A family of roaches – Grandpa Lou, Grandma Nana, and grandson, Squigz – are vacationing in Florida when a hurricane threatens to ruin their good time. Always one to make the best of a bad situation, Grandpa Lou takes the opportunity to tell the very appropriate story of his experience on Noah’s Ark. One in a series of family friendly, hilarious children’s videos, The Roach Approach, Don’t Miss the Boat also features memorable songs from Michael McDonald and Kirk Whalun.

This discussion guide touches on topics that children often deal with and should learn at a young age – courage, obedience, bullying, forgiveness, purpose. Each topic is complete with thought-provoking questions, related scriptures, and helpful lessons. To supplement the lessons, clips from the movie have been chosen and are offered as a visual aid. These clips are available for download at www.foxfaith.com or may be shown through a specially made DVD that you can request at the same website. These clips and the guide, used in Sunday school classes, other small groups or by parents, will provide you with the opportunity to discuss situations that a child may experience as they journey towards adulthood.

For more information and additional Church resource material, go to www.foxfaith.com.
The Roach Approach, Don’t Miss the Boat! comes to you from Wacky World Studios, one of the most sought after companies in the industry. The company is known throughout the world for its outstanding diversity in such areas as unique children’s ministries and themed environments such as the “ET” ride at Universal Studios and the “Rain Forest Café” in U.S. cities and abroad.

The creator of the Roach Approach series is Bruce Barry who is the magic behind Wacky World. His creative genius has expanded to Bible stories since his conversion to Christianity in 1999. Now, Bruce’s talents have him involved in a mission to reach kids for Christ through his art and imagination.

The Roach Approach series is critically acclaimed and approved by the Dove Foundation for Family Entertainment. Featuring original songs by Michael McDonald, Kirk Whalum and Natalie Grant who also plays the voice of Kate the Butterfly.

We have an opportunity to affect others. Who can you think of that you would like to encourage knowing more about Jesus? Who in your life has influenced you? Parents? Friends? Pastor?

Lesson to Learn

Schnoz, the aardvark disobeys the rules and pulls the plug, causing the ark to sink. Then, while all the other animals are crying and complaining, it’s Nan who has the courage to take action. In the eyes of all the passengers, she was just a lowly cockroach, but she rescued everyone.

When God chose Noah to build the ark and give the world a new start, he didn’t pick him because of his importance in the community. Instead, he chose Noah for a great task because he had a heart for God. We need to remember that God has a purpose for everyone and everything—no matter how humble they may be.
supplemented by clips from the movie you've either received or downloaded online. These scenes were specifically selected to help you set the tone and furnish context for your discussions, whether it's in the home-setting, or the Sunday school class. There are also suggested scriptures for your group to read. The video clips, Bible reading, and questions should initiate conversation. We suggest that you show the video to your class or study group in its entirety, followed by discussion, video clips, and Bible reading. Use the Discussion booklet as your guide. Remember, this study can extend over several learning sessions, if you choose. You'll find that this process will provide you with the opportunity to discuss situations that an individual may experience as they journey towards adulthood. Through this video and Discussion Guide, we hope to equip each child with the tools they will need in the future.

**Questions**

- Nan is a lowly cockroach and in the eyes of others, may not seem as important as a kingly lion. But, she did a mighty deed. How was Nan used to save all the passengers on the ark? What were other more prestigious animals on the ship doing while it was sinking? Do you think God can use humble people to do great work? Read I Corinthians 1:27.

- God chose Noah to build the ark so the world could have a new beginning. Did he choose him because he was important, or was there another reason? Read Genesis 6:8-9, & 22. What qualities do you think God wants to see in us?

**New Friends**

In this scene, the storm has passed and Grandpa Lou has just finished the story about the ark. Much to their surprise, they have two young visitors at their door who want to talk to Squiggz. They then proceed to tell Squiggz that they saw him say his prayer at lunchtime, the day before. Squiggz admits that it was embarrassing, but the kids tell him that they were impressed that he stood up for his beliefs, even though the other kids laughed at him. In fact, the two visitors say they’re encouraged to pray at lunch now too. And, if it’s O.K. with Squiggz, they’d like to sit with him at lunch tomorrow. As Squiggz says, “Us roaches need to stick together.”

**Questions**

- When Squiggz prayed at lunchtime, the other roaches made fun of him. But, by standing up for his beliefs, his actions had a greater purpose. What was it? When Squiggz eats lunch the next day, he and his new friends plan to pray. Do you think he will be embarrassed this time? Why not?

This video weaves the story of Noah with the adventures of Lou and Nan aboard the ark where the two honeymooned. What they encounter are experiences that children can identify with and learn from. Topics such as faith, courage, life purpose, and God’s plan are explored in this hilarious scenario— one that everyone will enjoy.

**About the Discussion Guide**

With the Discussion Guide, parents and teachers can lead their group in discussion of subjects that touch a child’s life. The lessons are supplemented by clips from the movie you’ve either received or downloaded online. These scenes were specifically selected to help you set the tone and furnish context for your discussions, whether it’s in the home-setting, or the Sunday school class. There are also suggested scriptures for your group to read. The video clips, Bible reading, and questions should initiate conversation.

We suggest that you show the video to your class or study group in its entirety, followed by discussion, video clips, and Bible reading. Use the Discussion booklet as your guide. Remember, this study can extend over several learning sessions, if you choose.
Discussions

Once your group has watched *The Roach Approach, Don’t Miss the Boat!*, you can reinforce the themes and messages of the story by showing them the video clips. These clips can be downloaded online at www.foxfaith.com or shown through a specially made DVD that you can request at the same website.

