

Creation

Day #6 of Creation: Animals and Humans
(Genesis 1:24-31)

INTRODUCTION

We have been learning that everything God created has a purpose and a reason for being. It is not an accident that the earth is the only planet in our solar system capable of supporting life. But, before we start our lesson this morning, let's begin with a word of prayer....

OPENING PRAYER

Father, everything You created has a purpose and a reason for being. It is not an accident that the earth is the only planet in our solar system capable of supporting life. We praise You for creating Earth so perfectly and beautifully. Thank You also for giving us life so that we might enjoy the world around us, and thank You for making it possible for us to know You and love You. Teach us, Lord, to be Your friend, to spend time with You talking to You and reading Your word. We want to appreciate You more and more each day. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth (Genesis 1:26).

LESSON

Today we're going to learn about how God created the animals and people on the sixth day of creation, but before we do, let's review what we've learned so far.

What did God create on the first day of creation? (*The heavens and the Earth, light and time*) Then, what did God create on the second day of creation? (*God separated the waters and created the atmosphere we call the sky.*) What did He create on the third day? (*The land, oceans, and the plants.*) What about the fourth day? (*The sun, moon, and stars.*) And, what did He create on the fifth day? (*Birds and fish*)

After the fifth day of creation God looked at His beautiful world and was pleased. He saw the bright sun in the sky and all kinds of birds He had made, flying in the air. He looked at the water He had gathered together to make seas and lakes and saw the splashing fish, big beautiful ones and darting little minnows.

Brightly colored flowers were growing everywhere, little pansies and big sunflowers, too. Tall shade trees with green leaves swaying in the breeze.

You would think that after God made all these things, He would be finished. But He still had to make the animals!

Genesis 1:24-25

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

So, God made all kinds of animals; lions, cows, snakes... and He made them to reproduce according to their kind. Every living thing that has ever existed was created by God on the fifth and sixth days of creation. Notice that even snakes were good when God created them!

God made many animals, but He knew something was still missing in His beautiful world. He wanted someone to talk to and someone to talk to Him. He wanted someone to love and someone to love Him back.

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

Why does God say, “Let **us** make man in **our** image”? Who is speaking? (*God is three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*)

To see how God created man, let's skip ahead a bit and read...

Genesis 2:7

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

So God, who can do anything, took some dust from the ground and made a man. Then He put breath into the man and made him alive.

To see how God created woman, let's skip ahead again...

Genesis 2:21-22

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

Back in Genesis 1:27

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

What do you think it means that God created man in His own image? God obviously did not create us exactly like himself because God has no physical body. And, it's obvious that we are not gods! He created us like Himself in that we can think and be creative. We have many of God's characteristics. For example, we have the ability to love others, to be patient and forgiving just like He is with you. We can be kind and faithful like God Himself. Best of all we can know God and have a real friendship with Him and talk to Him and love Him.

Genesis 1:28

Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

What do you think God meant when He told man to have “dominion” over the animals? God wanted the humans to be in charge of all the animals as well as the birds in the air and the fish in the sea. He wants us to take care of them and to enjoy them. God wants us to be His representative, ruling creation as God would rule it.

In verses 29 and 30 God tells us that he has given fruits and vegetables as food for both humans and for animals. Let's read those verses together...

Genesis 1:29-30

And God said, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food”; and it was so.

This says that God originally created both animals and humans to be vegetarians. Later on He gave us animals to eat as well.

Genesis 1:31

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

It took God six days to create the whole world. He could have done it in an instant, but He had a very good reason for taking six complete days to do it. He set a pattern for us to work six days a week and then on the seventh day we are to rest from our jobs and think about how wonderful God is.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, we want to thank You for creating us in Your image. We are able to love one another and to be kind and forgiving. Most of all, You created us to love You. So, this morning we just want to say we love You. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

LEARNING CENTERS

Imagination Station

(Craft Center)

Choose one of the following craft projects:

