

Man crown of creation

Theme: God's Caretakers

Let's open our bibles and find out about today's lesson. (If children have their bibles, encourage them to open and find the bible passage, otherwise use yours as an example. It is beneficial for both the teacher and students if you open to the passage even if you are simplifying and paraphrasing the story.) We find our lesson in the book of Genesis. Anyone know where that is? Genesis means "beginning." It is in the beginning of the bible and is the beginning of God's story.



Genesis 2:15-25 (NRSV)

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

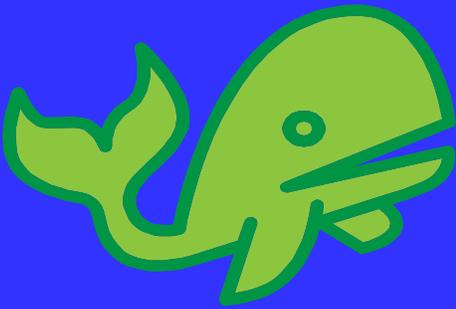
¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹ So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." ²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

AIM



God created man in His image, and gave him some big, important jobs to do. Adam was to take care of the beautiful garden and give names to all of the animals that God created. God also created a helper and partner for Adam, named Eve. We too are important and God entrusted us with important job of taking care of his creation.

Teacher's Preparation



The story of Adam and Eve is one that the children have heard multiple times already. They are at a great age that they are proud to already share that they know something. Tap into that energy and allow them to tell you part of the story by asking more questions than giving them answers. Like "What was the name of the first human God created?" instead of "God created the first man and named him Adam." It allows you engage your class and make sure you are teaching them new material each time.

Introduction Activity

Sing the following song as an introduction to the lesson as well as a great name learning exercise for everyone.

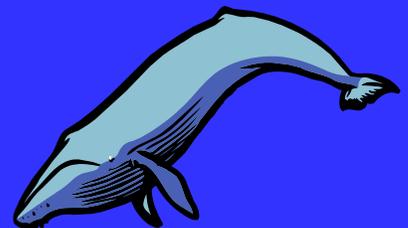
Sing to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dale"

God made me, God made me,
God made everything, and God made me.

Involve the children by asking for their name, having the class repeat after you and then replacing "me" with their name. For example,

God made John, God made John,
God made everything, and God made John.

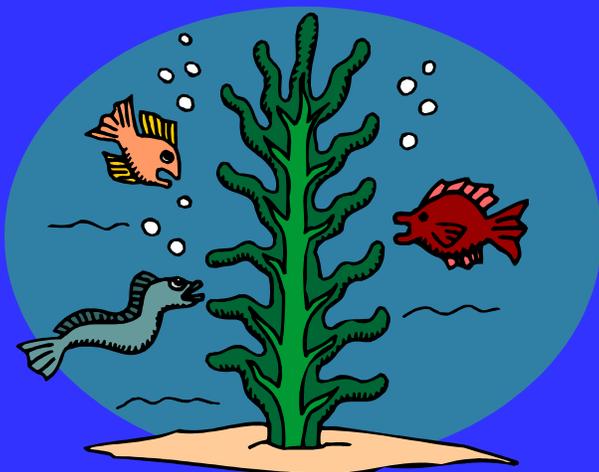
The kids will love having their name a part of their song, knowing they get a turn, and feel special as you go around the classroom.



Main Ideas

You already know that our God created the sun, moon, stars, the oceans, and all the animals of the earth right? Out of the ground, God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, but God's greatest creation had not been made yet! His smartest, most beautiful creation was made to be like Him. God created man, and named him Adam. Adam was the first human that God had ever created. God created Adam to watch over all the animals of the earth. God then gave Adam an incredibly important job. God asked Adam to name each and every single one of the animals he had created. Adam named the tiny insects like ladybugs, and butterflies, all the way up to the large animals like giraffes, and elephants. He named the animals in the sky from the tiny hummingbird to the big bald eagle. He named the animals in the water like the little goldfish to the great white whale. God trusted Adam to watch over the whole Garden of Eden, and all of these animals in it. God must have really trusted Adam huh? Then God thought that Adam should not be lonely, and wanted to make him someone that he could live with. Someone that could also help him take care of the garden. So God put Adam into a deep sleep, took one of his ribs, and closed him up gently. With the rib that God took from Adam, He made a woman, (meaning from the man), and brought her to Adam. God called her Eve. Adam and Eve had each other for company, and could take care of each other along with all the creatures of the Garden of Eden.

Choose between the following activities.



ACTIVITY 1:

Go around the room and try to come up with an animal for every letter of the alphabet. As each child names an animal, have the class respond by acting like the animal, or making the animal noise.

ACTIVITY 2:

Adam named the Animals

Say: Let's play a game called Adam named all the animals to help us learn about God's creation. God gave Adam the job of naming all the animals. Who would like to be Adam? Everyone will get a turn. *Choose one child to be Adam and then continue.* In a minute, I will ask Adam to name some things that God has created. Adam will say " Adam named the ..." and then name something God has created. You will have to listen carefully, because if Adam names an animal your job is to act like that animal and make that animal's noise. If Adam names something that is not an animal, your job is to stand still.

