

God Created the World

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:1–5

Lesson Goals

- to recall that God created all things
- to identify that God created everything out of love
- to state that it is important that we respect all of God's creation

Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1–5).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready! (10 minutes)

Pray the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

Invite your child to brainstorm some favorite things in nature. Ask your child who created all of these wonderful things. (*God*)

Tell your child that this lesson explores all the wonderful things God has made, which we call God's creation.

Dive In! (20 minutes)

Read the Scripture on page 21 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:1–5).

Ask your child these questions:

- What did God create on this first day? (*light*)
- What did God call the light? (*day*)
- What did God call the darkness? (*night*)

Read the Understand It! and Live It! sections on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.

Discover! (20 minutes)

Read with your child the article "Respecting God's Creation" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. *Answers: All three pictures show ways to care for God's creation.*

Go! (10 minutes)

Invite your child to share one thing he or she learned from today's lesson.

Choose one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

Ask your child to find the sticker sheet and the Seek and Find sheet in the folder. Tell your child to place the chapter 1 sticker in the correct location on the Seek and Find sheet.

Conclude by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.



Chapter

1

Respecting God's Creation

Have you drawn a picture to give someone? Has anyone made a present for you? Why do we make special things to share with one another? When we make something to give someone, we show them our love. Love means caring for and caring about one another.

The Book of Genesis—the very first book in the Bible—tells us about the special things God made out of love. Genesis tells us that God made light and darkness, sky and water, land and plants, sun and moon, birds and fish, and people and all the animals on the land. All **creation** is God's gift of love. All these wonderful things are how God shows his love and care for us.

Key Words

creation All the things God has made.

respect To care for, treat well, or honor.

This is why we must **respect**, or care for, all of God's creation. How would you feel if someone damaged a gift you made for them? Would you be hurt? Just so, we must take care of the gifts God made for us. We must take care of our planet and one another.

When we take care of everything God has made, we show him how important his gifts are to us. We thank God when we respect his creation, and we show our love for God himself.

Review

1. Who made the water, land, animals, and people?
2. Why did he make everything?
3. Why must we respect God's creation?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article and activity in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "God Made You and Loves You" + activity, pages 6–7

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and invite your child to complete the activity.

Answers: 1. God. 2. God made everything out of love for us. 3. We respect God's creation to thank him and to show our love for him.

