



Animals, Animals Everywhere

Lesson 5: God created the animals

On the sixth day of creation God filled the earth with all kinds of living creatures. Children are often curious about animals, insects and spiders and can relate to this part of God's creation through touching soft fur and rough skin and listening to and mimicking the sounds they make.

Scripture from Genesis 1:25, NIV “God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good”

Class Schedule

(45 minutes)

Welcome Time (15 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner. Time to settle in and free play. Music or singing.

Bible Time and Lesson (20 minutes total)

At the table

- **Bible Time**
- **Lesson:** Guide children in experiencing the world of animals through sensory activities. They will play with toy animals and mimic their sounds. Feel the textures of animal furs and skins and whiskers. Sing any songs about animals.
- **Craft:** (optional) Choose any age-appropriate craft that depicts some kind of animal.
- **Snack:** Animal crackers.

Closing (10 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner. Quiet activities to settle down. Quiet music or nature sounds.

Teaching Items to Collect

(Some in the Theme Boxes):

- Animal Families:
 - Dogs
 - Horses
 - Cows
 - Pigs
- Toy Animals
 - Kitten
 - Puppy
 - Pigs
 - Monkey
 - Bears
- An optional and very effective idea is for the teacher to bring a pet to class. The pet should be extremely calm and well familiar with children. Save this excitement until the last part of class if possible.
- Note: When selecting toy animals to use in class look for realistic ones instead of cartoon versions. This better represents what God has created in our natural world.



1. Welcome Time

(15 minutes) *On the mat in the soft corner*

Time to Settle in and free play.

Today focus the conversation on anything to do with animals.

“Welcome” toy animals to class.

- Bubbles and toys
- Picture books with pictures of various animals.
- If you have an animal “See and Say” toy it would be fun to listen to animal sounds.
- Welcome each child by name
- Mirrors, Peep Tube, Vehicles

2. Bible Time

When you move to the table spend the first 5 minutes in routines that you repeat each week.

- Pat the bible
- Find Jesus picture (sticker) in bible. Take time to talk about Jesus as our friend.
- “Read”- God loves ____.
- B-I-B-L-E

Vocabulary:

- Soft
- Sharp
- Loud
- Quiet

Sensory:

- Soft fur
- Rough skin
- Prickly whiskers
- Sharp teeth
- Animal sounds

3. Bible Lesson

(15 minutes) *At the table*

- Guide the children in exploring some of the animals God has created.
 - Try to mimic the sounds they make.
 - Feel various textures of animal fur and skin.
 - “Walk” the animals across the table (for example the loud steps of elephants or quiet scampering of mice).
 - Display animal families.
 - “Feed” the toy animals appropriate foods (grass, hay, fruit...)
 - Look at pictures of animals.
 - Show movie clips of animals on a computer or tablet.
 - Sing about various animals to the tune of “Old McDonald”. “God, Our Father, made a *dog. On the 5th day. With a bow-wow here, bow-wow there...”
- Craft (optional): Any craft relating to animals
- Prayer: Fold hands and close eyes to pray.
- Snack: Animal crackers

4. Closing

(10 minutes) *On the mat in the soft corner.* Quiet activities to settle down

- As you settle down play with the toy animals quietly and place them in the soft pillows so they can “go to sleep”.
- Cuddle the baby dolls & “pray with them” as you put them to bed.



Suggested Songs for this Lesson:

Note: Infants and toddlers enjoy the rhythm and melody of song but they are not critics of the teacher's abilities! It's fine if you sing the same tune every time, make up your own tune or even just say the words in a poetic or fun way. Just have fun with it and put the children's needs above your own shyness.

Hop a Little Bunny

Hop a little bunny. Hop-hop-hop.
Hop a little bunny, don't you stop.
Hop a little bunny. One, two, three.
Hop a little bunny. Hop to me.

Action: Sign or recite as you and the children play with toy bunnies.

I'm a Little Bunny Rabbit

I'm a little bunny rabbit hop, hop, hop.
See my little ears go flop, flop, flop.
See my little nose go wiggle, wiggle, wiggle.
I'm a little bunny rabbit hop, hop, hop.

Action: Recite this poem as you perform the actions.

God Made Bunnies to Hop-Hop-Hop

God made *bunnies to hop-hop-hop.
Hop-hop-hop. Hop-hop-hop.
God made bunnies to hop-hop-hop.
Thank you, God, for bunnies.

