

Roar Updates

We're thankful for VBS leaders who have alerted us to several concerns in Roar VBS that could be considered insensitive. We sincerely apologize, and offer these modifications to help your Roar experience be the very best for all your children and community.

This document includes the following updates and revisions to Roar VBS:

- Sing & Play Roar Leader Manual page 43, addressing Maasai dance
- Sing & Play Roar Leader Manual page 57, addressing the continent of Africa
- Sing & Play Roar Leader Manual page 71, addressing the Xhosa language experience
- new Elementary and Preschool Day 1 Wild Bible Adventures experience, addressing Israelite role-play
- updated Spotlight VBS script for Day 1



Day 3

Sing & Play Roar

Before Today's Trek

- Set the Day 3 Bible Point Poster up front.
- Download the "Jumping Maasai" clip from group.com/vbsTools. Have it ready to play with your media presentation.
- Thirty minutes before Roar is scheduled to start, begin playing the Sing & Play Roar CD.
- Five minutes before Roar is scheduled to start, gather Crew Leaders for a Huddle-and-a-Prayer.

Day 3 Supplies

- Day 3 Bible Point Poster*
- Day 3 Irving Carter Skit script and props (optional)
- "Jumping Maasai" video clip (from group.com/vbsTools)

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

A Wild Welcome

Say: Welcome back, terrific trekkers! We're venturing into another wild day at Roar, where life is wild but God is always, always good. Let's sing about that right now with "I'm Trusting You."



CD
Track
1

Lead everyone in singing "I'm Trusting You." Words are on page 85.

Roar is a really cool place because we feel like we're in a country in Africa—a place most of us haven't ever been. When you think of Africa, you probably think of cool animals like lions and elephants and zebras. But a whole lot of cool *people* live there, too! One group of people are called the Maasai (pronounced "mah-SIGH"), and they have a special dance they do. Let's watch.

Show the short clip of Maasai warriors jumping. Explain that these warriors jump during the dance as a way to demonstrate their strength to the women in the tribe.



Share God Sightings®

Say: Learning more about people from around the world shows me just how big and awesome and creative God is!

FIELD TEST FINDING

Kids loved learning unique things about different people groups in Africa! We heard lots of whispers of "That's so cool!" Be sure to treat this respectfully, pointing out how awesome it is that God gave everyone different traditions, abilities, and customs.

Day 4

Sing & Play Roar

Before Today's Trek

- Download the photo of the Himba woman from group.com/vbsTools, and add it to your media presentation.
- Set the Day 4 Bible Point Poster up front.
- Review the day with your teenage assistants so they know when to help lead singing and assist with media needs.
- Thirty minutes before Roar is scheduled to start, begin playing the Sing & Play Roar Music CD.
- Five minutes before Roar is scheduled to start, gather with Crew Leaders for a Huddle-and-a-Prayer.

Day 4 Supplies

- Day 4 Bible Point Poster*
- Day 4 Irving Carter Skit script and props (optional)
- photo of Himba woman from group.com/vbsTools

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

A Wild Welcome

Say: Welcome back to Roar! I can't imagine any cooler bunch of kids to take on a trek! Let's start our safari by singing "I'm Trusting You."



Lead everyone in singing "I'm Trusting You." Words are on page 85.

I'm so glad you're on this adventure with me! Africa is such a cool continent to explore. Did you know that some parts of Africa really are cool...as in cold! They get snow! But a lot of the countryside is very hot. That makes me wonder...

? When is a time you were really hot? What did you do to cool off?

Tell your own experience, such as a trip to the desert or even a hot day at an amusement park. Then call on a few kids to share their stories, repeating them into the microphone.

You've been able to see some of the people in Africa and the amazingly wild things they do! They're all so different, just like you and I are different from each other. Show the picture of the Himba woman.

One tribe in the country of Namibia (nuh-MIB-ee-uh) has a colorful way to keep the sun off. The women in that tribe mix a red dust called ochre (OH-kr) with fat to make a sort of red makeup. They do it because they like how it looks, and it's sort of like sun block! That's pretty smart.



