

CREATION

“God Provides for Growth”

Series Objective:

- God created the world and everything in it
- God provides for growth
- God wants people to enjoy and take care of the world
- God made us special

Series Theme Verse: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

Lesson Objective: Students will discover and understand:

- God has planned for things to change and to grow
- We can depend on God because God has planned for creation in a beautiful way.

Lesson Passage: Genesis 1-2

Materials Needed: ivory soap, microwave, copy of The Very Hungry Caterpillar, marshmallows, gummy worms, tootsie rolls, “Sociables Crackers”, Life Cycle page

Lesson Plan: Seasons of growing and seasons of harvesting come and go. Night and day come and go. Life is always changing, yet in the midst of those changes, God remains the same. It is always necessary to remember that children have had little experience with the regularity of the earth and the sense of passing seasons and times of change beyond their immediate knowledge. As we work with them to understand that God has placed an order for all of creation, it will be necessary for us to talk with them about change in the midst of constancy.

Talking Points:

- Paraphrase Genesis 1:11-25 with students

The Story Retold:

- Explain that God made the plants and trees on day 3
- Briefly discuss life cycle of plants

- Talk about how God provided for plant growth by creating the sun and how he always provides for his creation because of His love for us and the earth He created.
- The same plants that God created will eventually provide for the growth of the rest of God's creatures.
- Next, read The Very Hungry Caterpillar and discuss how God provides for the caterpillar's growth but also uses that growth to turn the caterpillar into something beautiful.
- Review the life cycle of the caterpillar by having students go to the table and begin the "Edible Butterfly" activity.
- Provide students with marshmallows(eggs), gummy worms(caterpillar), tootsie rolls(chrysalis), and "Sociables Crackers" and "Life Cycle" page. Talk about the life cycle as you place the different items in their appropriate place in the cycle.
- Allow students to enjoy eating after you are finished.
- If time allows, go the Fellowship Hall for the Ivory Soap Microwave experiment.
- Place unwrapped bar of Ivory Soap on a plate and cook in the microwave for 2 minutes on high. It should start changing after about 20 seconds and continue for the full 2 minutes. When the soap cloud is finished, let it cool before letting the kids touch it.
- Wrap up the lesson by continuing the discussion that just as plant and animals change, so do many other things around us.

The Story and Me:

- Review the theme verse "In the beginning..."
- Have children sit in a circle on the rug and play "Hot Potato"
- As they say each word in succession, have the students pass the object from person to person.