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7

God Made the World



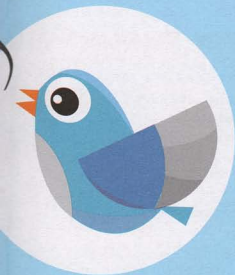
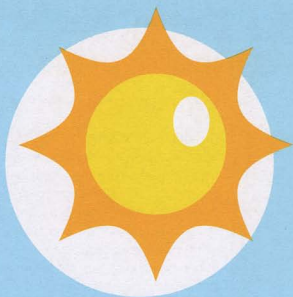
Stories
of God's
Love

Ages 4 and 5

God's Wonderful World



Mark a red ✓ next to the things you like to taste.
Mark a blue ✓ next to the things you like to hear.



For My Family



Sharing the Bible Story

God Made All Things Good

God made the sun and the moon,
The stars glimmering bright.
God looked at his work and said,
"It is good."

God made the sea and the sky,
Full of fish and birds.
God looked at his work and said,
"It is good."

God made the soil and rocks,
Plants and land animals of all kinds.
God looked at his work and said,
"It is good."

God made people,
Different every one.
God looked at his work and said,
"It is all very good."

BASED ON GENESIS 1:6-27



Nurturing Our Children

Nurturing and sharing in your child's sense of awe is a wonderful privilege of being a parent. Families have the responsibility to share with children the delights and mysteries of God's creation. Stop and enjoy the sights and sounds of nature with them. Take your children to a park in your community. Notice a squirrel, a bird, the shape of a tree and leaves and demonstrate the uniqueness of all of God's creation. Safely explore things with your child. Remember, if you are curious and are filled with wonder and awe, so will your child.



Living Our Faith Together

Here are three activities to do with your child:

- Reread the Bible story "God Made All Things Good" with your child. Draw and color a picture of creation with your child. Include in the picture your child's and your favorite parts of creation. Talk about the picture and how good and wonderful God is.
- Display the picture you and your child drew in a place where the family can see it. Each evening before or after mealtime, ask, "What did we see or hear today that reminds us that God is good and wonderful?"
- Visit www.RCLBenzigerPreschool.com where you will find games and activities to do with your child and articles to assist you in nurturing the faith of your child.

Reflecting on Our Faith

What does creation say to me about God, about his love and goodness? When do I stop and thank him for the gift of creation?



Praying as a Family

Pray this or a similar prayer at breakfast with your child. Begin with praying the Sign of the Cross together.

Thank you, God our Father, for a new day.

Thank you for the rising sun.

Thank you for the weather.

Thank you for the trees and flowers.

Thank you for the animals and birds and fish.

Thank you for so many good things.

Thank you for this wonderful new day. Amen.

8 We Care for God's Creation



Stories
of God's
Love
Ages 4 and 5

Taking Care of Creation



Find and circle the people taking care of creation.
Tell what you can do.



For My Family



Sharing the Story

Ducks and Flowers

Keesha skipped excitedly down the bumpy dirt path to the large wooden picnic table where her family was going to have lunch. The warm sunshine felt good on Keesha's face as she glanced up to watch the two blue jays fly overhead.

"Daddy, after we unpack the food, will you walk down the hill with me to the lake so I can feed the ducks? I want to give them some of my chocolate candy bar to eat."

"It is a great idea to feed the ducks!" Daddy said. "But remember, we have to be careful what we feed them. Ducks and other animals don't eat all the same food that people eat." Keesha seemed sad until Daddy said, "We have to take good care of the ducks. I brought some special food made just for them that is good for them to eat."

"Quack, quack," squawked the hungry ducks as they eagerly ate the corn. Keesha giggled as each duck rushed to grab his share of the yummy snack.

On the way back to the picnic table, Keesha shouted, "Look, Daddy. See the yellow and white flowers by the trees? After lunch let's pick some to take to Grandma this afternoon."

Daddy smiled but shook his head, "Sweetie, maybe we can bring Grandma to this special spot to see the flowers in their real home. God put them there for everyone to enjoy. If we take them, they will be gone from this picnic spot forever."

When lunch was ready, Mommy, Daddy and Keesha bowed their heads and thanked God for their wonderful meal and the beautiful day. And Keesha added her own special prayer, "And thank you, God, for giving us the ducks and the flowers. We promise to take good care of them. Amen."



Nurturing Our Children

Four- and five-year-olds have a natural sense of wonder. This sense provides your family with the opportunity to share with your child the delights and mysteries of God's creation. You can also build on your child's sense of wonder to teach them to respect and care for God's creation. Children learn best from the living example of adults they look up to. Look for tasks that you and your child can do together to help them develop the virtue of being a good steward of creation.



Living Our Faith Together

Here are three activities to do with your child:

- Retell this week's story, "Ducks and Flowers." Talk with your child about the things your family does to take care of creation; for example, recycling cans and papers and conserving water. Share what other things your family might do.
- Choose a specific appropriate task your child can successfully do to take care of creation, for example, giving a pet water. Join with your child and help take care of creation.
- Visit www.RCLBenzigerPreschool.com where you will find both games and activities to do with your child and articles to assist you in nurturing the faith of your child.

