away. Abdullah Ibn Amru Ibn Alaas narrated that Prophet Muhammad said: "When the death of the Messenger of Allah Noah approached, he admonished his sons: 'Indeed I would give you far-reaching advice, commanding you to do two things, and warning you against doing two as well. I charge you (to believe) that there is no god but Allah and that if the seven heavens and the seven earths were put on one side of a scale and the words 'There is no god but Allah' were put on the other, the latter would outweigh the former. And I warn you against associating partners with Allah and against pride.'" Some traditions said that his grave is in the Sacred Mosque in Mecca (Makkah), while others said that he was buried in Baalabak, a city in Iraq.  
  
INTERNET  
  
BOOKS  
the story of prophet nuh  
<http://www.sunnahonline.com/ilm/seerah/0008.htm>  
  
noah's ark a pop up play book isbn 0434967025 use as a 'fun' aspect, ark and occupants!  
  
FURTHER READING/POSSIBLE RESEARCH PROJECTS  
for older secondary level students a lot of research currently around uses biblical references which we cannot rely on, or which has non muslims quoting the Quran, also not to be relied on, so if any of these links are used an adult should work with the kids! (in my opinion!)  
  
local flooding or universal flooding?  
mount judi( stated in Quran) and mount ararat? is there a difference?  
<http://answering-islam.org/Shamoun/flood.htm>  
  
evidence of the ark? does evidence exist?  
  
photos of a possible ark  
<http://www.islam101.com/images/bigark.jpg>  
<http://www.islam101.com/archeology/noah_ark.html>