

God's Country Sky

What an exciting day this had been for Jason. He had taken his first airplane ride and now he was at his Grandpa's new farm.

After dinner, Grandpa asked Jason if he wanted to go with him to the barn. As they walked, Jason looked up into the nighttime sky. He had never seen so many stars! There was hardly any space between them. "Wow," he whispered. "Grandpa, what happened to the sky? Where did all those stars come from?"

His grandpa laughed. "The sky is always this full of stars, Jason. You're just used to seeing it from the city. It is

darker out here in the country at night, so the stars seem brighter."

"But, Grandpa, the sky is full of them! I can just about count the ones in the sky at home. But no one could ever count the ones in the sky out here!" exclaimed Jason.

"God can," said his grandpa. "He made all of them. The Bible says God knows the number of stars. He even calls them by name! Isn't that exciting? God knows every one of them."

"I wonder which star God made first," Jason said.

"He created them all at once," said

his grandpa. "Remember, God just said, 'Let there be lights in the firmament . . . and it was so.' After seeing the sky out here in the country, aren't you glad God made so many?"

"I sure am," answered Jason.

When they reached the barnyard, Grandpa went to check the doors and gate to make sure they were fastened shut. Jason leaned against the fence and watched the sky.

The moon was so big tonight. Jason remembered Grandpa telling about the big harvest moon at this time of year. Grandpa said it was closer to the earth in the autumn. Maybe that's what his Sunday school teacher meant

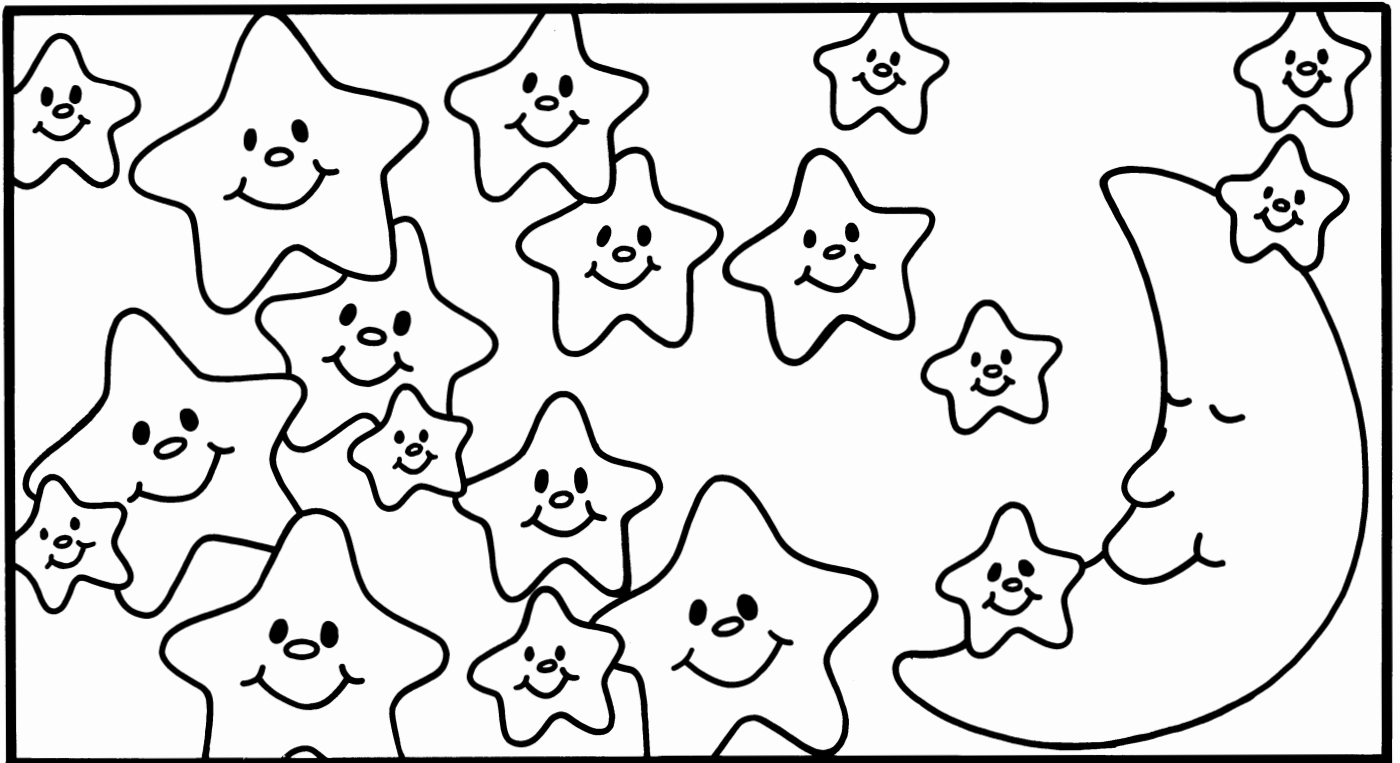
when she said that God made the moon and sun so we would have day and night and different seasons of the year.

Just then Grandpa joined him by the fence. "OK, Jason, time to get some sleep. You'll have lots to dream about tonight. You enjoyed your airplane ride today but you act even more excited about the stars God created."