Reflecting on Our Faith

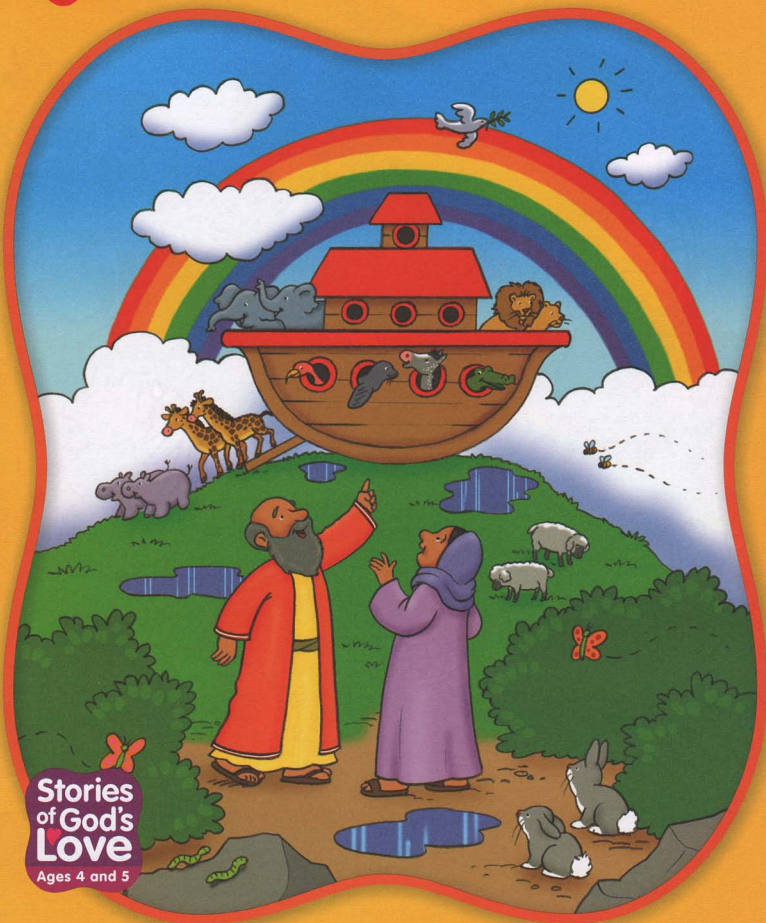
*What are some of the things our family does to take care of God's creation?
What else might we do?*



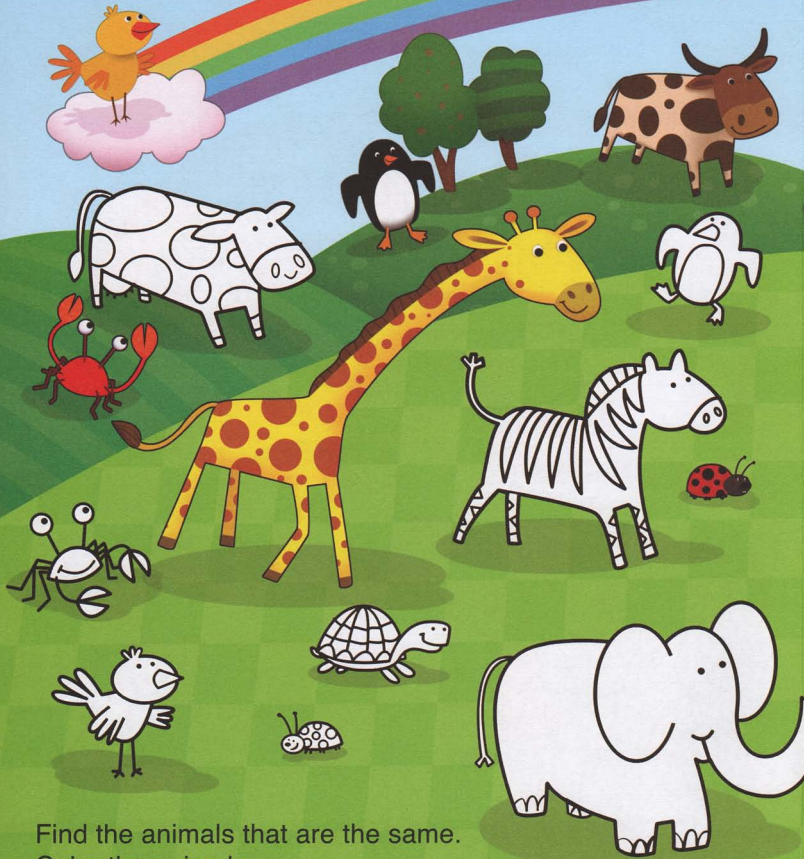
Praying as a Family

This week make the focus of your mealtime prayers your faith in God the Creator. Introduce your child to the Apostles Creed. Teach them to pray these words of the creed: I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / creator of heaven and earth. Then take a walk outdoors with your child and as you see animals, trees, and so on talk about how wonderful these gifts of creation are and thank God for all the gifts of creation.

