

## Lesson 6

# God Wants Us To Care For The Earth

### Objective

Students will understand that God wants us to take care of the world He created. They will be given examples of ways they can care for what God has blessed us with.

### Supplies

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

- Attendance Chart
- Songs for Winter Quarter Sheet (teacher)
- Bible
- Pens/Pencils/Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Stickers (for attendance)
- Glue Sticks
- Clue Game Nature Textures (examples: leaf, pine cone, sticks, garden soil, feather, rocks, piece of fake or real animal fur (of course without hurting the animal), etc.
- Brown Paper Lunch Bags (one for each nature texture brought)
- Blank Paper (one per student)

### Optional Supplies

Print From the Site:

- God Made Food Color Page (one per student)
- Fruits and/or Vegetable Snack
- Balloons (one for every two students)
- Black Sharpie Marker

### 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.

***Today we will continue looking at the importance of taking care of God's creation - Earth! Can anyone tell me why taking care of the world we live in is important?*** (Keeps us healthy, shows respect for God's Creation, God asks us to.) **God gave people a special job - to take care of the earth and everything in it!**

### **Genesis 1:26-28**

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 wants us to do our best to care for the earth.**

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

#### **God made the Earth** (To the tune of Old MacDonald)

Our heavenly Father made the earth. E-A-R-T-H.

And on the earth God made a .....(ex: Dog) E-A-R-T-H.

With a (Sound the animal makes ex: Woof, woof) here and a (Woof, woof) there, here a (Woof), there a (Woof), everywhere a (Woof, woof)

Our heavenly Father made the earth E-A-R-T-H.

\*Repeat with other animals

## 2) Activity - Caring For Creation Clue Game

10 minutes

Have the students stand and form a circle. Ask them to pass around the bags with the nature items inside one bag at a time. Without looking inside, have them take turns feeling what is inside the bags. Afterwards, let the students guess what each bag contains. Then spread the mystery items on the table. Ask, **what can you learn about things without using your eyes? Which was your favorite thing to touch? What was the most soft? What was the most sharp?**

**God has given us the very important job of taking care of all these things. Let's remember to pick up our garbage, grow plants, help take care of animals and our pets, and clean up our yards when the leaves fall and when it snows— to help take care of God's creation!**

**Let's sing another song about God's wonderful creation – the world.**

**In the Beginning Tune:** Farmer in the Dell

God made the world\*. God made the world\*.

In the beginning, God made the world\*.

(replace world with other words each time:\*light, sea, sky, animals, etc.)

### 3) Activity - Our Favorite Things

10 minutes

Hand each student a sheet of paper and a crayon or marker. Read:

**Psalm 104:24.**

Lord, you created so many things! With your wisdom you made them all. The earth is full of the living things you made.

Have the students divide their papers in half. On one half, ask the students to draw their favorite thing from nature. On the other half, have them draw one thing they'll do this week to help take care of God's wonderful world.

Afterward, ask for volunteers to share what they drew. Encourage the students to tell their parents their plans.

### 4) Optional Activity - Take Care Of The Earth Action Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting someone beside them.

Say to the students: **We are going to play a game about things that God made. Today we are going to pretend to look and touch all the things that God created when He made the world. I want you to follow and do what I say. If I say to do something, I want you to pretend to do that action. Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job.....**

**Everyone – look at the sun** (pretend to cover your head with your hand as you look up to the sky)

**Everyone – go for a swim** (pretend to swim)

**Everyone – say “Thank You God for the World.”**

**Everyone – walk in the garden** (pretend to walk and look at pretty flowers and trees)

**Everyone – say “God is great”**

**Everyone – pick an apple from the tree** (pretend to pick an apple)

**Everyone – take a bite of the apple God made** (pretend to eat)

**Everyone – pour some juice into the glass** (pretend to pour juice into the cup)

**Everyone – drink your juice** (pretend to drink juice)

**Everyone – pet the animals** (pretend to pet animals)

**Everyone – pick up the trash, don't leave any on the ground** (pretend to pick up trash)

**Everyone – sit down!**

Thank the class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity. Or, if they enjoyed it and you have time you can play again.

### 5) 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 to make birds.

#### Activity

Have the students form two lines facing each other. Give every two students a balloon and have them gently pass them back and forth. 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!**

### 6) Optional Activity - God Made Food Color Page

5-10 minutes

Hand each student a "God Made Food" color page. Talk about the picture of the family eating the food that God blessed us with. Explain that **God gave us food to eat and the food comes from the trees, plants and animals that live on earth. So, in order for us to always have good food to eat, we need to take care of the trees, plants and animals.**

Let the children color the picture.

### 7) Optional Snack - Fruit and/or Vegetable

10 minutes

**“You’ve all done a great job learning that God wants us to respect the world that He created. To help us remember, we are going to have a snack. First can anyone tell me; what are some of the food items God has created for us?”** (fruit, meat, vegetables, etc.)

Hand each child a few pieces of the fruit and/or vegetable snacks. Remind them that these snacks are part of God’s wonderful creation for us to enjoy and they are good!

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 the world He has created for us and that we take good care of it.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!