1. Archeological Dig

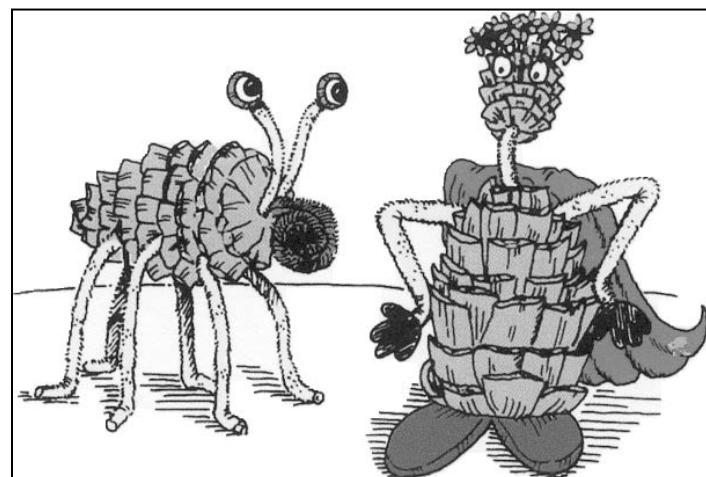
Collect and hide bones (chicken, ribs, etc.) out in the yard. Have the children find them (like an Easter egg hunt). Then, with glue guns, have the children put together the animal they found.

2. Pinecone Creatures

What kind of wild, imaginary animals can you make out of pinecones?

Materials

- Pinecones
- Decorations (buttons or other miscellaneous stuff)
- Chenille stems
- Craft glue



Procedures

For each creature, you'll need one large pinecone. You'll also need an assortment of decorations (old buttons, scrap cloth, chenille stems, real or plastic flowers, etc.) Use these decorations to turn the pinecone into an imaginary animal. Chenille stems work well for creating legs. When you're done, give your creature a name, like Adam did. Remember you used stuff to make your creature; God made everything out of nothing!

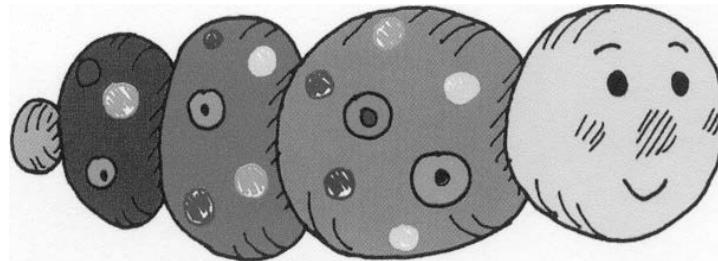
3. Caterpillar Crafts

Butterflies and moths are very important pollinators – they carry pollen from flower to flower. And every butterfly or moth starts life as a caterpillar! Use the following crafts to focus children's attention on God's creation. Discuss the many different kinds of caterpillars He made and what happens to them. Have someone read Psalm 104:24 "*O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions...*" Choose one of the following three Caterpillar Craft ideas:

A. Caterpillar Pals

Materials

- Light-colored pantyhose or knee-length stockings
- Scissors
- Cotton or polyester fiber stuffing
- 3 small rubber bands per child
- Fabric paint
- Paintbrush



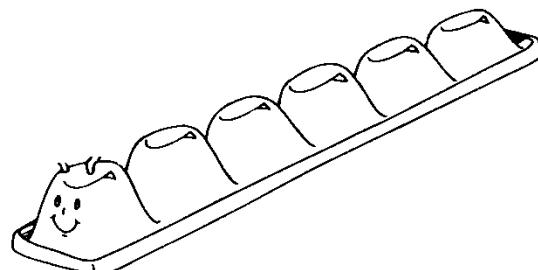
Procedures

To make a caterpillar pal, tie a knot in the end of a pair of pantyhose. Pull the knot tight. Measure back about 6 inches from the knot, and cut off the rest of the fabric. Turn the tube inside out and stuff it with polyester fiberfill or cotton. Tie a knot in the other end of the tube to keep the fill in. This knot will be the caterpillar's tail. Trim off any excess material that hangs out of the knot. Wiggle the filler materials around until the tube is shaped like a worm. Wrap the first rubber band around the caterpillar's body, 1/3 of the way from the nose to the tail. This will create the caterpillar's head. Wrap the second rubber band halfway between the first one and the tail, and the third one halfway between the second rubber band and the tail. Tip: the tighter you wrap the rubber bands, the fatter the caterpillar's parts will be. Decorate the caterpillar with fabric paint. Let dry.

