God Creates the World

Engage: Page 3

- Hold up and identify the following colors of crayons or markers: black, orange, yellow, and green. Ask your child to point out objects in your home that match each color. Say: Our world is full of color. Who made our world and all the colorful things in it? (God)
- Read aloud the session title and the poem, inviting your child to track the words with his or her finger. Say: God creates all things. Our colorful world is God’s creation.
- Reread each line of the poem. Together name other things God has made that are the same color. Pray aloud the prayer together. Then pray Amen.

Explore: Pages 4–5

- Take a nature walk outside. Examine a tree, flower, or leaf. Discuss how it feels, smells, and looks. Say: God creates wonderful things for us to enjoy because he loves us.
- Read aloud page 4. Help your child find the words God and creates in the Glossary. Discuss the definitions. Ask: What does God create? (God creates the world and everything in it.) Read aloud the directions and give your child time to complete the activity. Invite your child to name different kinds of animals and plants that God creates.
- Together draw a picture or make a clay model of an animal. Ask: What are some ways we can care for animals? (We can give them food and water.) Read aloud the title and the sentence on page 5. Ask: What are some ways we can care for the earth? (We can recycle; we can care for trees, plants, and animals.) What are some ways we can care for people? (We can be kind. We can be helpful. We can pray for them.) Read aloud the directions. Have your child complete the activity. Talk about ways you can care for the plants, animals, and people in your home and in your community.
- Display a Bible. Say: The Bible contains the Word of God. Read aloud the Did You Know? feature at the bottom of page 5. Then read aloud the Reading God’s Word feature at the bottom of page 4. Say: These words are from the Bible.
Art Exploration: Explore Art Print 1 Blackline Master

- Find in a magazine, in a book, or online a picture of God creating animals.
- **Ask:** What is God doing in this picture? Encourage your child to describe how God is creating, looking after, and caring for the animals.
- **Say:** God creates everything in this world, and he creates us. God wants us to care for his creation.
- Display the Art Print 1 Blackline Master. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question.
- Read aloud the section God Creates the World. Hold up a Bible and **ask:** What is the name of this book? *(the Bible) **Say:** This story is from Genesis, the first book in the Bible. The story tells us how God created the world.*
- Read aloud the section God’s Beautiful World and have your child complete the activity. Discuss animals that live in the air, in the sea, and on the land that God has created.
- Play Animal Charades with your child. Take turns acting out the motions and sounds of an animal. Then complete the following sentence with that animal’s name: God created the _________. Talk about ways that people can care for each animal.

Reflect: Pages 6–7

- **Together look at page 6. Say:** Sometimes we are quiet and still when we pray. Sometimes we pray using our own words, and sometimes we pray using special words.
- Read aloud page 6. Help your child find the word **pray** in the Glossary and discuss the definition. Demonstrate how to fold your hands in prayer. Invite your child to practice folding his or her hands. Then, with your hands folded, bow your head, close your eyes, and demonstrate how to offer a simple prayer to God. Invite your child to pray along silently. Pause briefly before praying together **Amen**.
- Read aloud the title and text on page 7. **Say:** We often begin and end a prayer with the Sign of the Cross. Let’s practice making the Sign of the Cross. Teach the gestures first using exaggerated movements. Then add the words. Repeat the prayer several times with your child. Then together complete the activity.

Respond: Page 8

- Read aloud the Faith Summary. Have your child trace the words God, creates, and pray. **Say:** We have talked about how God creates the world and everything in it.
- Invite your child to pray silently as you pray aloud. **Say:** Thank you, God, for creating this great world for us. We know you love us because you made this colorful and beautiful world for us to enjoy. Together pray the Sign of the Cross.
- Read aloud the words from the story in With My Family and have your child say the picture words. Use the Picture Glossary on pages 206–207 if needed. Invite your child to answer the questions at the end of the story.