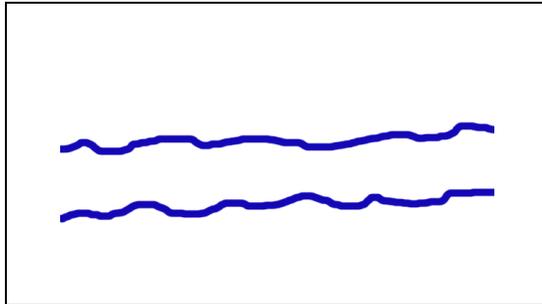


## The Baptism of Jesus

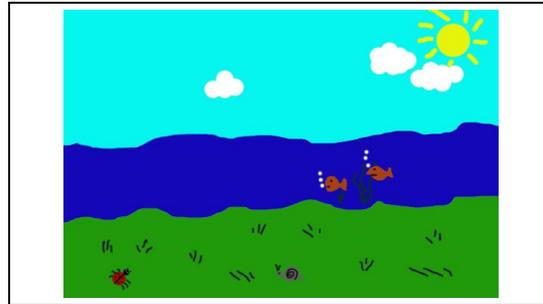
An interactive drawing activity for teaching the story to young children.

**Supplies:** A large piece of paper (such as newsprint), markers or crayons.

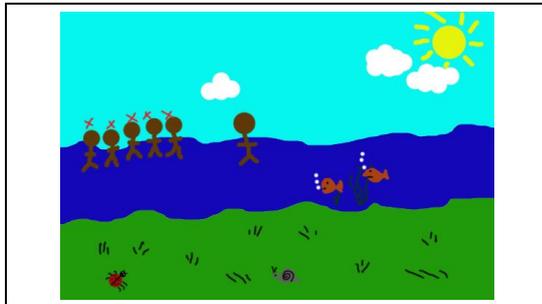
**Instructions:** Lay the paper on the floor or on a table where children can gather around it. Begin the picture with an outline of the Jordan River and then ask children to fill in the picture. The teacher completes the picture while telling the story. When complete the picture can be attached to a wall for classroom decoration.



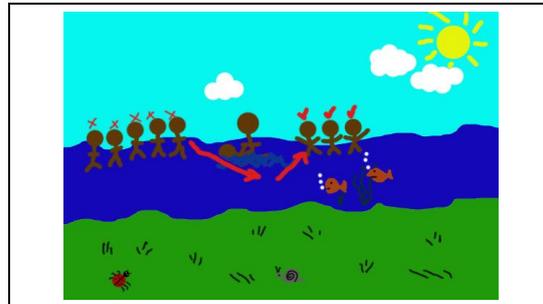
1. This is the Jordan River. Let's colour in the river, the sky and the land.



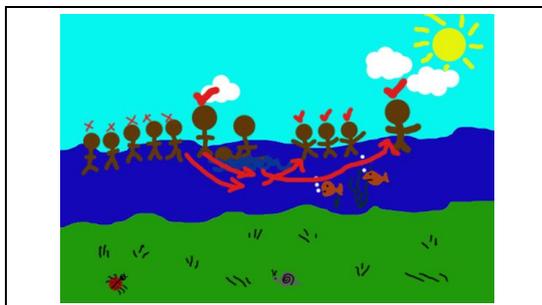
2. Children fill it in with their own artwork.



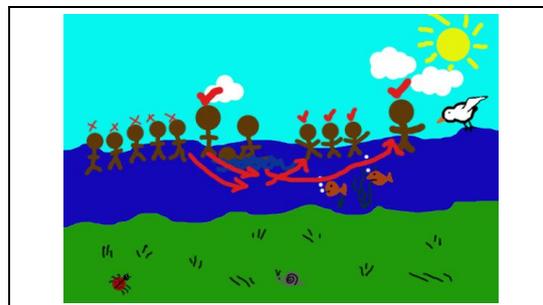
3. Teacher draws John the Baptist and talks about how he preached God's word to people. God wanted the people to be sorry for all the wrong things they had done. (the red "X" depicts sin.)



4. John told the people that God wanted them to show they were sorry for the wrong things they had done. God wanted them to be baptised. That meant they had to go under the water. When they came up out of the water God would know that they were sorry and that they would try to be good. (The red "tick" mark shows they have obeyed God).



5. John was very surprised because Jesus came to be baptised. Jesus did not be sorry. John reminded Jesus that he never done anything wrong (red "tick" mark). But Jesus told John he wanted to be baptised anyway. Jesus wanted to obey God! (red "tick" mark both before and after baptised.)



6. After Jesus was baptised everyone there knew that God was happy because something very unusual happened. A dove appeared in the sky. And the voice of God was heard by everyone. God said, "This is my son and I am very pleased with him."