

THE STORY OF CREATION

UNIT ONE: GOD CREATED HEAVEN AND EARTH

Lesson 9: God Made Fish, Birds, Animals, and People

CONTENT:

1. God made fish, birds and animals of every kind and he saw that they were good. At last he made human beings and he saw that they were very good.
2. Each creature made by God is different and good, showing God's wisdom: they look different, make different sounds, move in a different way etc. (CCC 339)
3. God made us all dependant on each other. No creature is self sufficient. (CCC 340) When we work together there is harmony and order. (CCC 341)
- 😊 4. Every person is also different but made well by God. So, I thank God for myself and others.
- 😊 5. If we all work together, then things go well, as God planned.

ASSIGNMENT: Practise making animal sounds. Read the handout at home.

REFERENCES: Gen. 1:20-31; CCC 339-341;

MATERIALS NEEDED: Handout, blackboard, coloured chalk.

- EXTRA ACTIVITIES:
1. Show the children a video featuring animals.
 2. Take them for a visit to the zoo and at each new animal you see, talk about how well it is made. Thank God for them.

I. STARTER:

We have learnt about how God started making everything. Let's see if you can remember all that God made!

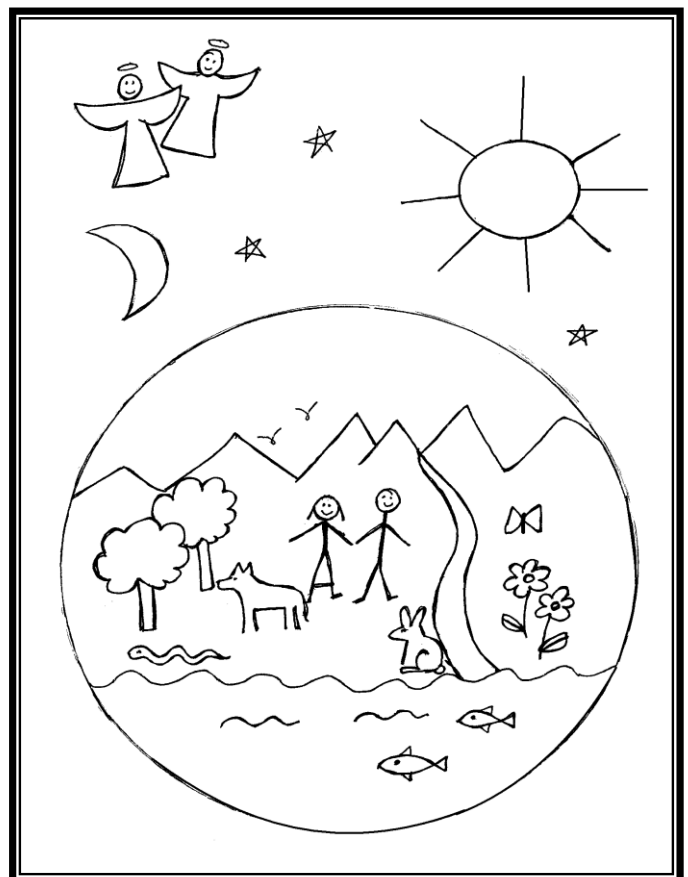
(As the children give suggestions, draw a quick sketch on the BB as shown, but without the animals etc.)

God made heaven and angels.
He made the world and light.
He made the sun and moon and the stars.
He made the mountains and hills, rivers and seas.
Then he made plants- grass and trees with flowers and fruit.

II. DEVELOPMENT:

But God hadn't finished yet! The world was still very quiet. There was nothing moving around. No 'caw caw', no 'bow-wow'. No shouting and laughing.

Then God said, "Let the waters be filled with fish!" And all sorts of sea-creatures began to move in the water... prawns and crabs, little silver fish and big sharks and whales.. *[Draw fish]*



BLACKBOARD SKETCH

After that God said, "Let there be birds to fill the sky!"

And birds of all kinds began to live and fly around- parrots and mynahs, eagles and peacocks, chickens and crows.... [Draw birds]

When God saw all the fish and birds he said, “It is good!”

Then God thought , “There’s something still missing!”

He said, “Let living creatures come from the earth!”

And all kinds of animals and insects began to move around: worms and butterflies... frogs and dogs and cats...rabbits and horses and cows... tigers and elephants... [Draw animals]

Soon the earth was full of action and noise...

God saw all that he had made and smiled. He said- “It is good!”

