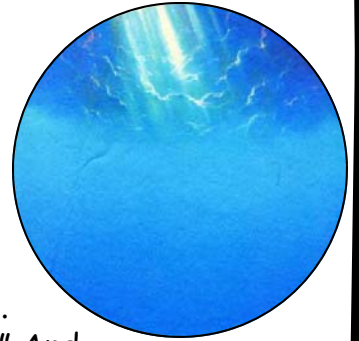


January Creation

Learn what God made on days 1 & 2.

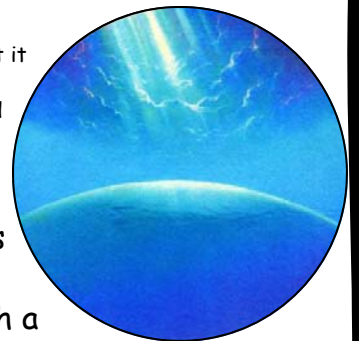
Day 1-Then God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. *Genesis 1:3-5*

Have you ever wondered how everything in the world began? There is only one place where you will find the true story, and it is in the Bible. Close your eyes tightly and pretend we can go back to the beginning of the world. Oh, dear, how dark it is! But shh! I can hear something. It is the soft, splashing of water. Suddenly we hear a wonderful voice! It says "Let there be light." And suddenly the darkness vanishes. There is no sunshine, clouds, or blue sky, only a bright sort of fog, and water, water everywhere. (Point to the creation circle for Day 1.) There is no land, and not even any fish in the sea. Only light in the mist and on the water. That was the first day!



Day 2- Then God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. *Genesis 1:6-8*

Now, the first day has ended, and it is dawning on the second day. We hear that wonderful voice again, and this time it says, "Let there be a firmament." Now the heavy fog begins to lift. It goes up higher and higher, and God fills up the space with a great big layer of air between the ocean and the water up above the clouds. Are you wondering why God took a whole day to make something invisible like air? Air is important for all the living creatures He was getting ready to make. He mixed it up just right, so we would have enough oxygen to breathe, but not too much to set the world on fire. It also makes a cushion, so things can't fall too quickly and destroy everything. It is a very important step, to get the world ready for the other things He was going to make, and we will talk about them the next time. Now let's learn about one of the animals God made.



Teaching Aids Needed:

Creation Circles 1-2

January Animal

Learn About the Raccoon

Do you know very much about raccoons? I found some very interesting facts about them. The raccoon's mischievous black mask is what people remember most about the furry scavenger. In addition to the band running from one side of its face to the other, the raccoon has a big, bushy tail with an average of 5 to 10 alternating black and brown rings. Its body is normally grey in color. The raccoon also has an annual molt beginning in the spring. It sheds its fur for about three months. The raccoon can live in a wide range of habitats, needing only water, food, and a protected place for a den. The raccoon is thought to have the habit of washing food with its front paws. The raccoon is also a strong swimmer, sometimes staying in the water for several hours. But raccoons are known more for their climbing abilities. They are capable of making a variety of sounds, including whistling, shrieking, chattering, clicking their teeth, snarling and growling.



Raccoons are nocturnal, but can also be active in daylight to take advantage of available food sources. Sheltered tree hollows of old oaks are their favorite sleeping places, especially in bad weather. If threatened, raccoons will quickly climb up the next available tree. Raccoons eat both plants and animals. They often travel along lakes or rivers to catch fish, amphibians and other animals at the shore.

Mothers usually have a litter of up to five babies, called kits. The kits are blind and deaf at birth, but their mask already stands out on their light fur. They weigh only about 2 ounces and are about 3 inches long. They open their eyes for the first time after 3 weeks. The kits leave the den and consume solid food for the first time after 6 to 9 weeks.

Teaching Aids Needed:

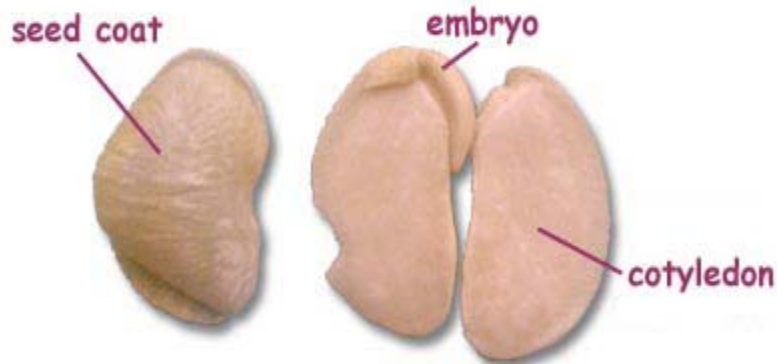
Felt raccoons from "Little Folks Felt" Wild Animal series

January Award Time

Seeds #1, 5,

1. What is a seed?*

A seed is a packaged little plant with food around it (endosperm) and a covering protecting it (seed coat).