Day 5

Sing & Play Roar

Before Today's Trek

- Review the day with your teenage assistants so they know when to help lead singing and assist with media needs.
- Download the video of "clicks in Xhosa language" from group.com/vbsTools, and add it to your media presentation.
- Set the Day 5 Bible Point Poster up front.
- Choose four volunteers who will help hold the Bible Point Posters and call out the Bible Points during your review.
- Thirty minutes before Roar is scheduled to start, begin playing the Sing & Play Roar Music CD.
- Five minutes before Roar is scheduled to start, gather with Crew Leaders for a Huddle-and-a-Prayer.

Day 5 Supplies

- Days 1–5 Bible Point Posters*
- Day 5 Irving Carter Skit script and props (optional)
- "clicks in Xhosa language" video clip (download from group.com/vbsTools)

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

A Wild Welcome

Say: Welcome to our last day at Roar, where we're discovering that even though life is wild and unfair and sad and even scary... God is always, always, *always* good! Let's sing "I'm Trusting You" and celebrate. Your awesome voices will let everyone know that Sing & Play Roar is beginning.



Lead everyone in singing "I'm Trusting You." Words are on page 85.

Communicate With Clicking

Say: You've had fun learning about animals you might see in Africa and even discovering some of the cool people who live in Africa, too. People in different countries in Africa speak a lot of different languages. But one amazing thing you *might* hear if you visited a certain area in Africa would be people talking with clicks in their language.

Show the video.

How cool is that?

Isn't it awesome to hear all the surprising ways we can talk to each other?



PAWS HERE!

To discover more about the Xhosa language, check out this video of a Xhosa language lesson: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZlp-croVYw>

Day 1

When life is unfair... God is good!

Sing & Play Roar

- Learn the Day 1 Bible Point and key verse, and meet Bible Memory Buddy Mack.
- Sing Roar songs.
- Meet Irving Carter, a gamekeeper who warns them to be quiet or risk waking up some sleeping hyenas.



Wild Bible Adventures

Discover how unfair life was for the Israelites in Egypt.



Hungry Herd Café

Build-a-Bug



KidVid™ Cinema

Gift goes to a small school where they listen to a teacher on a radio. Nearby, there's a bigger school where kids have uniforms, desks, and a real teacher. That may seem unfair, but Gift knows he's loved and that God is always good.



Imagination Station

Tip the Tumble Drum and remember that when life is unfair and knocks you down, God is good and will put you back on your feet.



Safari Celebration

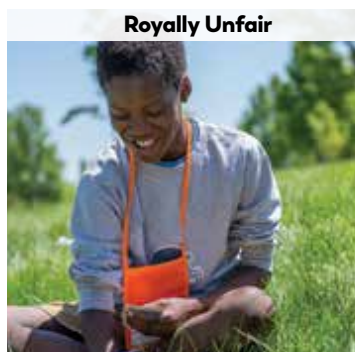
Discover how our perspective makes a difference in how we see God's goodness.



Stampede Sports



Nchuba



Royally Unfair



Water You Focused On?

At **Roar VBS**, the daily Bible Point is carefully integrated into each station's activities for unforgettable Bible learning. See how your station reinforces today's Bible Point.



Day 1

Before Today's Trek

- Blow up and tie off 2 green balloons and 10 blue balloons. (Have a few extra on hand in case some pop.)

Welcome Crews

For each rotation, you'll greet Crews outside the Wild Bible Adventures room. When all Crews have arrived, introduce yourself.

Say: **Welcome to Wild Bible Adventures! I'm [your name], and I'm so glad you're here! Each day at Wild Bible Adventures, we'll explore a different totally true story from God's Word, the Bible. Hold up your Bible.**

Play an Unfair Game

I love having you here, and thought we could celebrate all these new friends with a fun game.

Form two groups and send groups to opposite sides of your room. Have kids sit down, facing the opposing group. Put a masking tape line down the middle of the room. Hold up a blue balloon and a green balloon, assigning one color to each group.