B. Egg Carton Caterpillar

Materials

- Egg cartons
- Scissors
- Stickers (black circles)
- Chenille stems
- Glue



Procedures

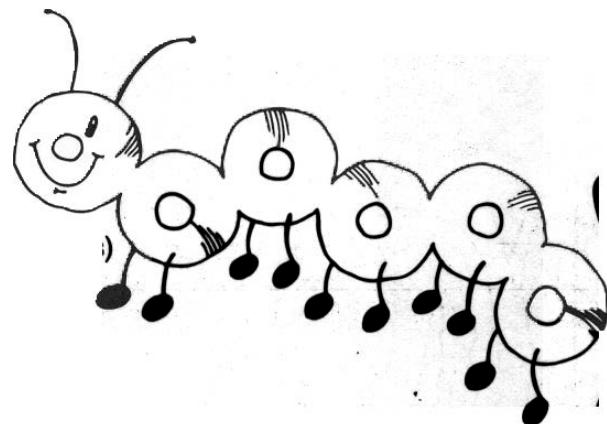
1. Cut the egg carton in half lengthwise.
2. Glue two circle stickers to one end of the carton for eyes.

3. Poke two pieces of chenille stem into the top of the head to serve as antenna for the caterpillar.

C. Spool Painting Caterpillars

Materials

- Paper
- Wooden spools (such as empty thread spools)
- Tempera paints in shallow containers
- Black markers



Procedures

1. Dip one end of a spool into the paint, remove it, and press it on the paper. (Lift it up carefully so as not to smudge the design.)
2. Repeat the process until several circles are made to form the body of the caterpillar.
3. After the paint has dried, use a black marker to draw features such as eyes, mouth, antenna, and legs.

4. Dinosaur Head Ornaments

(Big Beast Book by Jerry Booth)

Discuss the head ornaments of some of the duck-billed dinosaurs and why God created them to be hollow. Were they just visual displays or underwater diving gear as some paleontologists have suggested? Other suggestions have been that they enhanced the sense of smell or were used as an alarm system.

Materials

- 2 sheets of construction paper per child
- Scissors

Procedures

Have the children make dinosaur crests out of construction paper (duck-billed dinosaurs?)

1. Make a band by cutting a 2-inch-wide strip of paper and folding it lengthwise and then measuring it to the child's head and taping it.
2. Make a second band to run over the top of the child's head. Connect it to the opposite sides of the circular band. Measure it to fit and then tape it.
3. Fold the second piece of construction paper in half. Trace a crest pattern on the paper with the base of the crest on the folded edge. (It saves time and frustration to trace the patterns ahead of time.)
4. Cut out the crest with tabs.
5. Measure where the crest tabs meet the headband.
6. Cut slots in the center of the band.

7. Insert the crest tabs into the band slots.
8. Open and tape the tabs in place.

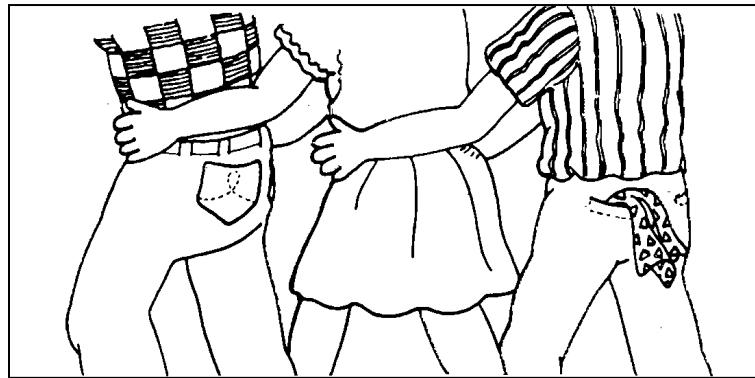
Fun House

(Game Center)

Choose from one of the following game ideas:

1. Animal Tail Tag

Divide children into groups of three or four with hands on the waist of the person in front of them. The last person on each team tucks a scarf or handkerchief “tail” near his/her waistline. All tails should be the same length. The entire team animal (lion, sheep, camel, or whatever) must stay attached and must stay within given boundaries. The person at the front of the animal must try to grab the tails of the other animals. Teams that lose their tails, break apart, or go out of bounds are out. The last team left with a tail is the winner.



