

Lesson 4

God Created Animals Continued

Objective

Students will understand that God expects us to care for His animals.

Supplies

Teachers and/or Coordinators ensure supplies are ready prior to each class.

Print From the Site:

- God Made Animals Color Page (one per student)
- Caring For Animals Activity Sheet (one per student)
- Attendance Chart
- Songs for Winter Quarter Sheet (teacher)
- Bible
- Pens/Pencils/Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Black Sharpie Marker
- Stickers (for attendance)
- Glue Sticks
- Reindeer Craft Materials
 - 12x12 Clean Pieces of Cardboard (one per student)
 - 12-inch Twigs/Sticks (4 pieces per student)
 - Chocolate Pudding Cup (enough to fill a plate) - (2 for every 4 students)
 - Paper Plate (one for every 4 students)
 - String (enough to hang each project about 6 inches or 16 cm)
 - Small Pom Pom Balls (one per student)
 - Googly Eyes (or use marker for eyes) (2 per student)

Optional Supplies

- Gummy Worms and Celery Sticks Snack
- Play Dough
- Various Stuffed Animals (enough for each student)
- Balloons (one for every two students)

Teacher Tips

- ★ See Lesson Plan 1 for tips on how to keep the classroom engaged.

1) Introduction to Lesson

As students enter, welcome them and help them find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance. Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week.

Today we are going to continue talking about animals and their importance as God's creation. We are going to look through the Bible to understand that God expects us to take care of animals as part of His wonderful creation. We will keep looking at why God created animals, what our job is in caring for them and how by us caring for animals and respecting them as special gifts from God it makes God very happy!

Now let's sing a song to get us started!

A Way to Go – An action song

A robin flies, (Wave arms in flying motion.)

A bunny hops, (Hop or jump up and down.)

A turtle crawls so slow; (Crawl or step in place very slowly.)

God gave each animal He made

A special way to go! (Walk two fingers up one arm.)

2) Class Time - Read Genesis 1:20-26

15-20 minutes

Optional - Hand each student a stuffed animal so they can play with something while they listen. Play Dough can be used as another option as well.

Read Genesis 1:20-26 to the class, putting focus on the bolded words.

20 Then God said, "Let the water be filled with many living things, and let there be birds to fly in the air over the earth." 21 So God created the large sea animals.[e] He created all the many living things in the sea and every kind of bird that flies in the air. And God saw that **this was good.**

22 **God blessed all the living things** in the sea and told them to have many babies and fill the seas. And he blessed the birds on land and told them to have many more babies.

23 There was evening, and then there was morning. This was the fifth day.

24 Then God said, "Let the earth produce many kinds of living things. Let there be many different kinds of animals. Let there be large animals and small crawling animals of every kind. And let all these animals produce more animals." And all these things happened.

25 So God made every kind of animal. He made the wild animals, the tame animals, and all the small crawling things. And God saw **that this was good.**

26 Then God said, “Now let’s make **humans** who will be like us. **They will rule over** all the fish in the sea and the birds in the air. They will rule over all the large animals and all the little things that crawl on the earth.”

God created the animals because they were good. Because God knew it was good and so that we could rule over them and have a useful job to do that pleased God by taking care of His creation that He blessed us with.

The Bible passages say: It was good and they were blessed by God – so animals are a blessing – all are useful and good to God. God gave them to us so we could rule over them and take care of them, to give us a job that pleased the Lord.

What else does the Bible say about animals? Let’s see!

Now we are going to look at what the Bible says we are to do concerning animals in God’s creation!

3) Activity - Reindeer Craft

15-20 minutes

Prep

Take each of the 12x12 pieces of cardboard and with hot glue, glue 4 twigs/sticks along each edge to make a square so that it looks like a frame. Then glue a piece of ribbon arched on the back top of the cardboard so that the frame can be hung. There should be one project per student. Set up paper plates by putting a layer of chocolate pudding on each one.



