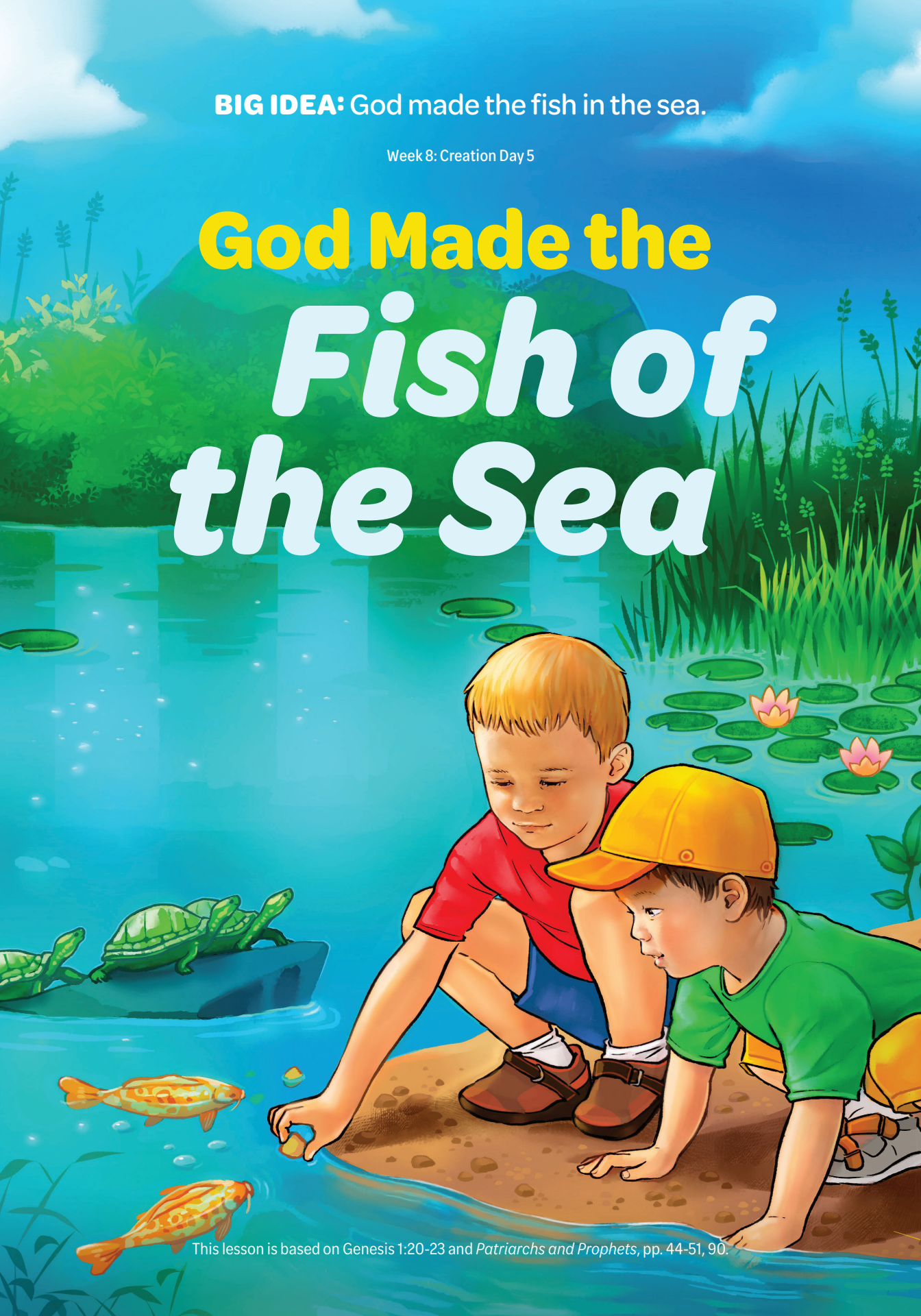
BIG IDEA: God made the fish in the sea.

Week 8: Creation Day 5

God Made the Fish of the Sea



This lesson is based on Genesis 1:20-23 and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44-51, 90.



In the beginning, before there were lions in a pride or glowing fireflies, there was God. It was Day 5 *(five fingers),* and God was ready to make the earth come alive. In just four days much had been done. There were coconut trees and a great big sea. God had made the sun to shine bright and the moon for the night. The earth was beautiful and green; but still, no life was to be seen.



The stars went out one by one *(flicking motion with hands)*, **as the sun came up. Dew sparkled on the grass as the palm trees waved in the breeze. The air smelled sweet of jasmine and strawberries. The waves of the sea rolled onto the sand. The earth was ready for what God had planned. Life was about to arrive on Day 5** *(five fingers)*.



God's strong, kind voice echoed across the hills. As He spoke, the sea came alive with creatures of every color and size. Bright blue and yellow fish began swimming to and fro *(hand swim like a fish)*, and an octopus crawled along deep below. A starfish found its place on the rocks while manatees munched on leafy stalks. The water was alive with the creatures of the sea God made on Day 5.