So, was God’s work finished? (*No!*) He still had the best thing left to make! And that was us! At last God made people! He made man and woman [Draw people] and blessed them and put them in charge of everything else, the animals and birds and plants.

Then God looked again at everything he had made and said, ‘It is very good!’

III. ACTIVITY:

[Give out handouts. Read the words in the first box and let the children colour the pictures of the animals. As homework, let the children practice the call of any animal or bird.]

NEXT CLASS:

[Allow the children to demonstrate the cry of a bird or animal and let the others try and guess what animal it is.]

- God made all the birds and animals different. What about us? Look around at all your friends. Is everyone same... or different? [Get responses]
God made us different to look at and different in other ways too.
Some are tall, some short... Some have big eyes, some small..
Some are good at running, some are good at telling jokes..
Some are quiet.. some like to make noise...
- Sometimes we are not happy to be ourselves. We want to be someone else. I’ll tell you a story about some animals who were like that:

IV. STORY: [If you like you can make pictures to illustrate your story]

Monkey sat on a tree and Rabbit sat on the grass near the river. Rabbit peeped into the river and saw her face in the water. She said- “What funny, long ears I have! And what a small tail! I wish I was like you, Monkey, with your long swinging tail.”

Monkey picked up his tail and looked at it turning this way and that. “I think my tail is silly!”he said. He saw Fish swimming along in the water, opening and closing his mouth and swishing his tail from side to side. “I would like to be like Fish down there. He looks so beautiful with his silver body moving through the water.”

Fish looked up through the water and saw Rabbit and Monkey looking down at him. He said, “You lucky guys! You can go anywhere you want. I can’t get out of this river. How I wish I were like Eagle there flying high up in the sky with his strong wings.”

Eagle looked down and saw the three friends looking up at him. He circled round and round, lower and lower, and landed on the topmost branch of the tree. “What are you three looking so sad about? Is something wrong?”

“I want to be like Monkey,” said Rabbit.

“I want to be like Fish,” said Monkey.
“I want to be like you, Eagle,” said Fish.

Just then, Rabbit’s long ears went up. “Shh... Stop talking! I can hear someone calling for help!”

The others kept quiet and looked at Rabbit. She turned her head this way and that ... Then she said, “The cry is coming from up the river! It sounds like a boy.”

All the four friends got moving.. fast! Monkey jumped up and started swinging from tree to tree. Eagle soared up into the sky , Rabbit hopped along on the ground, and Fish swam as fast as he could up the river.

It was Fish who first saw the little boy. He had fallen into the river and now he was sinking right down to the bottom. “I’ve found him,” he called to the others. “But we must hurry and pull him out of the water or he will drown!”

Monkey quickly climbed up and broke off some vines from the trees (*Vines are plants like long green ropes*). With his clever fingers he tied them together and made them into a long, strong rope. He tied one end to a tree. Eagle took the other end and flew to the middle of the river and dropped it down.

Fish took the rope in his mouth and carried it under the arms of the little boy, round and round. Then Monkey, Rabbit and Eagle pulled the rope with all their strength. Slowly the little boy came up and moved towards the bank. Monkey lifted him out and put him on the grass. He began to press his chest to make all the water come out and help him breathe again.

At last, the boy started breathing. He opened his eyes. When he saw Monkey and Eagle and Rabbit and Fish, he opened his eyes even bigger. “I fell into the water and was drowning. Who saved me?”

The animals looked at each other. Eagle said, “We all saved you. Rabbit’s long ears heard your cries. And Fish helped us to find you and put the rope around you. Monkey’s clever fingers made the rope, and I was able to fly across and carry it to the middle of the river... And we all helped to pull you out. We all saved you together!”

The little boy smiled. “How kind and clever you all are! And how clever God is to make you all different!”

The animals looked at each other again. Yes! The boy was right. God had made each one different, but each one good and clever in some way. They said to themselves, “I’ll never grumble about myself again!... And I’ll never want to be like someone else.”

V. PRAYER:

- God is clever! He made all of us different so that we can do different jobs and work together, just like the four friends in the story.
- How boring it would be if we were all the same. God wants us to be different and to work together. Then good things happen. [*Talk about the picture of the children in the handout. Read the words.*]
- Are you happy to be you? Then let’s sing about it! (*Teach and sing- If I Were A Butterfly*)

[Help the children become quiet. Lead them in a short prayer-]

Thank you God for making me just as I am.
Thank you for making me different and good.
Help me to work together with everyone else.

<p>Home Assignment: After first part, practise an animal sound. Read the words on the handout at home.</p>