Say: **When the music stops, let's see who has bopped more of their balloons to the other side of the room. You can't pop the other group's balloons, but can bat them back across until the music stops. Then the balloons have to stop. Got it?**

Supplies You'll Need Every Day

- Hands-On Bible*
- Gazelle Bell*
- small blankets or throw rugs (1 per Crew per rotation)
- Big Blue Sky Fabric Wall Hanging*
- Magnetic Hooks*
- helper (more than 1 would be great!)
- poster paper and marker (optional)

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

Day 1 Supplies

- blue balloons
- green balloons
- masking tape
- CD player
- Sing & Play Roar Music CD*

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier



PAWS HERE!

Knee-to-knee Crew circles ensure that kids are sitting close enough together to hear each other during discussions. If necessary, demonstrate what "knee-to-knee" looks like. Having Crews automatically form these circles will make your sessions run much more smoothly.

Field Test Tip

Here's a great optional idea. On poster paper, write the questions kids will discuss in their Crews. Hang the paper on a wall, and cover it with another sheet of paper. Reveal each question when it's asked so Crew Leaders and kids can refer to it. Easy reference!



Bring out all the balloons, so the green team has only 2 and the blue team has 10. Turn on the Sing & Play Roar Music CD for about 30 seconds while kids play. Then see which group has more of their balloons on the other group's side of the room. Ask:

- ❓ **How did you feel when I brought out the balloons? Why?**
- ❓ **How did you feel about playing a game that wasn't fair?**

Move balloons to the side of the room.

Discuss Unfair Situations

Say: Well, that's a tiny taste of how people felt in today's Bible story. But things were *really* unfair for them. Let's dig into today's totally true Bible story!

God's people, the Israelites, were slaves in Egypt. In fact, they had been slaves for 400 years. That's a long time! That must have felt very unfair, don't you think?

Having to do whatever the Egyptians told them to do?
Working in the hot Egyptian sun? Not being allowed to leave Egypt, and not being allowed to worship God the way they wanted to?

Like I said, really unfair! But today we're learning that **when life is unfair...God is good!** So let me ask you something.

Ask:

- ❓ **When is a time your life felt unfair? For me...**[give a personal example].

Tell your Crew about a time your life felt unfair. Crew Leaders, you can briefly share first. Then make sure everyone in your Crew gets a turn to talk. Pause as kids talk. When discussions seem to be winding down, give a 30-second warning to wrap up. Then call attention back to yourself.

I was listening in, and it sounds like we've *all* felt life was unfair at times. Things don't always go our way, do they? But that doesn't mean God isn't good. God is good! All the time! He always knows what's happening to us, and he's always with us.

Talk About It

Say: Life was no game for God's people. Things were hard and really unfair. They even sent their leader, Moses to ask Pharaoh to let the people go into the desert so they could worship God. But Pharaoh just took away some of their building supplies, making their jobs even harder.

The Israelites were upset with Moses for making things worse. So Moses went back to God and said, "Lord, why did you ever send me to Pharaoh? Now he's being even meaner to your people. And you don't seem to be helping much."

Hmm...I wonder...have you ever felt like God's people did? Maybe you were in a tough situation that seemed unfair, so you prayed to God for help, but things didn't get better right away. Ask:

? How did you feel then? What did you say to God? Have kids talk briefly in their Crews.

You know, it's okay to talk to God about how we're feeling, even if we're feeling upset with God. That's what Moses did. And we can do the same. God loves us, and he's always with us. And even when **life is unfair...God is good!**



When Moses complained to God, God said, “I am the Lord. I will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh.”

Tomorrow we’ll find out how God was good to the Israelites. I hope you’ll come back to see what happens!

Thank kids for coming to Wild Bible Adventures, and invite them back for tomorrow’s totally true Bible experience.

When you hear your Director’s signal, dismiss kids to their next destination.





Day 1

When life is unfair...
God is good!