**There is no limit to the various kinds of creatures, actions and sounds to insert here: cats to say meow, crickets to jump, horses to say neigh, lambs to say baa, pigs to say oink-oink, etc.*

Tune: Mary Had a Little Lamb

Who Can Make a Bunny?

Oh, who can make a *bunny?
I know I can't, can you?
Oh, who can make a bunny?
I know it's God, 'tis true!

Action: Sign or recite as you and the children play with toy bunnies.

**Substitute cat, horse, lamb, pig, etc.*

Sleep! Little Bunny

Down inside the hollow log.
The baby *bunny's sleeping.
The bunny likes to take a nap.
Sleep! Little bunny.

**Substitute any animal and sleeping place*

Tune: Pop! Goes the Weasel

Action: Show toy animal sleeping (or picture of one) as you sing. Each time lay your head on your hands and close your eyes to mimic sleeping.

Bunny Rabbit's Hopping By

*Bunny rabbit's hopping by.
Hopping by. Hopping by.
Bunny rabbit's hopping by.
Hop! Hop! Hop!

Tune: London Bridge

Action: Use a toy bunny rabbit and show it hopping as you sing.

**Adapt this song to any animal (fish is swimming by, puppy dog is walking by, etc)*



This is the Way We Pat the Kittens

This is the way we pat the kittens.
Pat the kittens. Pat the kittens.
This is the way we pat the kittens.
Gently with our little hands.

Tune: *This is the Way We Wash Our Clothes*

Action: *Sing as you guide children to gently pat and cuddle a toy kitten.*

The Horse Runs So Fast

The horse runs so fast.
The horse runs so fast.
He eats the hay. He eats the grass.
The horse runs so fast.

Tune: *Farmer in the Dell*

Action: *Sing as you use toy horses to perform the actions.*

God Has Made This Little Lamb

God has made this little lamb.
Little lamb. Little lamb.
God has made this little lamb.
Thank you, God, for lambs.

**Substitute any animal into this song*

Tune: *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Action: *Sing as you and the children play with toy lambs.*

Baa-Baa Little Lamb

*Baa-baa little lamb. Who made you?
Baa-baa little lamb. God made you.
God made you soft and cuddly too. God made me and God made you.
Baa-baa little lamb. God made you.

Tune: *Baa-baa Black Sheep*

Action: *Sing as you and the children play with toy lambs.*

**Insert any animal into this song (for example: oink-oink little pig-God made you big and squeal-ly too)*

Down in the Jungle

Down in the jungle, early in the morning.
See the mother elephant walking by.
See the baby elephant following behind her.
Boom-boom, boom-boom, there they go.

Action: *Sing or recite as you are "walking" a mother and baby elephant across the table. Gently hit hand on table to make "boom-boom" noises.*

God Made Elephants Oh So Big

God made elephants, oh, so, big.
Oh so big. Oh so big.
God made elephants oh so big.
Thank you, God for elephants.

Tune: *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Action: *Sing as you and the children play with toy elephants.*

The Elephant Has a Long-Long Trunk

The elephant has a long-long trunk.
He has two floppy ears.
He has four legs and loves to sway.
God made him just this way.

Action: *Sing or recite this poem as you point to the parts and mimic swaying with toy elephants.*



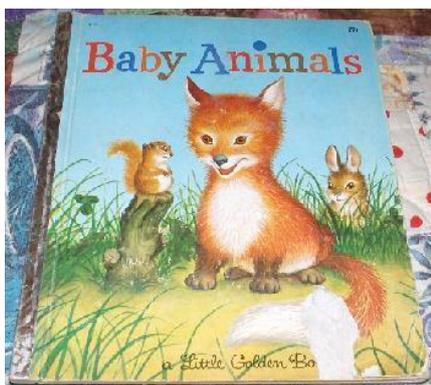
Items for Teaching this Lesson



Animal families. Show pictures of animal families. Collect toy animals in sets of 3-4 so you can show parents and babies.



God made animals on the 6th day.



Books about animals. Attention spans might be short so picture books are best.



Animal sounds are fun to listen to.



Toy stuffed animals that look and feel natural instead of cartoon-like.



Gentle and well behaved pets might be fun.