

God Made the Animals and Insects

Text: Genesis 1:1-2:4 and Proverbs 6:6-8

Aim: To teach that God made the animals and insects.



Preparation

Read Genesis 1:1-2:4 and Proverbs 6:6-8. Answer the following questions:

- How did God make the animals? (Genesis 1:24)
- What kinds of animals did God make? (Genesis 1:24-25)
- What does the author of Proverbs want us to learn from the ant? (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Think about all the different insects and their amazing, often unique, function in our world. Consider all that God has made and his purposeful creation. Pray for each child you teach, asking God to open their eyes to the diversity of his creation.



Visual Aids

Before your lesson, gather the following visual aids:

- Different plastic insects/pictures of insects (or, if you are able, use live insects).
- A pot of honey.
- A piece of silk.



Lesson

Briefly revise the aspects of creation covered in the previous four lessons.

Show the children different insects. Tell the children something interesting about each of the insects, commenting each time that God made that insect. For example:

- Bees make honey (show the honey pot).
- Moths find pollen on scented flowers that only open at night.
- Spiders catch pesky flies.
- Ladybirds eat the little green aphids on a rose.

- Caterpillars eat leaves then turn into butterflies.
- Silkworms' silk is used to make silk material (show the piece of silk).

Ask the children "Who made the...?" Get children to point to different items as you teach them. Or, using the example above, you could ask, "Which insect makes honey?"

Activity

Choose either Activity A or Activity B

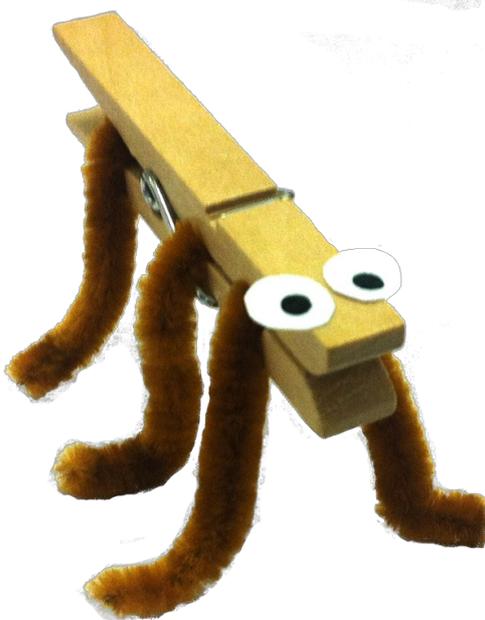
Activity A - Make a spider's web. Give each child a paper plate with the words 'Thank you, God, for insects. Genesis 1' written on the back. Make twelve 1" cuts around the edge of the plate.

Cut wool into lengths slightly longer than the diameter of the plate. The children hook the wool into opposite cuts in the plate.

Make a spider to sit on the web by twisting four short lengths of pipe cleaner together in the middle. Glue googly eyes onto the spider. You could also make eyes from hole punched paper circles with black pupils drawn on them.

Activity B - Make a stick insect.

The children wrap three pipe cleaners around a lollipop stick/wooden clothes peg to make six legs for the stick-insect. Attach googly eyes or draw them on with a felt tip marker.



Game Idea

Option 1: Beetle Dig. Bury plastic insects in a mixing bowl filled with sand/uncooked rice. The children take turns to search for them.

Option 2: Bug Hunt. Look for insects outside the classroom. If you cannot go outside, hide plastic insects/pictures of different insects around the room for the children to find.

Prayer

Thank you, God, for making insects. Amen.

You could also encourage the children to pray. They must think of an insect they really like or one that they think God did a really good job making. "Thank you God for I like the way they ...[fly/look/crawl, etc]"

Reinforcement

Print the Reinforcement Slip page from the Media section of this webpage and give one slip to each child to take home. This will encourage parents to reinforce today's lesson. Alternatively, you could copy the text below and edit as appropriate for your context. This can then be printed or emailed to parents.

Today your child learned that God made the animals and insects.

To reinforce this lesson this week:

1. Go on a 'bug hunt' with your child. Take a magnifying glass with you and look around a garden or park area to see how many types of insects you can find. Ask your child what they can see. How many legs? What colours are they? Are they different or the same? Remind your child that God made the insects and all the animals.