Just for Day 1,
preschoolers
skip Sing & Play Roar
and go straight to
Little Paws Preschool
to meet their Crews
and Crew Leaders.



Exploration Stations

- Bible Activity Page
- Play Clay
- Brick by Brick
- Hut
- Meet Bible Memory
Buddy Mack



KidVid™ Cinema

Gift goes to a small
school where they listen
to a teacher on a radio.
Nearby, there's a bigger
school where kids have
uniforms, desks, and a real
teacher. That may seem
unfair, but Gift knows he's
loved and that God is
always good.



Hungry Herd Café

Build-a-Bug



Craft & Play

- Tumble Drum
- Soccer Ball
- Pinch Pot



Bible Adventures & Missions

Work hard like the Israelites did
for Pharaoh, and explore how
God was good to his friends
even when things weren't fair.



Closing Circle

Review the day, learn
about God Sightings,
receive a Watch for God
Wristband and Jambo
sticker, and wrap up with
a prayer and music.



Games

Tower Construction



Spots, Stripes, or Solid



Balloon Buddy



At **Roar VBS**, the daily Bible
Point is carefully integrated
into each station's activities for
unforgettable Bible learning.
See how your station reinforces
today's Bible Point.

Day 1

Supplies

- preschool-friendly Bible (choose one you'll refer to every day)
- Gazelle Bell*
- Bible Point Poster showing Jambo*
- Day 1 poster from the Bible Story Poster Pack*
- blankets (1 per Crew)
- stuffed animals (1 per Crew)
- heavy books, such as dictionaries (1 per Crew)
- building blocks (1 per child)

*available from Group Publishing or your Group VBS supplier

Before Today's Trek...

- Hang the poster of Jambo and the Day 1 Bible Story Poster.
- Bookmark Exodus 1 in your Bible.
- Spread out a blanket for each Crew to sit on in your Bible Adventures area.

Welcome Preschoolers

Have children gather with their Crew on a Crew blanket, and introduce yourself.

Say: **Welcome, friends! Here at Little Paws Preschool, we get to pretend we're in the African savanna. The savanna is a huge, grassy wilderness on the other side of the world where animals like lions, zebras, and elephants live!** Point out some of the fun, savanna-inspired decorations in your room. **Most of us have seen animals like that only at the zoo, not out in the wild!** Ask:

? What's your favorite animal at the zoo?

Share what your favorite animal at the zoo is, then take a few responses from preschoolers.

At Roar VBS this week, we won't just celebrate the awesome animals that God made; we'll get to celebrate all the ways God is so good to us! God gives us cool trees to climb and grassy hills to roll down, good friends to play with, and his love, which will never, ever leave us!

Point to the poster of Jambo the meerkat. **Our special preschool friend this week is a little meerkat named Jambo (JOHM-bow). Jambo means "hello" in some parts of Africa.** Lead preschoolers in saying "Jambo!" with you a few times and waving to other preschoolers in the room. **Meerkats are furry, little critters that live together in big families in tunnels underground. They take good care of each other, searching for food together and keeping an eye out for hungry animals that might eat them.** Lead preschoolers in looking through their hands like binoculars.

Sing the Welcome Song

Say: While you're here at Little Paws Preschool, you'll be traveling with other friends in your Crew. They'll be like your meerkat family! Sometimes we'll do things together with all our preschool friends, and sometimes you'll get to do things with just the kids in your Crew. Let's sing a fun song right now with all our Crew friends.



Lead children in standing up and singing the song “If You’re Ready for Adventure” to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It.” (Sing the song slowly at first to help children learn the words and actions. They’ll be singing the song *all week* at Roar, so don’t worry about them learning it perfectly right away.) Lead preschoolers in singing it a few times. Let preschoolers move around the area a little so they can interact with as many friends as possible during the song.