"I am!" exclaimed Jason. "And I can hardly wait until tomorrow. God made the night out here in the country so beautiful. I just know the country sunshine must be great."

Color God's Creation

Thank you, God, for the stars that shine and the moon so bright.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

We are starting a new unit titled, "The Bible Tells Me Why." This series of lessons will deal with the subject of the Creation, and our first lesson will be about God forming the universe. During class time your child will learn that the universe was created to declare the glory of God and to reveal His power.

As you discuss with your child the different things that make up our universe—the sky, the sun, the stars, the moon—suggest to him that he might like to make a sun catcher to remind him of the things God has made for our enjoyment. Begin by dipping a length of craft cord into white craft glue. On a piece of waxed paper or plastic wrap, shape the drenched cord into a simple shape representative of something in the universe, such as a star, and let it dry. Peel the shape from the paper and coat the backside of the shape with glue. Lay the shape on a piece of brightly colored tissue paper, and allow it to dry. Cut away excess paper from the shape and glue a thread loop hanger to the shape. Display your child's creation in a sunny window.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

Sunday: Psalm 19:1

Monday: Genesis 1:1

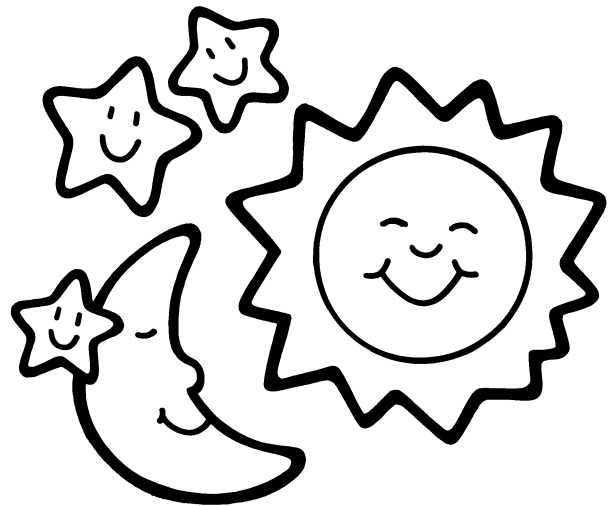
Tuesday: Colossians 1:16

Wednesday: Psalm 148:5

Thursday: Acts 4:24

Friday: Hebrews 11:3

Saturday: Revelation 10:6



Bible Text

Genesis 1:1-8,14-19

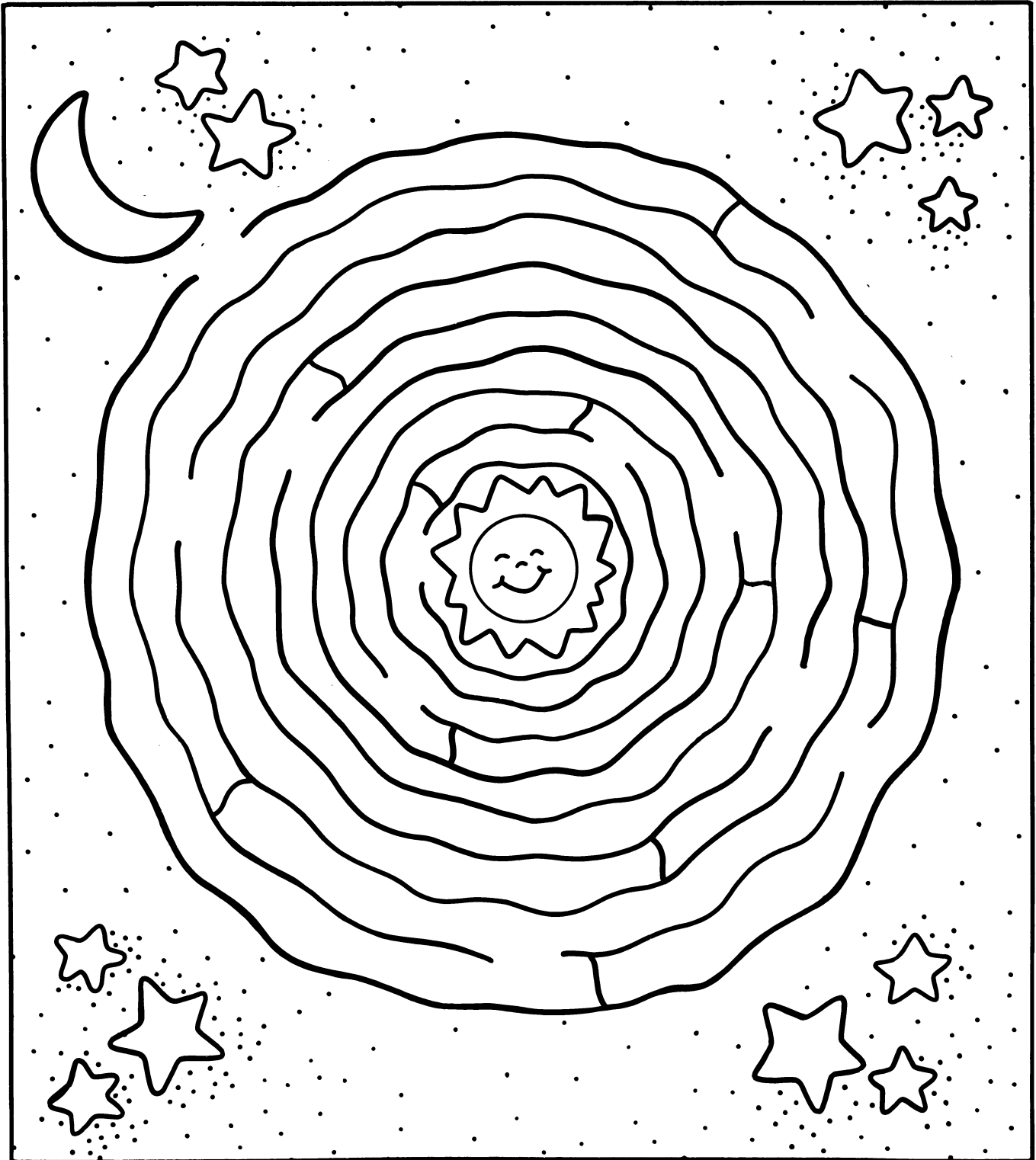
Revelation 4:11

Memory Verse

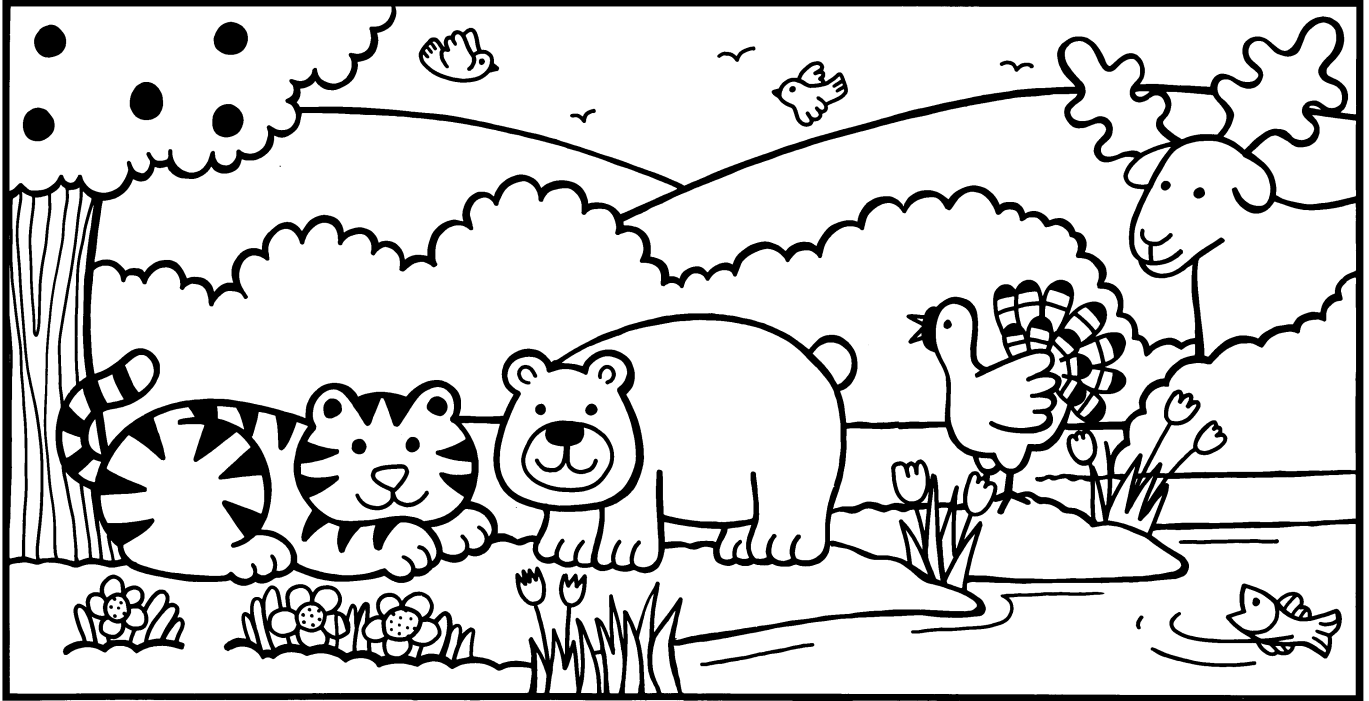
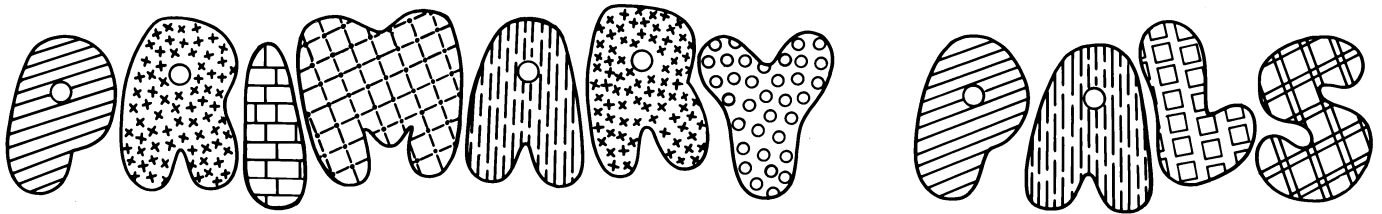
The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. — Psalm 19:1

Travel Through Space

Find your way through space. Start at the moon and follow through the maze until you reach the sun.



