

POINT ➔ **WE THANK
GOD FOR OUR WORLD.**

Open your Bible to Genesis 1, and show children the words. Read aloud Genesis 1:24-25.

SAY: The Bible tells us that God made all the animals. God made farm animals, little animals, and wild animals. When God made the animals, he just said their names and they were created. I'm going to say some animal names. Then you pretend you're a brand-new animal like the one I named.

SAY: God created [name of an animal, such as dog, lion, cat, pig, or cow]. When you call out the animal, kids should start acting and making sounds like that animal. After you've named a few animals, let kids name their own for everyone to act out.

SAY: Now we'll keep on acting like animals while we sing a song. Everyone think of an animal. Keep it in your mind! If I point to you, name that animal! Lead kids in singing "Favorite Creations" to the tune of "Old MacDonald." When you get to the pauses, point to a child to name

an animal, then have kids all act like that animal for the rest of that verse. (Point to the same child for both blanks.) Repeat the song so everyone has a chance to name an animal.

SING:

In just six days God made our world.

**He made our world, you know!
And in our world God made a**
[name].

God made a [name] just so.

**With the deep blue sea and the sky
so clear,**

**Deep blue sea, sky so clear,
Everyone give God a cheer!**

In just six days God made our world.

He made our world, you know!

ASK: Tell which animal you had the most fun acting out. Why did you like that one best?

Our song talks about giving God a cheer. What's an animal you'd like to thank God for by cheering?

SAY: God made everything in the world in six days. And on the sixth day, he made animals! Animals are a lot of fun, so ➔ **WE THANK GOD FOR OUR WORLD** and all the animals in it!



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SAY: God made all the animals. We can thank God for all the animals he made. I'm going to hold up our *Bible Buzz Cards*. When you see the animal on the card, think of something you know about that animal, and share it with everyone.

Hold up each of the five *Bible Buzz Cards* one at a time and show kids the pictures. Allow children to share things they know about each animal, using questions to prompt them if needed such as:

- What is this animal called?
- Where does it live?
- What noises does it make?
- What colors does it come in?
- What does it do?
- What does it like to eat?
- What else do you know about this animal?

When children run out of things to share for a card, lead everyone in thanking God for creating that animal. Then hold up the next card.

ASK: **What do you think about God, knowing that he made such different animals?**

What do you want to say to God for making so many different animals?

SAY: God knew that monkeys, pigs, dogs, lions, and elephants would need to be different. He made them in different sizes and colors. He made some with fur and some without fur. He made them to eat different things and live in different places. Animals are a lot of fun to look at! When we see animals, let's remember that ➔ **WE THANK GOD FOR OUR WORLD.**

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Give each child a blank piece of paper, and have children share the *Color Switchers Markers*. Then have children draw an animal of their choice. As children work, invite them to tell you about the animals they're making.

ASK: Tell about the animal you drew.

SAY: Now make your animal different from the real one by adding spots, stripes, or another fun pattern. Use the white end of your marker to add your design to your animal. Be creative! Allow time.

ASK: What were some things that were different about the way we made our animals and the way God made animals?

What made your animal so creative?

What makes the animals God made so creative?

SAY: God just spoke, and all the animals were made. God's animals can eat, move, and breathe. Our pictures are creative, but our animals can't do any of those things. I'm so glad that God made animals! Remember, ➔ **WE THANK GOD FOR OUR WORLD.**

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Choose one child to be the Zookeeper. Have the Zookeeper name an animal and then make that animal sound as he or she tries to tag other children. As children get tagged, they must join the Zookeeper in making the animal sound. To avoid collisions, have children shuffle or crawl on the floor like animals as they play, even before they get tagged.

When everyone has been tagged, choose a new Zookeeper and let that person choose another animal and make that sound. Repeat the game as time allows.

ASK: Tell about a time you went to the zoo.

Tell about some other places where you've seen animals.

SAY: We can see some animals in the zoo that we wouldn't see anywhere else, such as lions, elephants, and camels. We can see some animals in people's houses, such as dogs, cats, and hamsters. And we can see some animals in our neighborhoods, such as squirrels and rabbits. It's special that God lets us see so many animals!
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SAY: God made all different kinds of animals. The Bible tells us about wild animals, tame animals, crawling animals, and flying animals. Wild animals live outside or in zoos. Tame animals live with people on farms or as pets.

ASK: What are some types of wild animals?

What are some types of tame animals?

Tame animals get along with people. Tell about an animal you get along with.

God also made crawling animals like snakes and bugs. What are some crawling bugs you know about?

Other bugs like bees and butterflies fly in the air. What else did God make that flies in the air?

SAY: Let's play a game to help us remember the different kinds of animals. I'll name an animal. If it's a wild animal, hold your fingers like claws and roar. If it's a tame animal,

make your fingers crawl on the floor. If it's a flying animal or bug, flap your arms like wings.

Read the following types of animals. Pause after you read the name of each animal to let children perform their actions. Kids may disagree on classifications, and that's okay. If kids disagree, have them explain why they chose the category they did. Use these animals, and add your own if time allows: lion, cat, cow, bat, spider, bird, butterfly, bear, dog.

SAY: ➔ **WE THANK GOD FOR OUR WORLD** and all the animals he made. We can thank him for the wild animals we see in the zoo or that live in the woods, for the tame animals our families or friends have as pets, and for the flying animals we see in our neighborhood.