2. Name that Insect

- Name as many insects as you can.
- 1-5 insects = Beginning Bug Scientist
- 6-10 insects = Expert Entomologist

3. Bible Bugs

Have “Sword Drills” with the following verses. Have the children race to see who can find the verse the fastest. The first one to pull out his Sword (the Word of God) and find the verse gets a reward (candy?):

1. What insect is not lazy? (Ant, Proverbs 6:6)
2. What insect prepares food during the summer for winter? (Ant, Proverbs 30:25)
3. What insect prepares food for winter sometimes using unusual places? (Bee, Judges 14:8)
4. What was the unusual place mentioned in Judges 14:8? (Lion carcass)
5. What insect did God say He would command in 2 Chronicles 7:13? (Locust)
6. What did God command it to do in 2 Chronicles 7:13? (To devour the land)
7. What insects did God say would be good to eat? (Locust, cricket, and grasshopper, Leviticus 11:22)
8. What insects travel together in a group cooperatively without a leader? (Locust, Proverbs 30:27)
9. What insect do we have to look hard to see? (Gnat, Matthew 23:24)

10. What insect can spoil perfume just like a little sin can spoil our witness for Jesus? (Dead fly, Ecc 10:1)

11. What insect is known to eat holes in clothes? (Moth, Isaiah 51:8)

4. Creepy Crawly Game

Here's a fun game you can play. The object is to be the first to make your own "beetle." This game is like Pictionary.

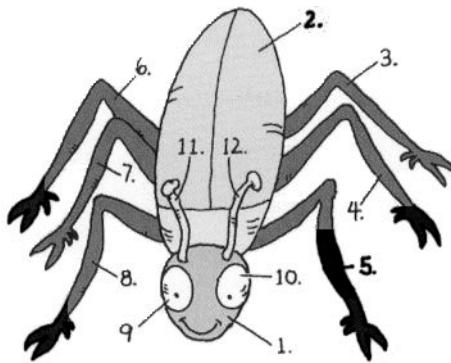
Materials

- Drawing paper (or a white board)
- Markers
- Pair of dice

Procedures

This is a game for two or more players. Each player needs a sheet of drawing paper and some markers. You will roll the dice to draw a beetle. Here's what you must roll to draw each part:

1 Head	7 leg
2 body	8 leg
3 leg	9 eye
4 leg	10 eye
5 leg	11 antenna
6 leg	12 antenna



1. Roll both dice each time, but only draw one beetle part for each roll.

Here are two examples to show you how it works:

- Let's say you roll a 1 and a 2. You can draw either the beetle's head (1) or body (2), but not both.
- Or, you can draw a leg, because 1 plus 2 equals 3, and a 3 lets you draw a leg.

2. If your beetle already has the parts for which you rolled, your turn is over.

3. Use different colors to make your beetle special. Whoever finished his or her beetle first wins.

God's Weird and Wonderful World

(Science Center)

Choose one of the following activities:

1. Discover the Wonder of God's Magnificent Power and His Infinite Wisdom in His Creation

Beavers -- Aquatic Architects. Beavers possess amazing design features:

Engineering Skills:

- Build a dam with sticks and rocks and seal it with mud and grass.
- Make a spillway to relieve pressure on a dam from a pond.
- Build a dam very strong and sometimes very long: Largest on record is over 2,000 feet long and could bear the weight of a man riding a horse!
- Build a lodge with a chimney in its ceiling to let in fresh air.
- Build underwater tunnels for access; two doors for emergency escape.