Name: _____



God's Beautiful Creation

A long time ago there was no dry land at all. There was water everywhere! God knew that part of His creation would need dry land so He said, "Let the dry land appear." And it did!

God wanted the land to be beautiful. He covered parts of it with green grass so we could have parks, pastures, and yards. Isn't it fun to play in the grass and feel it tickle your toes?

God made all the grains of sand. There is sand in the desert where the cactus plants grow. God put some of it by the ocean so we could build sand castles at the beach.

He made different kinds of flowers—red roses, white daisies, yellow daffodils, and so many more. And they smell so sweet!

God made many kinds of trees. There are forests of trees that are used to build houses. There are orchards of trees that grow fruit such as apples, oranges, and pears. He made nut trees so we could enjoy walnuts, pecans, and almonds.

He made vegetables—more kinds than we can name. Bright orange carrots, juicy red tomatoes, big brown potatoes, and leafy green lettuce are just a few of the things God put on the

earth for us to eat. Can you think of some others? What are your favorites?

Flowers, trees, and vegetables all grew on the land that God had made. The world was finally ready for living creatures.

First God created the things that would live in the water—big sharks for the ocean and little trout for the lakes. He made the tiny goldfish that swim in fish bowls, and the huge whales that swim in the ocean.

Then God made the birds that fly in the air—chirping sparrows, noisy crows, and ducks that quack. Blue birds and black birds, brown birds and white birds were created for us to enjoy.

Finally God made the animals that live on the land. He made big tigers that roar, elephants that wave their trunks, and tiny insects that crawl.

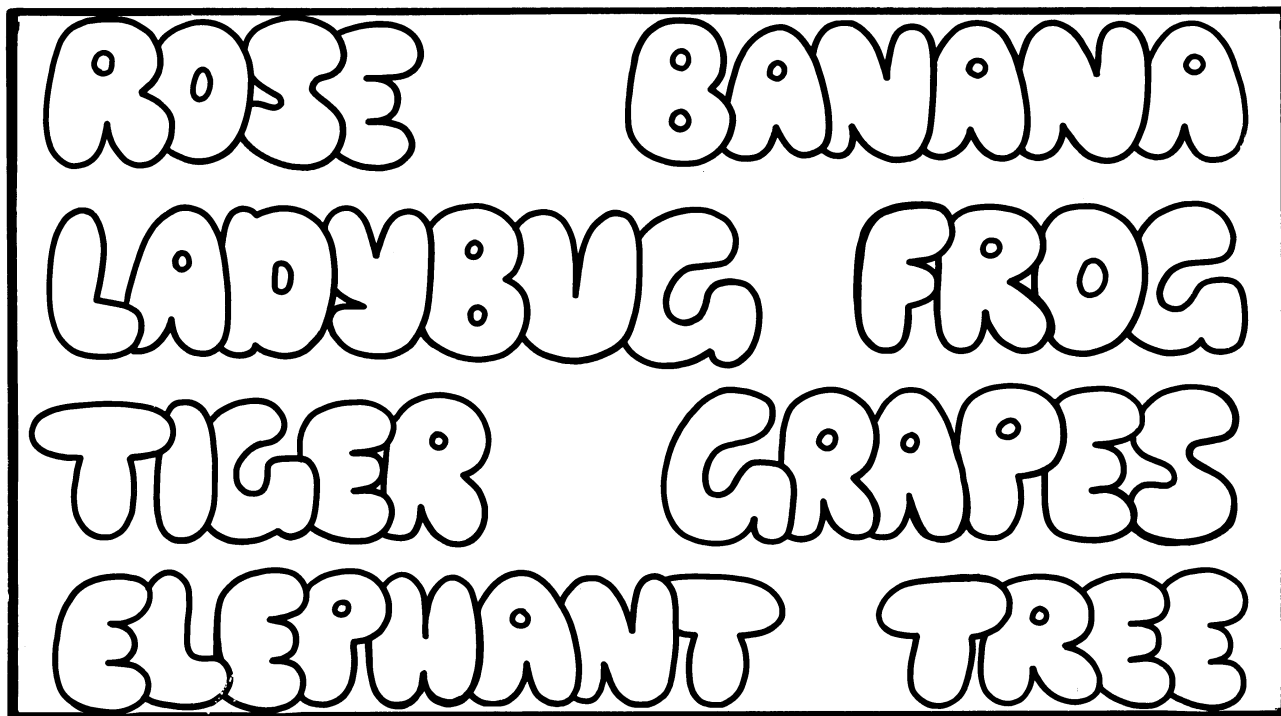
He made some animals that are fun to have as pets, like cuddly kittens that meow and frisky puppies that wiggle and play with you.

Some animals are not meant to live with us. The big bears and graceful deer live in the woods. The alligators belong in the warm rivers. We can see many of these animals when we visit the zoo.

God saw that everything he made was good, and that made Him happy. God made these for us to enjoy too, because He loves us.

What Color Am I?

Color each word the color it should be. For example: a frog is green.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

An awareness of the beautiful world God created for us to enjoy is something that should be developed in each child. This lesson is about God's creation of the plants and animals. Now would be a good time for you to help your child become more observant of God's creation's in the world around us.

