

The Wise and the Foolish Builder - A Sensory Parable

Script	Sensory Experience	Makaton signs / symbols:
<p>1. Do not be foolish. Do not build your house on sand.</p>	<p>Sensory experience: Explore the feel of sand, fill a tray and allow hands and feet to be moved within the sand. This will promote body awareness and ready your story experiencer for the activity of sharing the rest of the story. An alternative to sand can be to touch sandpaper. Together build a tower of chunky cardboard boxes (to add extra sensory interest place textured panels on the boxes, add a scent to the cardboard, or fill the boxes with things that will rattle or add weight)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House • Build
<p>2. The rains will fall.</p>	<p>Sensory experience: Use your hands to flick water onto a metal tin lid - you are looking to create the plinky plinky sound of rain falling. You could use a rainmaker to create rain sound. To make your own rainmaker push wooden skewers through a Pringles tube (other salty snacks are available) and place a handful of shells inside - when you tip the tube over the shells will bounce off the skewers and sound like a downpour of rain. An alternative is to use a water spray - try scenting the water with a few drops of essential oil to get the smell of fresh rain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rain
<p>3. The floods will come.</p>	<p>Sensory experience: Offer your story experiencer a bowl of water to explore, the sensation of wetness is a very unusual one, much debated by philosophers, it is a touch or a temperature that we feel when we feel wetness? Allow time for this sensation to be investigated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water • Flood

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4. The wind will blow.	<p>Sensory experience: Use a fan to create the sensation of wind against the skin, do not just blow towards a person's face, your tactile sense owns the biggest of your sensory organs: your skin, so make the most of it!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind
5. And your house will fall.	<p>Sensory experience: Push the tower of boxes over together. Enjoy the visual excitement of the tower at first being there and then being gone. If the boxes have things that rattle and clatter inside then you can also enjoy the chaotic cacophony of them falling. The Bible says that the fall will be great, so make the most of this chance to cause a crash and a bang.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House • Fall
6. Be wise: build your house on the rock.	<p>Sensory experience: Work together to build the boxes back into a tower, take your time, exploring their sensory properties. Through this story Jesus is advising people to found themselves in love, in God. In sharing a connection with someone as you build you are embodying this message. Build with love.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wise • Build • Rock

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Script	Sensory Experience	Notes
7. The rains will fall.	<p>Sensory experience: Use your hands to flick water onto a metal tin lid – you are looking to create the plinky plinky sound of rain falling. You could use a rainmaker to create rain sound. To make your own rainmaker push wooden skewers through a Pringles tube (other salty snacks are available) and place a handful of shells inside – when you tip the tube over the shells will bounce off the skewers and sound like a downpour of rain.</p> <p>An alternative is to use a water spray – try scenting the water with a few drops of essential oil to get the smell of fresh rain.</p>	<p>For these three lines repeat exactly the sensations you offered the first time each line occurred. This repetition in the story will support your story experienter in connecting with the narrative and engaging in exploring the sensations you offer.</p>
8. The floods will come.	<p>Sensory experience: Offer your story experienter a bowl of water to explore, the sensation of wetness is a very unusual one, much debated by philosophers, it is a touch or a temperature that we feel when we feel wetness? Allow time for this sensation to be investigated.</p>	
9. The wind will blow.	<p>Sensory experience: Use a fan to create the sensation of wind against the skin, do not just blow towards a person's face, your tactile sense owns the biggest of your sensory organs: your skin, so make the most of it!</p>	

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10. But your house is strong.	Try again to push the tower down, but this time the tower will stay strong. (You can ensure its strength by simply holding it up when it is pushed, or by sneakily securing it inside with a rod or box that fits inside the others holding them firm.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• House• Strong

Going Deeper:

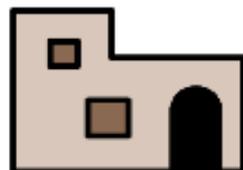
Explore the things that are like ‘sand’ or are based on Jesus the ‘rock’ in our lives. Use symbols and pictures to sort in each set and remind them that not all things are bad, but not all things are important. Search for examples of decisions and responses that show we are like Jesus. Be aware that many people with PMLD have had other people make decisions for them all their lives. Giving them a chance to explore their own opinions and make their own decisions in faith is very important to facilitate.

This story was kindly written and donated to Included By Grace by Joanna Grace: Sensory Engagement and Inclusion Specialist, author, trainer, TEDx speaker and Founder of The Sensory Projects www.TheSensoryProjects.co.uk

She says: “Sensory communication has no barriers of age or language or race or creed. Sharing sensory conversations allows us to connect with one another. It is only natural that Christians will want to share the stories precious to them with the people who are precious to them. I hope my small contribution will help them to do that. I strongly expect that when sharing it the story tellers will find that it is not they who are teaching the message of this verse, but they who are being taught. People with complex disabilities rarely found their lives in the sands of prestige, money, celebrity etc. The term “disability” hides many an ability and I have often found the most disabled people I connect with to be among the most able people when it comes to provoking and providing love.”



Parable



house



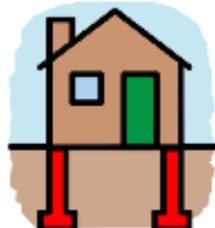
build



sand



rock



foundation



rain



storm



flood



wind



fall down



be wise