

August 20, 2017

Bible Focus: God made the animals and they are wonderful.

Animals • *Genesis 1:20-25*

Memory Verse: “You have done great and wonderful things.” 2 Samuel 7:23,
NIRV

Key Question: Who made everything wonderful?

Bottom Line: God made everything wonderful.

Basic Truth: God made me.

Here’s what you’ll be teaching in 3s–5s this week.

Social (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

- Animal Matching

10:15

- Animal Hunt

Bible (9:10, 10:25, 11:40)

All Service Times

- Bible History Presentation in the Sandbox

Journaling (9:30, 10:45, 12:00)

All Service Times

- Small Group Time
- Prayer

Groups (9:35, 10:50, 12:05)

9:00 & 11:30

- Look at What God Made

10:15

- Land or Sea
- Nosey

All Service Times

- Dismiss–Parent CUE

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Social (Introductory Activities, 10 minutes)

Let one teacher lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

9:00 & 11:30

Animal Matching

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler’s innate curiosity into a discussion of the week’s crucial concepts

What You Need: “Large and Small Animal Images” Activity Pages (1 set of images per table), cupcake liners (1 set per table), and magnifying glasses (1 per table)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Separate the cards so that you have a stack of small animal cards and another stack of large animal cards. Shuffle each stack. Place the small animals card stack in the cupcake liners. Spread a set of the large animal images out in the center of each table. Make sure each table also has a magnifying glass.

During the Activity: Point out the two stacks of cards and the magnifying glass on each table. Explain that the small animal cards match the large animal cards. The children must use the magnifying glass to look at the small images and match them to the large ones. Let the children at each table take turns looking through the magnifying glass at the small image to match it to the large image on the table. Pass the cupcake liner with the small images and magnifying glass around the table so that each child has a turn.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Today I thought it would be fun to do some matching! I have some pictures here of animals. These pictures are large (*hold up a large image*), but these pictures are what? (*Hold up a small image and let children respond.*) Yes, they are small! I have a magnifying glass (*hold up*) and I want you to each take a turn selecting a small animal image, looking at it through the magnifying glass, and then matching it to a large animal image on your table. Remember, only make ONE match, and then pass the magnifying glass and the cupcake liner to another friend at your table so everyone can have a turn. Now let’s get started!” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “Did you find every match? *(Pause.)* Way to go, friends! Now, raise your hand and name your favorite animal! *(Pause for responses.)* Wow, I love all of those animals. We’ll hear more about animals in our Bible Truth today. Let’s go!”

10:15

Animal Hunt

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: Several plastic animals

What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather several plastic animals and the children in an open area of the room. Encourage the children to close their eyes as you throw out the plastic animals in several spots around the open area of the room. When you say, “go!” encourage the children to open their eyes, gather the animals, and bring them back to you in the center of the open area.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “We’re going to go on an animal hunt. I want you to close your eyes and then when I say, ‘Go!’ open your eyes and search for the animals. When you find one, bring it to me.” *(Do activity.)*

After the Activity: “Wow, look at all these animals! *(Hold up a few, name them, and talk about some of their characteristics.)* We’ll talk about all the amazing animals in our Bible Truth today. I can’t wait!”

Bible (Large Group, 20 minutes)

After children have participated in Social, gather them for a large group time that includes interactive worship, introductory sketch and Bible Truth. Place your “We are in Large Group” sign on the door as you leave. Travel to the Sandbox.

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Journaling (Small Groups, 5 minutes)

Journaling is designed to help preschoolers understand how the Bottom Line applies to them. They'll discuss real-life experiences and share prayer requests.

Give each child a cup of Chex cereal to snack on while you take them through the following exercise.

What you Need: Paperclip “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible at 2 Samuel 7:23, journal, fun-shaped pen, and a small plush animal.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “Okay WONDERFUL small group! It’s time for you to come sit with me. I see wonderful [child’s name] and I see wonderful [child’s name] and . . . *(repeat with each child’s name as you give them a high-five)*. God made you and that makes you WONDERFUL! **Who made you?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: [*Basic Truth*] **“God made me!”**

SGL: “Yes siree, God made YOU and God made ME! God made something else wonderful in our Bible Truth today and I think it’s my most favorite. What did God make in our Bible Truth today? *(Pause for response as you hold up the plush animal or bring out the small pet.)* You got it! God made the animals and they are WONDERFUL! Isn’t this *(name the animal)* the cutest? I’ll pass it around so you can give it a hug and tell God thank you for making the animals.”

(Pass the plush animal around and encourage each child to give it a hug and say, “Thank You, God, for making the animals.”)

SGL: “Making all the animals was a WONDERFUL thing God did! Let’s stand up and tell God how wonderful it is by saying our Bible verse to Him. It says *(open Bible to verse): You have done great and wonderful things, 2 Samuel 7:23.* Let’s say that together. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

(Lay Bible down.)

CHILDREN and SGL: “*You have done (point both hands up) great (left arm jazz hand) and wonderful (right arm up jazz hand) things (clap), 2 Samuel 7:23 (hold hands open like a book).*” (Repeat several times.)