Make some nature lists together. Have your child name as many kinds of dogs as he can think of. Or let him name all the names of flowers or birds that he knows.

For a hands-on activity this week, let your child make a punch-dot mosaic. Have him draw a simple outline of a butterfly or flower on a piece of paper, and then fill in the outline by gluing on dots punched from various colors of paper.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

Sunday: Revelation 4:11

Monday: Genesis 2:9

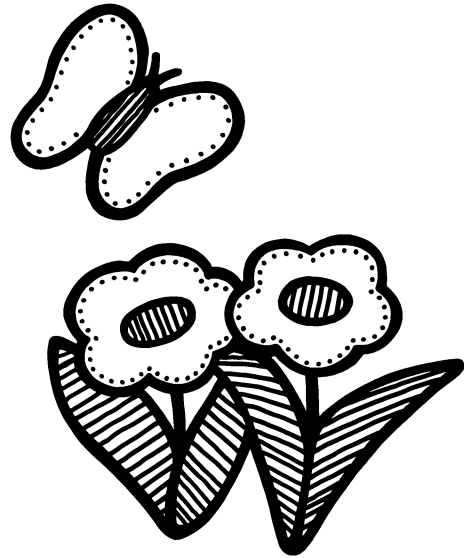
Tuesday: Genesis 2:19

Wednesday: Genesis 9:3

Thursday: John 1:3

Friday: Nehemiah 9:6

Saturday: Psalm 50:10,11



Bible Text

Genesis 1:9-13,20-25

Memory Verse

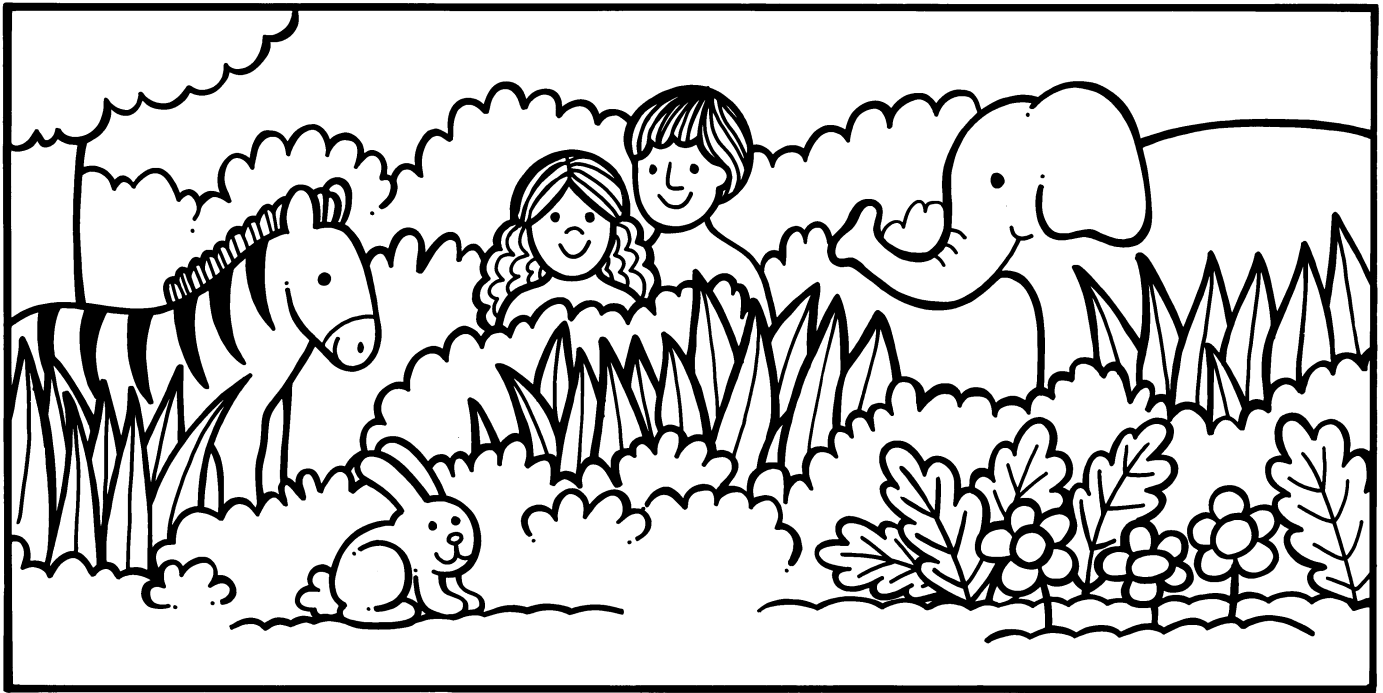
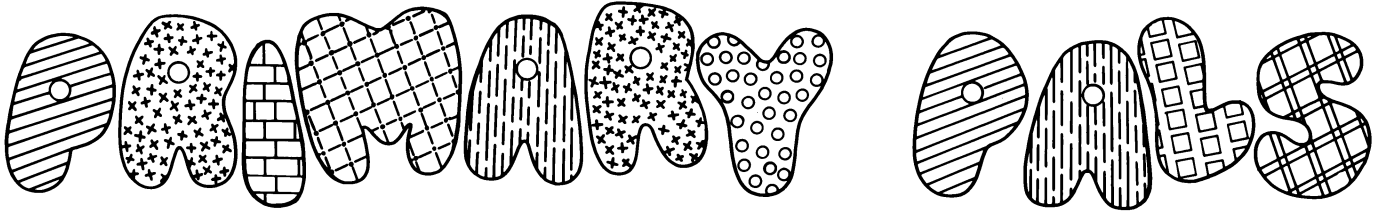
Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. — Revelation 4:11

Can You Find Them?