Have Adam call out " Adam named the ..." and complete the sentence with animal names or other things God created like trees, people, the sun, flowers or fruit. Be ready to help Adam think of things like kangaroos, owls, elephants, cats, dogs, lions, etc. Help the children make sounds as necessary. Children who act out something that does not have an action is not out of the game, keep encouraging them and continue playing. Depending on your class size, allow Adam to name one or a few animals, and then join the others so you may choose a new Adam.

Ask:

What is your favorite animal?

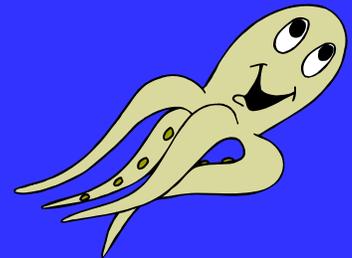
Which animals can you keep as pets?

Which animals do you see in a zoo?

Say: God made all the animals, and had Adam name them. Birds of the sky, animals of the earth, fish of the sea, God made them all. Everything that God made is good.

ACTIVITY 3:

God Made Me and All of You
sing to the tune of "London Bridge"



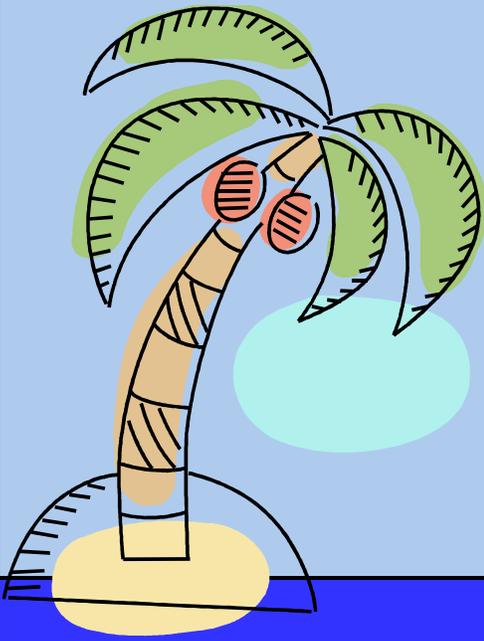
God made me and all of you, All of you, All of you, God made me and all of you. He loves us!

(point to self and others when you say me and you. Hug self at the end)

He made dogs and cats too, cats too, cats too,, He made dogs and cats too. Meow! Meow! Meow!

He made frogs and birdies too, Birdies too, Birdies too, He made frogs and birdies too. Cheep! Cheep! Cheep!

You can adjust the length of the song by adding others like "lions and tigers...roar!", "giraffes and monkeys too....ooo! ooo! aa! ", or "lizards and snakes...sssss!"



Review Time

1. Why did God make us?
2. Why did God make the animals?
3. Why did God make Eve?
4. What was the job God gave Adam?
5. What jobs have God given us?

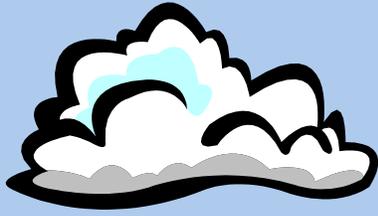
Values for Life

The children should acknowledge that Adam was created in God's image, as are we. We were created just like Adam with a special purpose for God. We too can take care of each other like Adam and Eve did for each other. We should also appreciate and care for the beautiful world around us. We can do that by putting trash in trash cans, recycling, taking care of our pets, helping to garden, and thanking God for the world he made.

My Decision

Use the questions from Review time to frame this discussion. Ask: What can we do to help and praise God?

God created me in His image, and has give us the job of taking care of each other and the world around us.

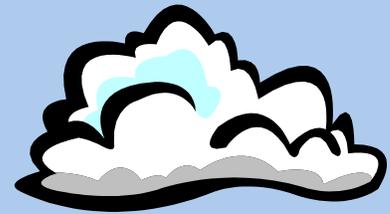


Memory Verse

Genesis 2:15

New Revised Standard Version

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.



Closing Prayer

Say : When God made us, He made us very special. Let us thank God for making our bodies so wonderful. What can we do with our feet? (Wait for the children to respond : run, jump, dance, play) Show how you can jump and say "Thank you God for our feet." What can we do with our hands? (Ex: Wave hello, help cook or clean, write.) Wave hello and say " Thank you God for our hands." What can we do with our mouths? (Ex: eat, sing, laugh, etc.)

Say " Thank you God for our mouths."

What else can we thank God for? (When everyone has had a chance to respond and thank God, pray. Encourage students to pray for the class if they would like or they can repeat after you with the following:

God, we thank you for making us and the world around us so special. Thank you for making each one of us with so much love. We know you love everything you made, especially us. We promise to help each other and to help take care of the world around us for you. In Jesus Name, Amen.