

# MESSY ADVENTURE

"I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

## What is a Messy Summer Adventure?

Messy Summer Adventures are a series of adventures and activities brought to you by Epiphany & St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Messy Church Team. This series will bring you to a number of treasured outdoor locations across the state, and some in your own backyard! All activities will be outdoors, all free, and accessible to all ages. When you complete an adventure and submit pictures, we will send you a badge for each adventure you participate in, with prizes at the end!

You can submit your pictures by tagging @epiphanychurch or @standrewsnl on Facebook, or by e-mailing them to Aaron Jenkyn at:

[missionerofnewport@gmail.com](mailto:missionerofnewport@gmail.com)

## Need Supplies?

Rainbow Egg cartons and cloth face masks can be found in bins outside both churches, or you can make your own by using a recycled egg carton.



## Rainbow Connection

This week's adventure can be done right in your backyard!

Using a Rainbow Egg Carton spend some time in your backyard or garden collecting found objects. Objects can be from nature or man made, whatever catches your eye. Once you have collected all the colors, sort them into a rainbow on a large piece of white paper. As you look at the rainbows, share stories about a time that you saw a real rainbow. Once you have had a chance to look at all the rainbows and share stories, write a poem or a prayer about the colors, objects, or experience related to your rainbow. A template has been provided for you, or you can use a form of your choosing.



## Messy Adventure #2



### Before you begin:

Read this passage from the Bible together:

[Genesis 6:9-9:17](#)

Or read the story of Noah in a Bible storybook like [this one](#).

### Listen to this song by a familiar friend:

[Rainbow Connection](#)

### Bonus Activity:

Bake [rainbow cookies](#), or create a rainbow themed fruit plate to snack on while you explore.



## *Waiting and wondering like Noah*

During these days of uncertainty I have been thinking a lot about the story of Noah in the days after the flood when he was waiting for the waters to go down. Most of you will know this story. A very long time ago God saw all the violence and pain and hatred of the world and groaned in sorrow. So God made a plan and whispered it to Noah, and Noah and his family built an ark and they filled it with the animals of every kind and seeds of every kind and plants and trees of every kind. And then the rains started and didn't stop until creation was undone. Noah and his wife and the animals were safe in the ark, safe but afraid because the world they knew was gone. This whole time Noah and his family had to wait, even after the rain stopped falling they waited, sending out birds to fly over the earth looking for dry land, unsure of what would happen next.

I wonder how Noah and his family spent their time inside the ark? I wonder what they were thinking, what they were saying to God? I wonder if they thought about where God was and what God was doing? I wonder how many times they cried out "how much longer" or "are we there yet"?

We know the ending to Noah's story, we know that a dove brought back an olive branch and that branch gave Noah and his family hope. We know that when Noah and his wife finally came off the ark that they built an altar and offered gifts of thanksgiving to God. And we know that God looked upon them and promised, never again to destroy life in this way. And as a sign of that special promise, of that covenant, God stretched a rainbow across the sky.

I don't know the ending to the Corona Virus story, but I do know that we see God wherever we see light and hope during these worrying times, and so often that hope comes from our connections with each other. The rainbow is a symbol of that hope, emerging like a bridge through the clouds. In our own lives this story encourages us to not despair, reminding us to look for the way through the situation, no matter how desperate, to a resurrection truth.

I wonder where you might be seeing rainbow connections during this time? It isn't always easy, sometimes it might even feel like a scavenger hunt, looking far and wide for a piece of the rainbow.

As you venture outside and gather little bits and pieces for your own rainbow, talk about what has brought you hope during this time. Talk about the helpers in your community, in our country, and around the world. Talk about the little things and the big things, with an open mind and an open heart you will begin to see bits of rainbow everywhere!