God made everything. Find the turtle, ladybug, butterfly, bird, snail, fish, and six flowers that are hidden in the picture below.



Name: _____



The Most Special Creation

God was happy with everything He had made. He looked at the land covered with beautiful green trees and plants. He saw the wide blue ocean filled with different kinds of fish, and all the many animals that lived on the earth.

God knew His world was good but He was not finished yet. He needed to make one more thing and then His creation would be complete. He was going to create man. This would be the most special part of His creation. God wanted someone to love Him, and to take care of His world.

God took some of the dust of the

ground and made a man. Then He breathed into him, and suddenly that man came alive! God called the man Adam.

One of the things God wanted Adam to do was to name the animals. God brought them to him. Adam looked at each animal and decided what it should be called.

Guess what Adam named each of these animals?

In front of Adam walked a huge gray creature. It had big ears and a long trunk. Do you think Adam named that one an elephant or a mouse?

Next, a fluffy little white animal

with long ears hopped up to Adam. Do you think Adam named that one a kangaroo or a rabbit?

Then a black and white striped animal walked by. It looked a little bit like a horse. Do you think Adam named that one a zebra or a skunk?

Adam had a big job to do. There were many, many animals and Adam wanted each of them to have just the right name. God told Adam that he was to be in charge of all the animals, the fish, and the birds. Adam loved God and wanted to do the best job he could.

Even though Adam had all the animals for company, God knew he needed a special friend. So God made

Adam go to sleep, and while he slept, God made a woman to be Adam's wife and friend. Adam called the woman that God gave him, Eve.

God wanted His people to be happy because He loved them very much. He had made a beautiful garden called Eden for them to live in. They were happy to live there.

In the evening God visited the Garden and talked to Adam and Eve. They must have talked about many things.

God looked at everything He had made. He looked at Adam and Eve. He loved His people the very best of all.

He said, "It is very good."

Hidden Words

All the words in the sentence below are hidden in the puzzle. Find and circle each word.

MAN WAS CREATED TO
LOVE GOD AND TAKE CARE
OF HIS CREATION.

C	R	E	A	T	I	O	N
B	A	C	F	A	D	P	I
R	J	R	H	K	N	P	W
F	G	I	E	E	G	D	A
G	O	D	L	C	N	L	S
M	F	S	H	I	S	O	U
A	M	T	O	E	K	V	H
N	C	R	E	A	T	E	D

Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

The emphasis of this lesson is on God's creation of man. Your child will be learning that man was created to praise and glorify God, and that God gave man dominion over all the rest of His creation.

Discuss with your child the fact that, although the animals and plants God made were beautiful, they were not able to commune with God or to worship and praise Him. So He created man with that special purpose in mind.

Let your child make a "People Mosaic" this week. Have him cut pictures of people from catalogs and magazines and glue them onto a background. Beside each figure, help him draw a speech balloon and the words "I can praise God by _____," letting him fill in the blank space.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

Sunday: Psalm 148:5

Monday: Genesis 1:26

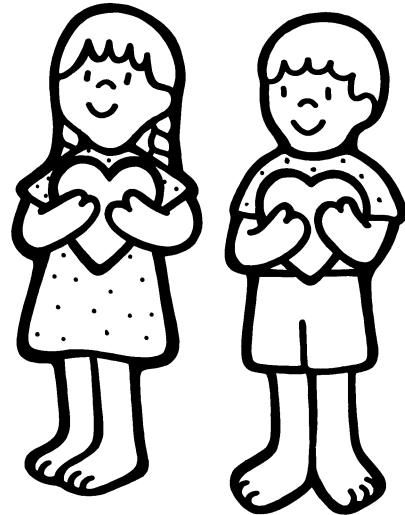
Tuesday: Psalm 92:1

Wednesday: Genesis 9:2

Thursday: Psalm 96:4,5

Friday: Psalm 107:8

Saturday: Psalm 8:6-8



Bible Text

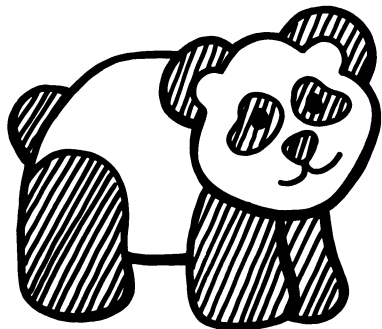
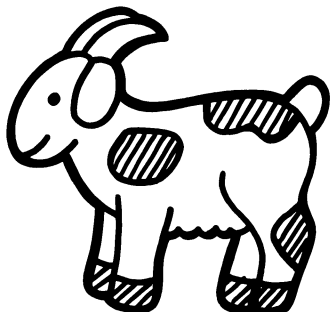
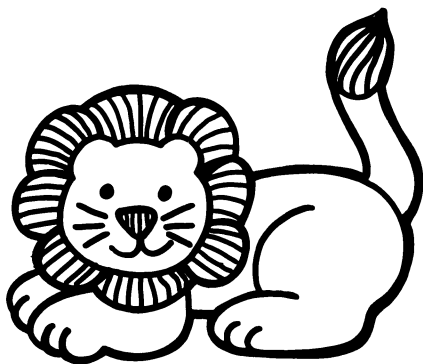
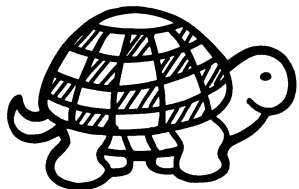
Genesis 1:26-31; Psalm 8:4-9
Isaiah 43:6,7,21