SGL: “You sound more and more WONDERFUL every time we say that verse! I am proud of you! (Clap for your group.) Now let’s sit down. One, two, three, come sit with me! It’s time to write in our journal and pray.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“God made all the WONDERFUL animals. He made the jumping kangaroos and the tall giraffes, the playful dolphins and the teeny, tiny ladybugs. He made them all and they are all WONDERFUL! Today we’re going to make a list of our favorite animals. And because there are so many to choose from, you can name TWO animals. Because really, who can name just one favorite animal when there’s so many? When I say your name, tell me two of your favorite animals and I’ll write them in our journal. When we pray we can use our list to thank God for making all the animals!

(Write each child’s name and what they say beside their name. Remember to print the words they say so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

“Wow! You named so many WONDERFUL animals! Let’s close our eyes and put our hands together so we can pray and thank God for making the animals. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, thank You SO much for making all of the animals! They are amazing! We want to say a special thank You for making *(read the list the children made)* and my two favorites, *(name two animals)*. Help us to be kind to animals and take care of them when they need it. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 25 minutes)

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today’s Bible Truth and Bottom Line.

9:00 & 11:30

Look What God Made

Talk About God | Bible Review

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

What You Need: Poster board from previous weeks, taped to the wall, and animal stickers

What You Do:

During the Activity: Retell the Bible Truth. Encourage the children to imitate some wonderfully BIG animals and wonderfully small animals that God has made using the dialogue below. After imitating animals, encourage the children to place the stickers inside the magnifying glass. If you are using the poster board, allow each child to come up and place one sticker in the magnifying glass. If you are using individual pages, allow each child to place several stickers on their page inside the magnifying glass.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “WOW! We heard an amazing TRUTH from the Bible today! We learned that God made all of the animals! God made the animals in the sea, the animals on the land, and the animals that fly in the sky! WOW! Everything that God made is WONDERFUL!”

“When God made the animals, He made some that are wonderful in their BIGNESS! And that He also made some that are wonderful in their smallness! I think we should pretend to be some of those animals!”

During the Activity: “First, let’s pretend that we are some of those wonderfully BIG animals! Here we go. Show me a big, tall giraffe!” (*Big animals: Giraffe, buffalo, horse, elephant, gorilla*)

“Those are some wonderfully BIG animals! Now let’s pretend we are some wonderfully small animals. Ready? Show me a tiny mouse!” (*Small animals: mouse, turtle, frog, lizard, hamster*)

“ God made some huge and some tiny animals. This month we are talking about EVERYTHING that God made. (*Point to magnifying glass.*) We can pretend to use this to look at all of the WONDERFUL things that God made. We have talked about how God made the land, plants, sea, and sky. Today we can add the animals to our magnifying glass! Let’s put these cool animal stickers (*hold up*) inside our magnifying glass. WOW! Look at all that God made!” (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: “Great job! God created so many wonderfully big and wonderfully small animals, didn’t He? (*Pause.*) When I think about ALL the animals God created, it just makes me say, ‘WOW! Way to go, God!’ He really did make everything wonderful. **Who made everything wonderful? [Bottom Line] God made everything wonderful.**”

10:15

1. Land and Sea

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

What You Need: “Land and Sea” and “Tree and Water” bins

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place both bins in the center of the activity area. Spread the cutout pictures in random order on the floor next to the bins.

During the Activity: Introduce the bin with the tree on top as the “land bin” and the bin with the water on top as the “sea bin.” Encourage the children to open each bin and place the cutout pictures of animals that live on land into the land bin and the pictures of animals that live in the sea into the sea bin. Repeat as desired.

2. Nosey

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Truth, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home

What You Need: “Animals” Activity Pages, three different nose cut outs, and glue sticks

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Each child will need one of each of the different noses for a total of three noses per child.

During the Activity: Give each child an “Animals” Activity Page and the three noses. Help the children decide which nose belongs to which animal. Encourage the children to glue each of the noses onto the correct animal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “There are three animals on our page. *(Point.)* Oh, no! They are missing their noses! We need to help them get their noses!”

During the Activity: “The first animal is an elephant. *(Point.)* He has a long nose that helps him drink water and eat. He can also use his nose to make trumpet sounds to talk to other elephants. Can you find which nose belongs to the elephant? *(Pause.)* Yes! Lay the elephant’s trunk on top of the elephant. The next animal is a pig. *(Point.)* A pig’s nose is called a snout. A pig uses his snout to root around on the ground to find good things to eat. Can you find the pig nose? *(Pause.)* Awesome! Lay the pig nose on top of the pig. The last animal is a dog. A dog uses its nose to sniff out all kinds of things. Dogs use their noses to find food and friends. Have you ever been sniffed by a dog? Lay the dog nose on top of the dog. *(Pause.)* Way to go! Now use your glue stick to glue on all of the noses.” *(Finish activity.)*

After the Activity: “WOW! God made some really cool animals! Everything that God made is WONDERFUL! **Who made everything wonderful? [Bottom Line] God made everything wonderful!**”

All Service Times

Get Ready to Dismiss