You might start the study time by saying something like this: “We’ve watched the story about the cockroaches and their adventure on Noah’s ark. Now we’re going to watch a video clip that will help us discover some ideas that we can use in our own lives.” Then, after they have watched the clip, read the questions and scriptures that will jump-start discussion. Remember, the amount of time you spend on this process is entirely up to you. Don’t feel like you have to hurry through a good conversation to finish all the scenes. The goal is to allow the group time to understand the principles that are set forth in the story.

COURAGE TO BE OBEDIENT

**Not So Cool**

With the hurricane approaching the home where the Roach family lives, Grandpa Lou assures Squiggz that God is in control. But that’s not all that is troubling his grandson. Squiggz is feeling sad because kids at the dumpster made fun of him when he prayed before eating his lunch. Grandpa Lou proceeds to tell him about another person, a man named Noah, who others ridiculed.

**Questions**

- Have you ever prayed in public like Squiggz did and felt like others were watching you? How did it make you feel? Read the Bible verse 1 Corinthians 10:31. Why is it important to pray, even if we feel embarrassed?

kid has deep hurts that they’re dealing with so they take out their aggressions on someone else. Thankfully, God sees their heart, even though we look at them on the outside and see ugliness. God’s love can heal their lives and frequently, it comes through the compassion of another person. When this opportunity exists, we need to set aside our anger and hurt feelings as Lou did, to forgive. After all, God has forgiven us.

EVERYONE HAS A PURPOSE

**Who Pulled the Plug?**

Schnoz, the aardvark disobeys the sign that says “Do Not Remove” and as a result, he pulls the plug at the bottom of the ark. When the water comes rushing in, there is chaos. The lion, the sheep and the other animals cry and complain about what is happening. But, the tiny cockroach, Nan thinks quickly then courageously puts the plug back into the hole; a struggle that
confronted by Schnoz, his first reaction is fear and anger. That changes when he listens to Schnoz and his concerns. Lou even finds it in his heart to forgive the aardvark for his earlier bullying tactics.

Questions

● When Schnoz, the aardvark, approaches Lou, Schnoz is met with anger. Why do you think Lou reacted this way? What does the Bible say about anger? Read Leviticus 19:18.

● Schnoz has been acting mean and bullying others because he has been so unhappy. When the aardvark tells Lou his story and then asks for forgiveness, what does Lou do? Do you think it is easy to forgive someone who has hurt you? Why? What does the Bible say to do? Read Matthew 6:14.

Lesson to Learn

It isn’t uncommon for children to encounter someone who is a bully. When they do, it can be a frightening experience. For instance, a bully might force a child to give up his lunch money; or a tough kid may torment a young person with unkind words or physical abuse. Intimidation and fear are the tools a bully uses to have control and power.

Being the victim is often very difficult and a child may find that they are too afraid to do anything about the person who is bullying them. In this story, Kate intervened and stood up to the aardvark, even though Schnoz was much bigger than she. This took a huge amount of courage and good communication, but the outcome was rewarding. Whether a child who is alone should be encouraged to stand up to a bully is debatable. But, they should be persuaded to get help from a parent, a teacher or some other trusted adult. Also, children as a group can influence a bully’s behavior and should be quick to offer help when they see a victim being intimidated.

Even though bullies may be aggressive and appear to be unfeeling, that exterior posture may be just an act; an attitude that makes them feel better about themselves. Often times, a tough

● If someone makes fun, or laughs at you because of your faith in God, should you quit praying or doing what God asks you to do? Why not? Read the scripture Romans 1:16.

Noah Believes

In the second scene, God tells Noah that he plans to flood the earth and only save Noah and his family, plus the animals. God even gives Noah the plans to build a huge ark. But having the faith and courage to do this task isn’t easy. Because Noah lives in the desert, everyone makes fun of him for building a boat. Until it starts to rain.

Questions

● God asked Noah to build the ark, even though he lived in the desert. It probably seemed like a ridiculous request. Read scriptures Genesis 6:8-9, 17-18. Why do you think he went ahead and did it? Read Hebrews 11:7. What do we know about Noah and his faith?

● Noah continued to build the ark in the desert for many years. During the time he and his family worked on the boat, people laughed at them. Read Hebrews 11:1 & 6. How did Noah have the courage to continue, even in the face of ridicule?
know is wrong, even though the other kids say it’s okay. When our behavior is different from others, it might make them feel uncomfortable. Sometimes their reaction is to laugh at what we are doing. That is why it’s important to have a deep faith in God, trusting Him in everything. We also need to pray all the time, and read the Bible. God promises to give us the strength and the courage that we need to live for Him.

Questions

- Kate is very tiny compared to the aardvark, so when Kate stepped in to protect Lou and Nan, she was risking her own life. Why do you think she went ahead and confronted the aardvark? Read the scripture Luke 10:27.

- Have you ever encountered a person who was mean to you, or who was a bully? How did you feel afterward? Knowing how you felt in that situation, would you help someone who was being bullied? Why or why not? Read the Bible verse Philippians 4:13.

The Inside Story

In the second scene, Lou is worried that Nan is so sick that she might die. Life looks bleak. Schnoz who has overheard him, approaches Lou to tell him that he understands how he feels. Unknown to anyone, the aardvark has been upset too.

Ever since boarding the ark, Schnoz has been sad that the love-of-his-life, Rosie, is missing from the boat. For him, life is miserable without her. When Lou is