Memory Verse

Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created. — Psalm 148:5

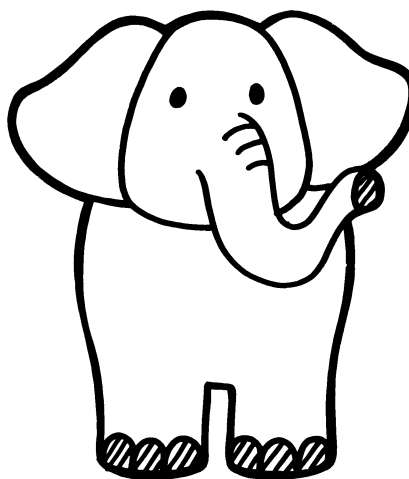
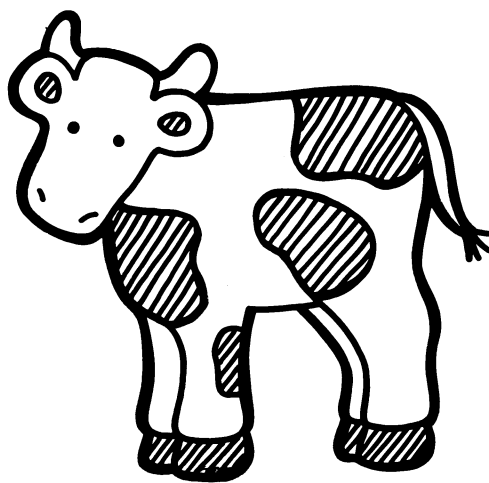
What's in a Name?

God told Adam to name all the animals. Draw a line from each animal below to its name.

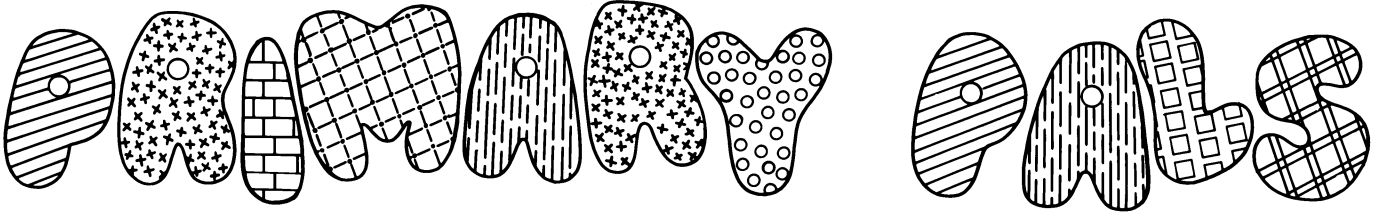


COW
BEAR
LION

GOAT
TURTLE
ELEPHANT



Name: _____



God's Plan for Me

"Hi, Uncle Mark!" said Emily excitedly. "I'm sure glad to see you. Wait till you hear what happened in school today."

Uncle Mark was always glad when Emily came to visit. "Come in and have some cookies while you tell me about it."

"Do you remember how sad I was after Scotty was born?" asked Emily, as she sat down at the table. "At first I was glad to have a baby brother. Then when he seemed to get all the attention I thought no one loved me anymore."

"I remember," answered Uncle

Mark. "That really was a sad time for you."

"I didn't think I was important to anyone. I tried to get people to pay more attention to me," said Emily. "I drew pictures for everyone and sang songs. And then one day I told you that nobody loved me."

"You sure set me straight. You told me that everyone is different. We love and are loved in different ways. We love babies in a different way than older children. But everyone is loved. You said we all have a different part in the family, in school, at church, and even in the city where we live."

“Wow,” Uncle Mark grinned. “You really remembered a lot of what I said!”

“And that’s not all,” continued Emily. “You said God made each of us special. You told me God had a special plan for me. I think what happened today was part of God’s plan!”

“This sounds exciting,” said Uncle Mark. “Hurry and tell me about it.”