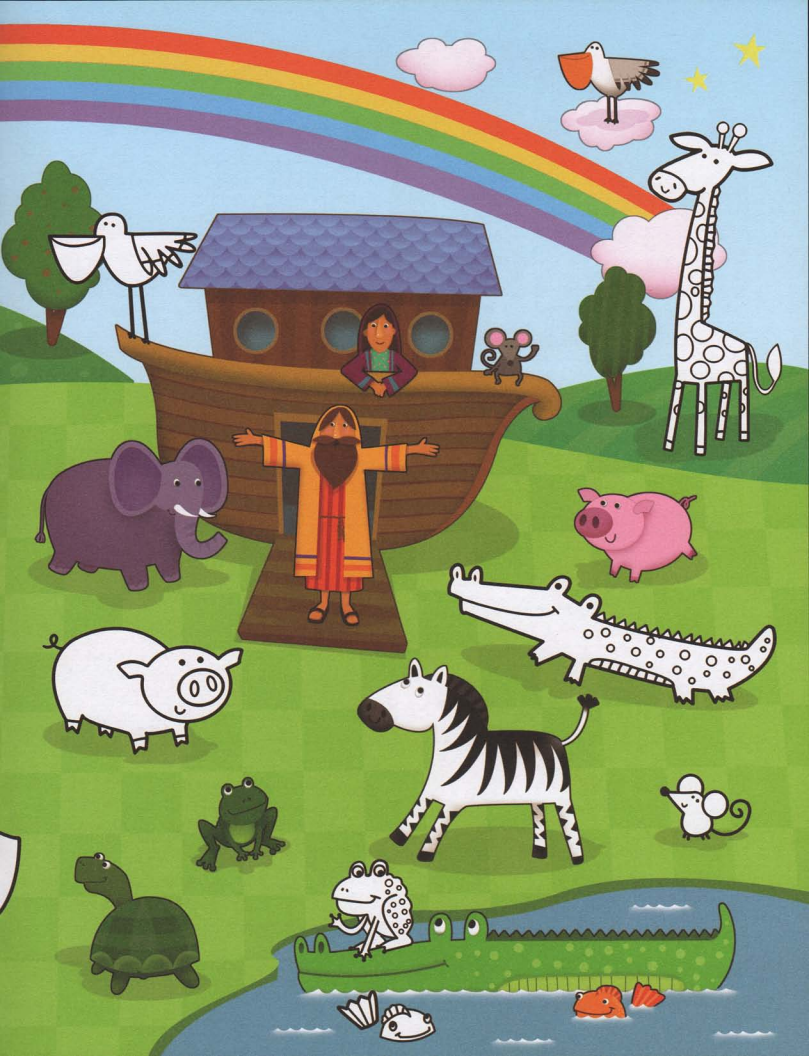
9 God Always Loves Us



God Loves All His Creation



Find the animals that are the same.
Color the animals.



For My Family



Sharing the Bible Story

God's Promise

Noah was a very good man. God had a special job for him. He told Noah to build a big boat called an ark because a big rainstorm was coming. It would rain so long and so hard that water would cover the land.

God told Noah to build the ark tall, build it wide and build it long. So Noah and his sons worked and worked together to build the ark. When they finished, God told Noah to bring his whole family, his wife and his sons and their wives, into the ark. He also told Noah to bring animals and birds and enough food for everyone to eat.

Noah did what God told him to do. It rained and rained until the land was covered with water. Noah and his family and all the animals were safe in the ark.

After awhile a big wind began to blow. The water began to dry up. The ark landed on top of a mountain. The sun appeared in the sky. Noah opened a window and let out a bird. The bird flew away but when it came back to the ark, it had a green leaf in its beak. Noah knew the water was gone when he saw the plants and trees.

Noah, his family and all the animals left the ark. Noah thanked God for keeping them all safe. Then God made a promise to Noah. He promised that he would always love and care for everyone and every living thing.

God made a rainbow in the sky. God told Noah that every time he saw the rainbow he could remember God's promise.

BASED ON GENESIS 6-9



Nurturing Our Children

Four- and five-year-olds learn from concrete experiences. Ideas and behaviors, such as making and keeping promises, are learned from their experiences of parents and others making and keeping/breaking promises to them. Keeping your promises to your children helps them imitate your actions. In so doing, they begin to develop the virtue of trustworthiness, of faithfully fulfilling the commitments (promises) they make. Help your children see the importance of making promises that can be kept.



Living Our Faith Together

Here are two activities to do with your child:

- Retell this week's story, "God's Promise." Invite your child to draw and color a rainbow with you. Talk with your child about the beauty of a rainbow and how it can remind us that God always loves us.
- Choose a specific appropriate task your child can successfully do to take care of creation, for example, recycling cans and papers. Make a promise to each other that you will help one another. Join with your child and together help take care of creation.

Reflecting on Our Faith

How do I reflect God's loving care for all people and his creation in the ways I treat and speak with our children?



Praying as a Family

Pray this or a similar prayer of your choosing with your child at mealtime or bedtime.

Dear God,
wonderful Father and Creator,
when we see a rainbow,
we remember how much you love us.
Thank you for loving me
and my family,
for loving my friends and teachers,
for loving everyone. Amen.