

God said, "I command the ocean to be full of living creatures, and I command birds to fly above the earth." So God made the giant sea monsters and all the living creatures that swim in the ocean. He also made every kind of bird.

Genesis 1:20-21

Dear Parents/Carers,

I pray that your children are enjoying this series on creation. As you have been working through this well-known story of the Bible is there something that has struck you anew? It may be a small detail that you previously missed when you have read the story all at once, or an insight provided by your children that can come only from that child-like faith that we are all called to have.

This week we are looking at God's creation of sea creatures and birds, I wonder what your children's favourite is. At the moment while we are unable to see many of our favourite animals, Melbourne Zoo is providing virtual tours of their enclosures at home. Maybe after today's session you can visit the below link to have a look at all of God's creatures he created and be thankful.

<https://www.zoo.org.au/animals-at-home/>

Blessings,

Jess

Supplies

- Children's Bible
- Craft Supplies depending on craft – see end of document
- Paper and Colour Pencils
- Sea animal toys or bird toys

Worship

- Whole Wide World - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHvGLEMjMWE>
- If I were a Butterfly - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4WVCZe0Fko>

Bible Verse

Today's Bible verse is Genesis 1:20. Read this slowly with your children having them repeat each word after you. You may even like to clap out the words.

"God said, "I command the ocean to be full of living creatures, and I command birds to fly above the earth."

Prayer

Part of teaching little ones to pray is that they understand this is a conversation with God. For today's prayer encourage your children to tell God the best thing that has happened this week. Encourage them to talk to God just like they would tell you.

Story Time

This week's session covers God creating sea animals and birds. In their children's Bible open up to the story of Creation. Point out to your children that this is the very first story in the Bible, which is God's word. You may like to point out the different areas of creation that we have already looked at. If you have any toys of birds or sea creatures you can use them in this story to show your children the variety of God's creation.

When God created the world, a very long time ago, he made light and he made dark. Next, God made the blue sky, green grass and the wavy ocean. Then the sun, moon and stars. *(If you are making the popsicle days of creation you can use them here)*

God had created a beautiful sky and deep ocean but there was nothing in them. God said "Let there be big fish and little fish and all types of sea creatures to swim around in the oceans."

Children jump up and swim around the room as a fish or shark or favourite sea creature.

Then God said, "Let birds big and small fly in the sky." He made red birds, green birds, blue birds and white birds – birds of all different colours.

Your children can now be their favourite bird. Encourage them to make their best bird noise.

God blessed the fish and the birds. He wanted them to have families and baby fish and baby birds so they would fill the skies and the oceans.

God looked at the different sea creatures and birds that he had made. Do you know what he thought? He thought they were good, God was happy with all the fish and birds.

Children can say short prayer to say thank you to God for the fish and the birds.

Craft

Popsicle Sticks Days of Creation

Each week as we look at the next day of God's creation your children will make a stick to represent what God created that day. This way each week as you make the new day you can easily revise what God had already created.

This craft can be done with paper, crayons and pencils, popsicle sticks (or any stick) and sticky tape.



Hand Print Fish

Trace your children's hand print onto a piece of paper. They can then decorate this to look like a fish. They can be creative with the colours, patterns and textures they use – including sticking different craft supplies onto the fish. Cut out their hand fish and it can be hung using a piece of string to make it look like the fish is swimming. This craft can also be done with using paint to create a handprint.

Bird Watching

On a walk or in your backyard do some bird watching with your children. If they have a set of binoculars they could use them to help find birds. Describe each bird you find and point out the special things God created about each bird. For example, the colour God made the bird or the sound God gave the birds voice.