Activity

Have the students wash their hands before beginning this project. Place a good amount of chocolate pudding onto a paper plate. Have each student carefully dip their two hands into the pudding (making sure there is not too much) and have them make two hand prints at the top of the cardboard as “antlers” for the reindeer. Utilize the picture to show the students so they get the idea.

Next, with their finger, have them fill in the reindeers face as shown with the rest of the pudding on their hands. At this point, escort the children to the washroom to wash their hands again. *You may need assistance from someone if you have multiple children in your class.* Once the base of the picture is done, move onto your next activity so that the reindeer project can dry a bit. Be sure to allow some time before class is over to return back to this activity.

Once the project is dry, the students can now decorate it. Have them glue on two eyes and a pom pom for the nose. Sign and date their name at the bottom of the picture. Allow for the projects to fully dry during church service and then tell the parents to retrieve the reindeer project at the end of services. This can be a keepsake for the parents to show how small their child was once upon a time!

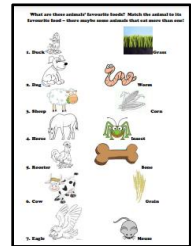
4) Activity - God Wants Us To Care For Animals

15-20 minutes

Now we are going to do another activity. We are going to look at what God's animals need to be safe and well fed.

Hand each student the "Caring For The Animals" activity sheet and crayons. Have them write their name on the page.

Read the instructions on the top of the page aloud and together go through the sheet to match the animal to its food and shelter so the children get the idea that animals have needs too!



For the last page say: **“look at the animals on the last page (farm animals) as you color them, what do you think they need to be happy and cared for?”**

While the students color the last page, continue asking them questions such as: **In what ways do the animals in this picture require us to help care for them? The Bible says we should take care of the animals God made. Farmers, Veterinarians and Game and Park Wardens all care for animals. A lot of people have pets as well. If you have a pet, you should take good care of it. Even if you don't have a pet, you can be kind to other people's pets too! What are some ways you can be kind to animals?**

5) Optional Activity - God Made The Animals Color Page

5-10 minutes

Hand each student a “God Made The Animals” color page and crayons. Read the activity at the bottom of the page and have the students answer the following questions while they color:



Tell me what your favorite animals are?

How can you show love to animals?

How does God love us and the animals He created?

Remind the students that **these are animals God gave to feed us, help us and give us something to take care of - let's remember to be careful and kind to all animals!**

6) Optional Activity - Keep The Birds Up Balloon Game

5-10 minutes

Prep

Before class, inflate and tie one balloon for every two students. Draw two eyes, a triangle beak and a smiley face. On each side draw a wing. You have made birds!

Activity

Have the students form two lines facing each other. Give every two students a balloon and have them try to keep the birds up in the air. See which team can keep the balloon up the longest. Or you can have the whole class play at once with everyone trying to keep the balloon up. For larger classes you can play with multiple balloons.

Tell the students, **everything God made is good and we are to take care of what God made. Let's help keep the birds in the air while we play this game. Remember to not hit the birds hard, but be gentle and try to keep them in the air so they can fly!**

7) Optional Snack - Gummy Worms & Celery

10 minutes

“You've all done a great job this morning learning that God wants us to care for His animals. To help us remember, we are going to have a snack. Show the kids the gummy worms and celery and ask, “Do you remember what animal eats worms and grassy things?” (Birds). “Great! We need to remember that different animals need different things and that is why it is important to make sure we take care of the earth and animals and ensure they have what they need to survive. We can also pray to God that

He will help us care for His creation. Let's all eat like birds today!"

Hand out the snack to each child. After snack, have students clean up.

8) Optional Activity - Sing

5-10 minutes

Practice songs sung earlier or find different songs in Songs for Winter Quarter

9) Closing Prayer

**Before the prayer, make sure the activities/snacks have been cleaned up.

Ask if there are any prayers the students want to share. Say closing prayer remembering to thank God for creating all the different animals and to help us remember that it is our job to care for all of creation.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!