5. Sprout a seed and watch it grow.

Supplies: Styrofoam cups, seeds, potting soil.

The children can decorate their cups, or at the least put their names on them. Have children put some soil in the cup and then a few seeds. Cover with a little more soil and add a small amount of water. Children will take them home to watch them grow.

Teaching Aids Needed:

Styrofoam cups, potting soil, seeds, markers

January

Neighbor Friends

Neighbor Friends - Crossing Guard

Today we are going to learn about a crossing guard. (Put crossing guard felt on board)

A Crossing Guard's our neighbor friend,
A helper on whom we depend.
She helps the children cross the streets,
And smiles at every one she meets.



A Day in the Life of a Crossing Guard

Mrs. Franklin is going to have a busy day. It is the first day of school and she is a Crossing Guard. She arrives early at the street corner near the school where she works. She wears a yellow and orange vest and holds a big stop sign. Mrs. Jones, the teacher, and her daughter Jennifer are the first to arrive. Mrs. Jones parks her car, and she and Jennifer greet Mrs. Franklin. Jennifer is excited that school is starting again. Mrs. Franklin watches the traffic, and when it is clear she walks out to the center of the street and holds up the big stop sign. Mrs. Jones and Jennifer cross to the school. Ryan and his little sister Fran arrive next. Fran is just starting school for the first time. Fran is so excited, she starts to run across the street toward the school. It is a good thing Mrs. Franklin is there to stop her, because just then a car comes around the corner too fast. When it is safe, she holds up her sign again, and Ryan and Fran cross the street to the school. Jason and Justin arrive on their bicycles. Mrs. Franklin tells them they must walk their bicycles across the street. Again she holds up her sign as the children cross. Now a lot of children are coming! Each time the traffic clears Mrs. Franklin helps the group of children across the street. All the children like Mrs. Franklin because she is so friendly. Johnny and Sam come running up, because they are almost late. She stops the traffic to let the boys pass. It has been a busy morning. As Mrs. Franklin heads back home, she is looking forward to seeing all the children again that afternoon when school is out. She smiles. She has the best job in the world.

Teaching Aids Needed:

Community Helper Felts

Crossing Guard-Ethnicity of your choice

Outfit /w whistle and stop sign, matching red hat

January Memory Verse

Exodus 20:8

"Remember the Sabbath day."

The parent should have taught this verse at home.

Your job is just to test the verse.

Award

Bible Friends # 1, 4

1. Practice treating the Bible Properly.*

Show the children how to hold a Bible carefully and turn the pages without damaging them. Teach them that a Bible should always be placed on the top of other books and not left on the floor.

4. How did Naaman's servant girl share her faith?

Prophets & Kings 244-245

Since that time the Syrians had maintained against Israel a constant border warfare, and in one of their raids they had carried away a little maid who, in the land of her captivity, "waited on Naaman's wife." A slave, far from her home, this little maid was nevertheless one of God's witnesses, unconsciously fulfilling the purpose for which God had chosen Israel as His people. As she ministered in that heathen home, her sympathies were aroused in behalf of her master; and, remembering the wonderful miracles of healing wrought through Elisha, she said to her mistress, "Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria!, for he would recover him of his leprosy." She knew that the power of Heaven was with Elisha, and she believed that by this power Naaman could be healed. The conduct of the captive maid, the way that she bore herself in that heathen home, is a strong witness to the power of early home training. There is no higher trust than that committed to fathers and mothers in the care and training of their children. Parents have to do with the very foundations of habit and character. By their example and teaching the future of their children is largely decided. The parents of that Hebrew maid, as they taught her of God, did not know the destiny that would be hers. But they were faithful to their trust; and in the home of the captain of the Syrian host, their child bore witness to the God whom she had learned to honor.

Read the above material and then tell the story in your own words.

Teaching Aids Needed:

Bible