If you’re ready for adventure, give a roar! (Roar, roar!) (Pump fist in air during response)

If you’re ready for adventure, give a roar! (Roar, roar!) (Pump fist in air during response)

Find a friend and give high-five (High-five a friend)

Wave your hands up in the sky. (Wave hands above head)

If you’re ready for adventure, give a roar! (Roar, roar!) (Pump fist in air during response)

If you’re ready for adventure, give a roar! (Roar, roar!) (Pump fist in air during response)

If you’re ready for adventure, give a roar! (Roar, roar!) (Pump fist in air during response)

Find a friend and give high-five. (High-five a friend)

Wave your hands up in the sky. (Wave hands above head)

If you’re ready for adventure, give a roar! (Roar, roar!) (Pump fist in air during response)

FIELD TEST FINDING

We’ve discovered over the years that an easy welcome song is a great routine to establish for little ones. Simple routines like this make children more comfortable and help them know what to expect each day.

Introduce Crew Leaders

Have preschoolers sit down with their Crews.

Say: God gave each of you a special person to care for you this week—your Crew Leader. Let’s have all the Crew Leaders raise their hands. Pause. If you need help with anything, your Crew Leader will help you. Now take a minute to meet the other friends in your Crew. Make sure you learn your Crew Leader’s name, too.

Crew Leaders will introduce themselves to their Crew members and let each child tell his or her name. Then direct the Crew Leaders to give each child in their Crews a high-five with their “paw” and say, “Welcome, [child’s name]! I’m glad you’re here!” After a few minutes, sound the Gazelle Bell to get children’s attention.

On the count of three, I want you to call out your Crew Leader’s name. Are you ready? 1, 2, 3! Pause.



"God is good!"



PAWS HERE!

Preschoolers learn the Bible Point and response from the Hungry Herd Café Leader when they prep snack for everyone at VBS right before Bible Adventures. Reviewing the response again here will help reinforce the concept for preschoolers on a busy first day of VBS.



Sometimes I'll need to get your attention so everyone can hear what to do next. This is a Gazelle Bell. Hold up the Gazelle Bell. When you hear the Gazelle Bell, stop what you're doing and listen carefully. We have so much to do and explore, and I don't want you to miss anything.

Introduce the Bible Point

Say: Today we're learning that **when life is unfair...God is good!**

That's called our Bible Point. Each time someone says the day's Bible Point, there will be a pause when it's time for you to shout "God is good!" When you shout, you can punch your fist in the air to celebrate God's goodness. Let's practice:

When life is unfair...God is good!

Practice saying the Point and response a few times.

Now let's hear a story from the Bible to help us discover that **when life is unfair...God is good!** Hold up a Bible. The Bible is God's true words to us and is filled with stories of real people.

Travel to Egypt

Say: A long time ago, there was a group of people called the Israelites. They were God's good friends, and God loved them very much. Some of the Israelites took care of sheep and other animals. Let's take care of an animal too. Give each Crew a stuffed animal, and let preschoolers pass it around the Crew circle and pat the animal on the head or pretend to feed it. Then have Crew Leaders hold the stuffed animals.

The Israelites had a good home, but then something happened. The rain stopped, and the sun was very hot, and all the plants shriveled up. There was no food left for the Israelites to eat. They were sooo hungry! Lead preschoolers in putting their hands over their stomachs. So the Israelites moved to a country called Egypt. They took their families and all their animals with them. Let's pretend to travel to a new home in Egypt like the Israelites did.

Lead Crews in marching around your room. Remind Crew Leaders to bring their Crews' animals with them! Then have preschoolers sit down with their Crews. Ask:

? Have you ever moved to a new place? Talk about that with your Crew. Give Crews a minute to talk.

Egypt was a good place to live. The Israelites had plenty of food to eat and lots of land where they could take care of their animals.

Let preschoolers have another turn passing the stuffed animal around the Crew circle.

After a while, the Israelites' kids grew up and had families of their own. And then *their* kids grew up and had families. Pretty soon, there were more Israelites living in Egypt than there were Egyptians! The king of Egypt was called Pharaoh, and he got scared the Israelites might try to take his kingdom away from him. So Pharaoh took away everything the Israelites had.

Because Pharaoh took away everything from the Israelites, I'm going to take away your animals. Take away the stuffed animal from each Crew.