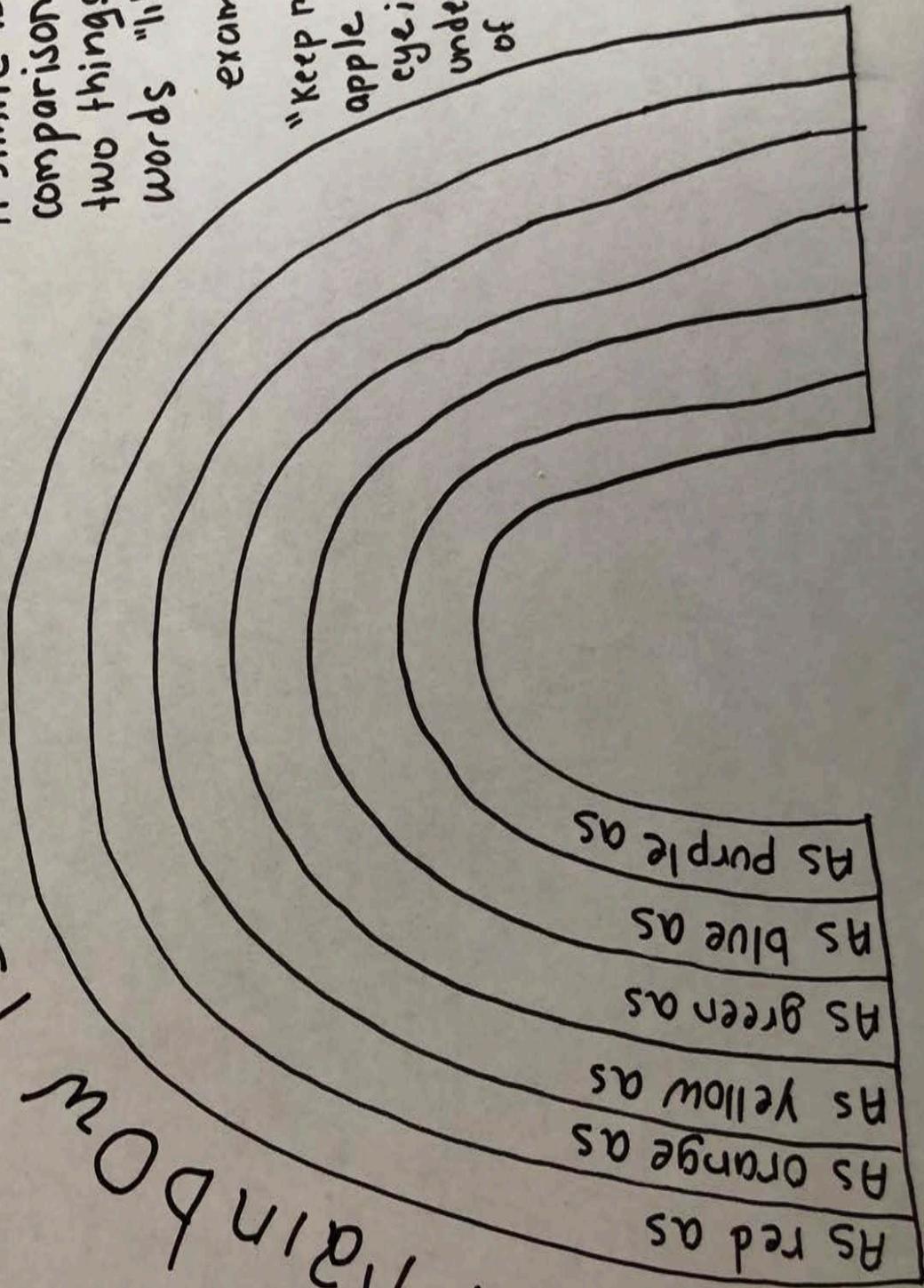
write your own poem about your rainbow or use this template to write a simile poem.

A simile is a comparison between two things using the words "like" or "as".

example:

"Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings"  
Psalm 17:8

a Rainbow is ...



As red as  
As orange as  
As yellow as  
As green as  
As blue as  
As purple as