Water Skills: (They are air-breathing mammals which spend a great deal of time in water.)

- Ability to swim underwater for up to 2 mile and 15 minutes.
- A tail like a large paddle; used like a rudder when swimming. It's held at an angle for accurate steering.
- Rear feet that are large and webbed, like a duck's.
- Special valves in its ears and nose that automatically close when it dives below the water and reopen when it surfaces.
- Built-in "goggles." Eyelids that are transparent to give protection to their eyes.
- Fur mouth flaps that fold behind their front teeth and seal off the rest of their mouth allow them to chew sticks underwater without water entering their mouths.
- A tongue that blocks its throat to stop water going in.

Diet:

- Specially designed, self-sharpening 1 to 2 inch front teeth that keep on growing; wear down by gnawing on trees.
- Stores lengths of tree trunks underwater by forcing them into mud at pond bottom under their lodge.

Grooming:

- Two large oil glands that are filled with a rich, thick, oily liquid that it spreads on its fur for water proofing. Water rarely reaches the skin.
- Inner claws of each foot that have split toenails to use as a comb to groom and oil its fur.

(Information gleaned from *Creation Ex Nihilo Magazine*, Vol. 15 No. 2, pg. 38)

2. What Were Adam and Eve Like?

Did Adam and Eve have belly buttons?

- Your belly button is a scar formed from cutting the umbilical cord to your mother.
- Adam was made directly by God from the dust of the earth (Genesis 2:7). He was not born of a woman.

- Eve was made directly from part of Adam (Genesis 2:21-22). She was not born of a woman either.
- If Adam and Eve were not born of a woman, they would not have had umbilical cords and no belly button.

Did Adam and Eve have to learn to talk?

- Adam and Eve were made as mature human beings.
- In Genesis 2:19-20 we are told that Adam named the animals.
- Adam must have been able to speak.

What color skin, eyes, and hair did they have?

- The amount of pigment (melanin) in our skin determines our color.
- All skin colors can be produced from 2 people with middle color tones.
- So, both Adam and Eve must have had middle color tones; brown skin, hair, and eyes.

How many children did Adam and Eve have?

- Jewish tradition says they had 56 children altogether.
- The Bible tells us that Adam lived for 930 years (Genesis 5:5).
- All the first families had to be marriages of brothers and sisters; then cousins...

(Information gleaned from Creation Ex Nihilo, Vol. 13 No. 4, pg. 28)

Did Adam and Eve live with the dinosaurs?

- According to the Bible, dinosaurs first existed around 6,000 years ago. God made the dinosaurs, along with the other land animals on Day 6 of the Creation Week (Genesis 1:20–25, 31). Adam and Eve were also made on Day 6—so dinosaurs lived at the same time as people, not separated by eons of time.
- Dinosaurs could not have died out before people appeared because dinosaurs had not previously existed; and death, bloodshed, disease, and suffering are a result of Adam's sin (Genesis 1:29–30; Romans 5:12, 14; 1 Corinthians 15:21–22). (See <https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/when-did-dinosaurs-live/what-really-happened-to-the-dinosaurs/>.)

3. Discover if Dinosaurs and Man Coexisted

Evidence from history indicates that dinosaurs lived with man. Geological evidence indicates that they coexisted and the Bible speaks of dinosaurs.

Background Facts

- The Bible says that God is the creator of all things. Dinosaurs would have been created on the sixth day, mentioned as "the beasts of the earth." The word dinosaur is not used in the Bible because it wasn't invented until 1841 (Gish, p.67).
- The Bible mentions the words "serpent, dragon, or sea-monster" about twenty-five times in the Old Testament after Noah's flood. The Hebrew word used was tannin or tannim (Baker, p. 13).
- The description of behemoth in Job 40:15-24 is strikingly similar to the Sauropod Apatosaurus (Baker, p 36).