Build With Bricks

Say: The Egyptians were mean to the Israelites and hurt them and made them do hard work, like building big walls and towers. It was hard, tiring work out in the hot sun every day. Show preschoolers the Day 1 Bible Story Poster. **Let's build a tower like the Israelites did.**

Have each Crew stand up in a circle.

Maybe the Israelites had to carry really heavy building blocks. Give each Crew a heavy book, and have Crew members pass it around the circle a couple of times. **Maybe they had to run back and forth carrying water to make the bricks out of mud. Let's run in place.** Lead preschoolers in running in place for several seconds. **Maybe the Israelites had to jump way up high to add the next bricks to buildings they were making. Let's do 10 jumping jacks.** Lead preschoolers in counting to 10 while doing jumping jacks. **Whew! Okay, now we're ready to build our tower.**

Have Crew Leaders help you distribute a block to each child. Lead preschoolers in stacking their blocks to make a large block tower. Then have children sit with their Crews.



I think our tower looks pretty good! That sure made me tired though. It wasn't fair that the Israelites had to work so hard. And it wasn't fair that the Egyptians were so mean to them.
Ask:

? How do you feel when people are mean?

Thanks for sharing! The feelings you shared were probably some of the same ways the Israelites felt. They probably felt sad and angry and confused. The Israelites hadn't done anything wrong, and it wasn't fair that they were treated meanly. But **when life is unfair...God is good!**

God never left his friends, and he had a special plan to save them. Just like God never left the Israelites, God will never leave you either! Tomorrow we'll learn the amazing way God saved the Israelites!

Dismiss kids to wash their hands for snack time.





When Life Is Unfair... God Is Good!

Photo or Slide Image #



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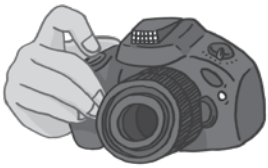
Audio 

Slide #1



Slide provided

Slide #2



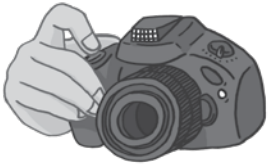
Several kids holding up Bibles**

Slide #3



A few kids wiping their brows and fanning themselves, as if hot**

Slide #4



Four kids, each holding up four fingers

Slide #5



Kids using plastic shovels to fill buckets with yellow raffia**

Slide #6



Several kids with hands on hips, looking stern

Today we explored a true story from the Bible.
The Bible is God's Word for us, you know.

We traveled back in time to ancient Egypt,
and let me tell you, it was hot!

God's people, the Israelites, had been slaves in
Egypt for 400 years.

Their job was to make bricks for the Egyptians.
It was hard, backbreaking work!

The Egyptian guards were always yelling to
hurry up and make more bricks.

**special shot requiring specific prop or actor

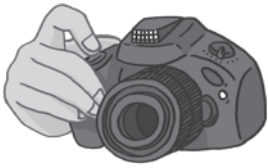
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Audio 

Slide #7



Kids wearing large sunglasses**

And did I mention that it was hot? That Egyptian sun was blinding!

Slide #8



Kids holding signs that say "UNFAIR!"**

It was all so unfair!

Slide #9



Smiling kids pointing to sky

**But they know that when life is unfair...
God is good!**

Slide #10



Boy pretending to chew his fingernails, looking scared

God told a man named Moses to go before Pharaoh and demand that he let God's people go. But Moses was scared.

Slide #11



Same Moses boy kneeling with hands clasped, as if pleading**

Moses told God, "I can't do it! I'm such a clumsy speaker! Please send someone else!"

Slide #12



Moses boy and another boy (Aaron), both pretending to chew their nails, looking scared**

So God told Moses he could take his brother, Aaron, with him. They would both go before Pharaoh!

**special shot requiring specific prop or actor

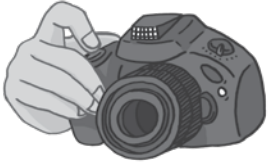
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Audio 

Slide #13



Kids on knees, bowing with arms stretched out and faces to the ground

But first, they told their people that God had seen their misery and was going to help. The people bowed down and worshipped God.

