

Overview

In this chapter the children will learn that God created the world and all people.

Doctrinal Content

For Adult Reading and Reflection
Catechism of the Catholic Church

The children will learn:	Paragraph
• God created the world.	290
• God created all people.	355
• God gives us special gifts.	356–357
• God promises to love us always.	410

Key Words

creation (p. 21)
Bible (p. 21)

Catechist Background

What makes this world such an exciting place in which to live?

One of the most intriguing titles in classical music is Franz Schubert’s eighth symphony. It is known as the “Unfinished.” Whether the title was the brainchild of some music critic or not, it does make any listener pause to think about its implications.

We believe that God created our world and everything in it. It certainly is his masterpiece, and we are his special creation. God has gifted us with wonderful gifts and promised to love us always. (See CCC 239.) But just for a moment, entertain the thought of creation as God’s “unfinished” symphony. What would be the impact if we took seriously our role as “co-creators” and as stewards or caretakers of God’s creation?

When we focus on the mystery of the Incarnation, God the Son becoming one of us, we come to realize the wonder of it all. Jesus’ life, Death, and Resurrection are the foundation of the new creation. As Saint Paul proclaims,

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter’s correlation to:

- Six Tasks of Catechesis
- Catholic Social Teaching
- *Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living*.

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation” (Colossians 1:15).

Through the Sacrament of Baptism each person becomes a new creation in Christ but remains an unfinished masterpiece. We are fashioned and re-fashioned into God’s image and likeness throughout our lives. We need to value all life, especially the human dignity of every person, including ourselves.

The noted educator Maria Montessori saw in each child the incarnation of human love in its most divine dimension. She and other visionary leaders tapped into the child’s gift of wonder during every lesson. Chapter 1 would be an ideal place to begin to tap into that gift of wonder.

How can you reverence each child as God’s creation in your service as a catechist?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Steps

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

page 19



Thank God in song.

- Name favorite gifts from God.

For the prayer space: pictures of people taking care of God's gifts; containers of sand, water, soil

- "Thank You, God," #2, Grade 1 CD
- Bible

2 WE BELIEVE

page 20

God created the world.



- Read the text and talk about creation and the Bible.

Name beautiful things and thank God for them.

page 21

God created all people.

- Present the text about God creating all people and their responsibility to care for the world.
- Point out the *Key Words* and definitions.

Do the activity about caring for God's world.

- crayons or colored pencils
- sentence strips (one per child)

page 22

God gives us special gifts.

- Read about and discuss the many gifts that God gives people.

Complete the activity about people who help us to grow in God's love.

- Read and discuss the *As Catholics* text.

page 23

God promises to love us always.

- Present the text about Adam and Eve and God's promise to be with us and love us.

3 WE RESPOND

page 23

- Reflect and pray about God's promises to us.

- copies of Reproducible Master 1, guide page 19C
- crayons or colored pencils

pages 24–25
Project Disciple

- Complete the **Project Disciple** activities.
- Explain the *Take Home* activity.
- Discuss/send home **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master for this chapter.

- Crayons or colored pencils
- copies of **Sharing Faith with My Family** reproducible master, Chapter 1 (back of book)

page 26
Chapter 1 Test

- Complete **Chapter 1 Test**.
- Work on *Alternative Assessment* activity.

- optional: copies of Scripture reproducible master, *What's the Word?*, Chapter 1 (back of book)