- Every civilization has stories of dragons. The stories all center around reptile-like creatures of various sizes. Many ancient descriptions of dragons sound like dinosaurs. Scientists agree that legends are almost always based on facts, not just pure imagination. "Chinese archaeologists claim to have found fossils of reptiles which resemble the dragons of Chinese mythology. Seven hundred fossils of the 'Guizhou dragons' were confiscated from illegal fossil traders last April. The small reptiles had long necks, long curved tails and five long bones in their feet. The reptiles were found around Xingyi city in Guizhou province. A researcher of ancient vertebrates from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Zhao Xijin, said Guizhou was an important base for the 'dragons'. China's Guangming Daily newspaper said 'these dragons' were not the real ancestors of the dragons in Chinese mythology, they simply resembled Chinese dragons." The Times (Malta), May 25, 1995 (Creation 17:4 September-November.)
- Pictures of dinosaurs, drawn by prehistoric artists have been found on cliff walls. Included among the dinosaurs were other common animals that would have been a part of their daily lives.
- Recorded accounts from the secular world are to be found. One example is taken from Pliny's famous *Natural History* where he refers to the dragon as still living in India (Baker, pg.46).
- Fresh, un-fossilized dinosaur bones have been found.

What happened to the dinosaurs?

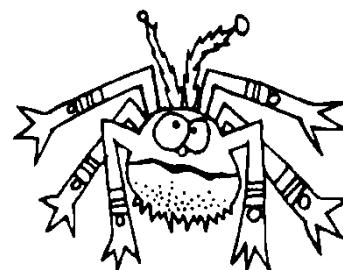
- Representatives of all the kinds of air-breathing land animals, including the dinosaur kinds, went aboard Noah's Ark. All those left outside the Ark died in the cataclysmic circumstances of the Flood, and many of their remains became fossils.
- After the Flood, around 4,300 years ago, the remnant of the land animals, including dinosaurs, came off the Ark and lived in the present world, along with people. Because of sin, the judgments of the Curse and the Flood have greatly changed earth. Post-Flood climatic change, lack of food, disease, and man's activities caused many types of animals to become extinct. The dinosaurs, like many other creatures, died out. Why the big mystery about dinosaurs?

Science Activity

See the science activity in lesson #6 entitled: Discover if Birds Evolved from Dinosaurs. If you didn't do it in lesson #6, you might consider it for lesson #7.

4. Examine Bugs!

God created insects to live all over the earth. There are more insects on the face of the earth than all other animals together. Insects provide food for birds, bats, lizards, frogs, spiders, fish and even people! (See Lev 11:22) If it were not for the rich protein source of bugs, any other animals would be mighty skinny! In the Bible God uses several insects to teach us lessons to make our own lives better. (For examples, see Proverbs 6:6; 30:25; and 30:27.)



What Happens to Bugs in the Winter?

Animals survive the cold in three basic ways: they gather food and snuggle down in a warm shelter, migrate, or hibernate.

Migration

Migration is the periodic moving from one place to another to follow a food source or for raising their young. Migrating insects, like other animals, usually head to the same destinations year after year and from one generation to the next.

In order to migrate, animals must:

- Have great strength and staying power. It takes a tremendous amount of energy to travel long distances.
- Be able to find their way so they reach their destination.

How do animals navigate? They know their location from

- The position of the sun and stars
- Geographical landmarks
- Smell
- The magnetic fields of the earth

The delicate black and orange Monarch butterfly migrates from as far away as Washington and Montana to Mexico to spend the winter. Hummingbirds migrate from Alaska to South America.

Hibernation

Hibernation is more than just a very long nap in the winter. The body temperature of the animal falls to just above freezing; the heart and breathing rates slow; the body of the animal uses up very little food or water (it lives on body fat); and it becomes unconscious, hardly moving at all. Some hibernating animals wake up once in a while to eat.

Water bugs and the larvae and eggs of dragonflies and mosquitoes spend the winter snuggled in the mud of ponds. Some beetles and butterflies snooze away the cold months under blankets of tree bark or in cozy underground tunnels.

Isn't it totally awesome to know that God plans for the insects and their lives...and we know that we are infinitely more important to God than insects! Just think of the possibilities!