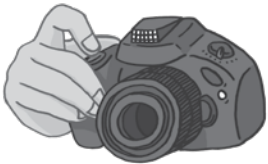
Slide #14



Different boy in Pharaoh attire, with arm stretched out and pointing, looking angry**

Then Moses and Aaron went before Pharaoh, and told him to Let God's people go. That made Pharaoh mad! He said "Get back to work!"

Slide #15



Kids looking surprised and upset

In fact, Pharaoh was so mad that he took away the Israelites' straw and said they'd have to make just as many bricks as before! That was *really* unfair!

Slide #16



Kids looking very upset, holding overturned, empty buckets with no raffia in sight**

The people had to work even harder. They had to make bricks with no straw.

Slide #17



Upset kids on their knees, some with hands over their heads and some with arms stretched upward

Life was even worse than before for the Israelites!

Slide #18



Moses and Aaron boys facing an angry crowd of kids. Some kids in the crowd have their hands on their hips; others have fists in the air**

And the people blamed Moses and Aaron!

**special shot requiring specific prop or actor

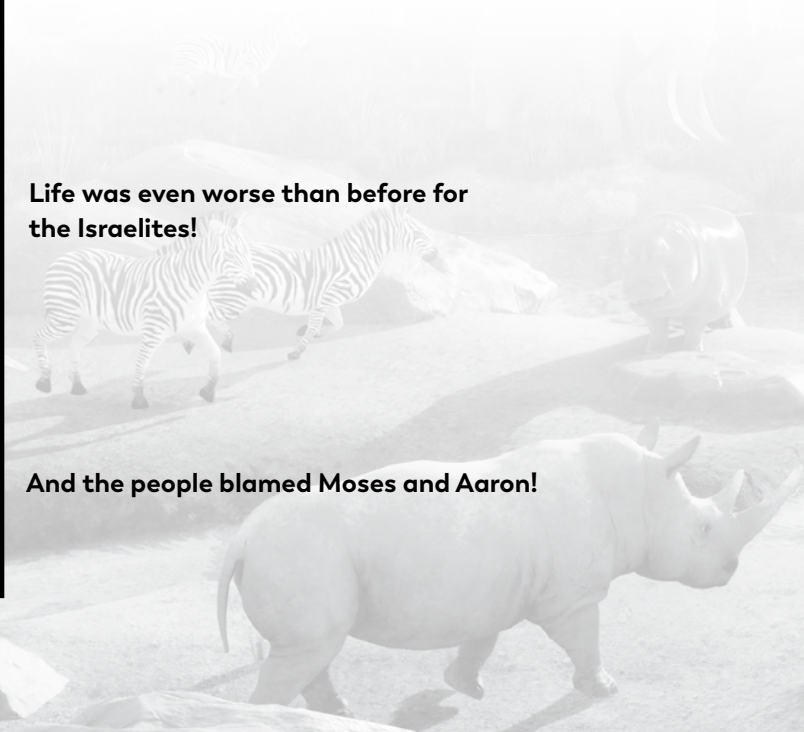


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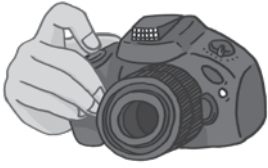


=Image to Shoot

Audio



Slide #19



Moses boy on bended knee, with hands folded in prayer**

Moses went back to God and asked him what to do.

Slide #20



Happy kids cheering and clapping

God saw how unfair life was for his people, and he promised to make Pharaoh change his mind!

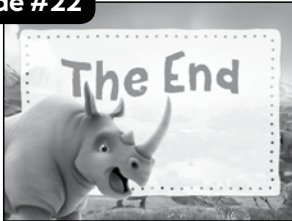
Slide #21



Slide provided

When life is unfair...God is good!

Slide #22



Slide provided

**special shot requiring specific prop or actor