“Well, last week Karla told us all about her new baby sister. She was really excited about her. But today Karla started crying while we were playing at recess. When I asked her what was wrong she said no one loved her anymore. She said her baby sister gets all the attention. And, Uncle

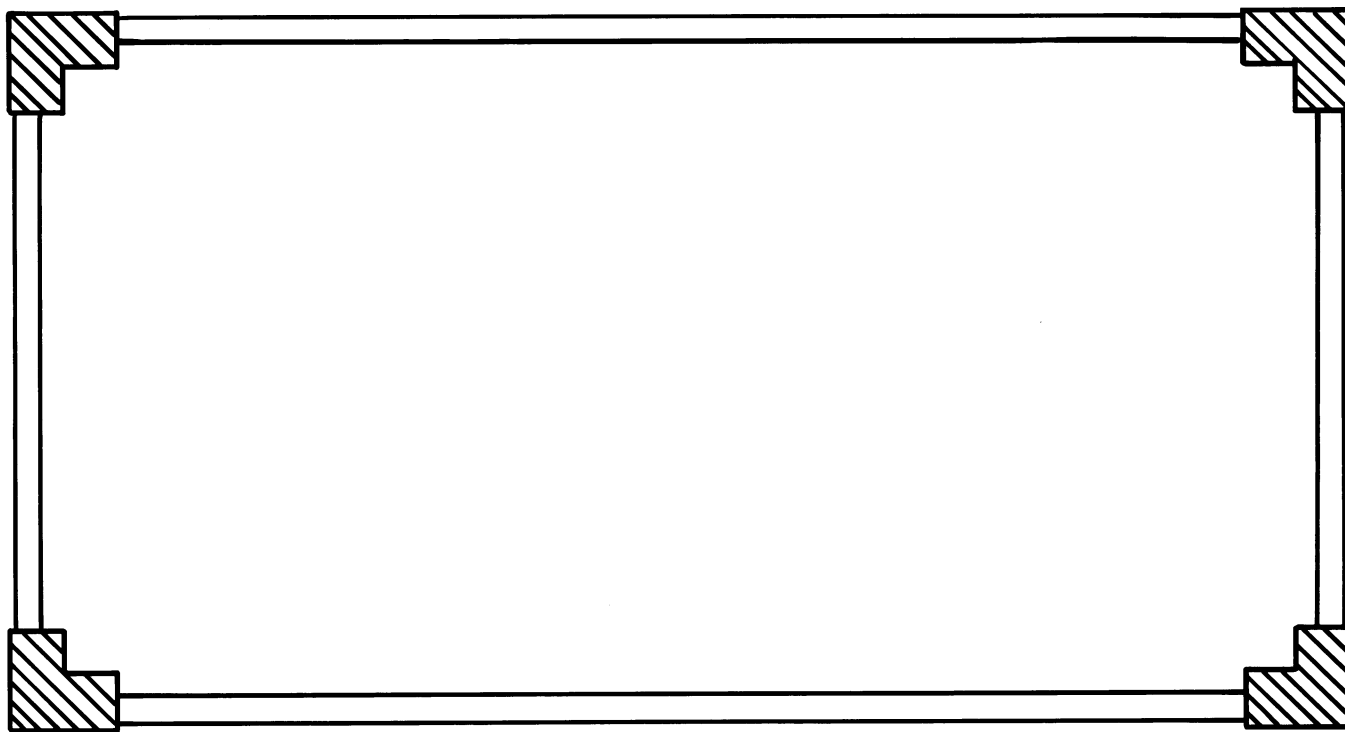
Mark, I could tell her all about when Scotty was born. I told her that everyone really does love her and that God especially loves her. He wants her to be happy.”

“You were certainly being a witness for Jesus,” said Uncle Mark. “You were able to help Karla because the same thing had happened to you. I’m glad you know that God has a special plan for you. Telling others about Jesus is a part of His plan for all of us.”

Emily got up to leave and said, “Thanks for the good cookies, Uncle Mark. And thanks for listening to me. I need to go home now. Did I tell you that Scotty is starting to walk? He’s so cute. I just love him.”

Look at Me!

God made you special. Draw a picture of yourself below.



Preparing for This Bible Lesson

Parent's Corner

Developing a child's understanding of the fact that God loves him as an individual is one of the most important tasks facing parents and Sunday school teachers. It is vital that the child realizes he is special to God and that God knows all about him.

Use a stamp pad to help your child make a set of his own fingerprints on a sheet of paper. Look at the fingerprints through a magnifying glass, and compare them with your own prints and those of others in your family. Draw his attention to the fact that no two are exactly alike. At the top of his paper, write the words, "I'm One of a Kind!" Let your child add features, arms and legs, or other details that will turn his fingerprints into unique animals or faces.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

Sunday: Matthew 5:16

Monday: Job 31:4

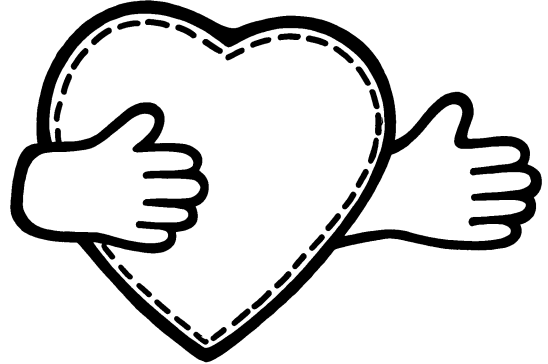
Tuesday: Psalm 139:4

Wednesday: Psalm 48:14

Thursday: II Samuel 22:33

Friday: John 15:16

Saturday: John 15:8



Bible Text

Psalm 139:1-5

Matthew 5:14-16

Memory Verse

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. — Matthew 5:16

Everyone is Special

Write in the names of people and songs of your choice. Your list will be different from the other students' because God made each one special. God has a plan for you.

People I love:

People I pray for:

Favorite Sunday school songs I sing:

Name: _____