(Information gleaned from Shining Star, Issue 54, pg. 54-55)

5. Discover Different Species

Collect pictures of different types of animals, many of several different kinds, and have the children sort and categorize them. Talk about what a species is. Use a Kingdom Phyla Chart. (Alternate: use plastic toy animals.)

GOD'S VARIETY SHOW!

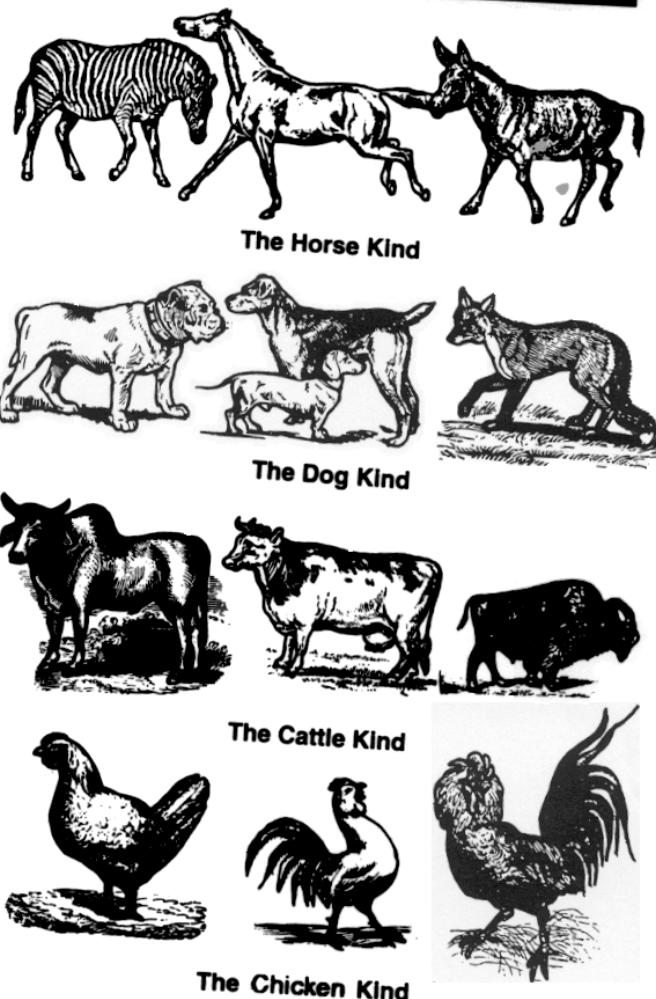
HOW DARWIN GOT IT WRONG

Charles Darwin sailed to South America on the *Beagle*. On the Galapagos Islands he saw finches with many different shapes of beak, and thought they had all descended from one ancestor. Darwin also kept pigeons (see next page), and found that many different varieties could be bred. Yet the finches were still finches and the pigeons still pigeons. Darwin was right to say that living things could change, but wrong to say that one kind could change into another. All the variety we see in nature is within the limits which God set in the beginning. The idea that fish could change into amphibians, birds into reptiles, or apes into people has no facts to support it. We do not see these changes happening now, and the fossils show it never happened in the past.

WHAT IS A KIND?

There are over 300 different breeds of dog in the world; there are also foxes, wolves, coyotes and dingoes, but all of them belong to the same 'kind' and may have descended from one pair of wild dogs. Farmers have bred many different varieties of cattle, some for producing milk, others for beef, but water buffalo, bison, yaks and musk oxen are also members of the cattle 'kind' and probably had the same ancestors. In the plant world, there are many different varieties of roses, apples, and so on, but they are only *variations* within a family. Without these variations, we would only be able to choose one breed of dog, or have only one variety of rose in our gardens!

If God had not made such variety possible, our world would be much less interesting. What a wonderful show He has provided for us!



6. Discover Human Reproduction

Invite someone from the local Crisis Pregnancy Center to bring the models of the human reproduction cycle in to discuss the development of a baby. This is a great hands-on display, showing the various stages of a baby's life while in the mother's womb.

[For more expositional lessons for children, visit <https://www.freechildrensministrylessons.com>]