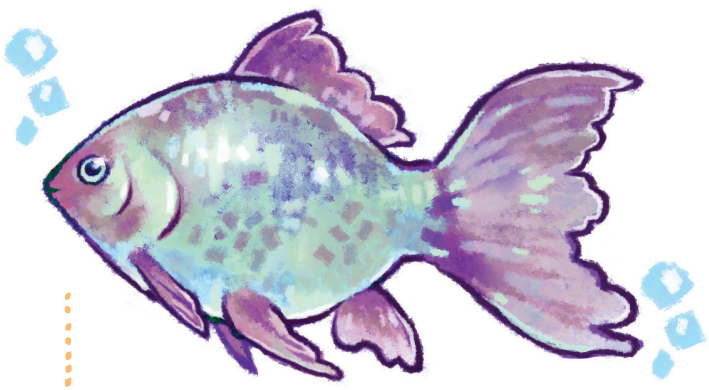
As the sun warmed the day, a dolphin leaped in the bay. A school of silver fish shimmered in the light. Graceful manta rays skimmed along the reef, and a gray whale spouted *(clap hands together, then up),* **then dove deep. Sea turtles rode the currents while jellyfish floated on the tide. There was still more God would do on Day 5. God saw** *(hand above eyes; look about)* **all He had made, and it was good.**

God made all this for you and me! Have you ever been to the sea? There are shells to gather and pretty rocks of many colors. When you walk on the sand, do you like the feel on your toes? Can you find the crabs that walk sideways or the anemones waiting for the tide? Watch closely to see a whale spout or dolphin leap. God made all this wonder of the sea for you and me. He had more to bring to life on Day 5. What do you think is next to arrive?

(Say together) **Thank You, God, for making all the fish!**



play
throughout the day



Create
Help your child start Day 5 of their Creation Book. Paint the lower half of the paper blue for the ocean. Put glue at the very bottom of the page and sprinkle sand on top to create the ocean floor. Use adhesive foam fish to create a school of fish and other sea creatures. Keep the top of the page blank for the birds next week.

Explore
Make an ocean sensory bin. Use plastic fish and ocean animals, shells, small cups and scoops, and sand. Cover with water and add two drops of blue food coloring. Let your child explore scooping and pouring water, catching the ocean items and naming them.

Learn
Research different types of sea life together. Visit a local aquarium or find an online tour. Search your local library for books about different animals that live in the ocean. Cut out some pictures of amazing sea creatures and write some cool facts next to them (e.g., There are 40 different types of seahorses, dolphins have two stomachs, turtles don't have teeth, etc.).

Create
Create an "I spy in the Ocean" bottle. Fill an empty plastic bottle with blue fish tank pebbles, small shells, and plastic ocean animals. Name the ocean animals as you put them in. Fill with water and blue food coloring and seal the lid. Gently shake to hide the items in the pebbles. Name an animal for your child to find.

Pray
Go to the sea, river, or lake. Look for pretty rocks or shells. Share with your child how the rocks and shells help make homes for many animals that live in the water. God cares for all His animals. God cares for you, too! Pray together and thank God for making the animals of the sea and for caring for them. Bring a shell or rock home to remind them of God's care for all His creation.

Extension weekly memory verse: "So God created great sea creatures" (Genesis 1:21).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

Winged animals and creatures of the sea were the first of the animals God would make. He blessed them to go forth and multiply. Everything was good, and nothing was destructive. How amazing it is to witness the goodness and creativity of God! But after Adam and Eve sinned, each species developed a unique ability for their survival. The lanternfish uses a light to lure its breakfast, while the ostrich can run up to 43 mph using its wings as rudders to turn quickly and avoid predators. In heaven and the earth made new, though, there will be no pain, suffering, or death, just as God had made it in the beginning.

Mimicry is one method of survival used by many birds and fish. For some species mimicry occurs to protect themselves from predators, either to hide or to fit in with a group. The parrot uses vocal mimicry to fit in to a flock for protection.

Some species use mimicry to help them catch a meal by using camouflage to hide and wait for prey. The saber-toothed blenny fish will mimic the coloring and behavior of the wrasse, a cleaning fish. Fish will come to be cleaned by the wrasse only to find they have been tricked and bit by a blenny. It is only through careful attention for telltale signs and familiarity with both the original and the mimic that deception can be avoided. The young are particularly vulnerable to being fooled by the coloring and behavior of a blenny, as they have not yet learned how to discern the cunning trickery of the mimic.

Just like the saber-toothed blenny, Satan will use any method at his disposal to lure and trick victims to his snare. Learning to be on guard for the methods of the master mimic, Satan, requires knowing the one and only God. It is through a personal relationship with God that we can discern the great deceiver's methods.

Time alone with God spent in His Word and in prayer will draw you closer to the knowledge of the ways of the Deliverer and will unveil the trickery of the deceiver. The more we know God, the less susceptible we are to being fooled by Satan's mimicry. "Jesus lived in dependence upon God and communion with Him. . . . The life of Jesus was a life of constant trust, sustained by continual communion" (Ellen G. White, *Education,* p. 80).

In knowing the truth that God is both loving and merciful, we are protected from the snare of Satan. There are many lessons to be gained by observing God's creation; the greatest of these is His love and care. Just as a mother bird shields her babies under her wings, God will cover you with His loving protection.

"Surely, He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
And from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with
His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge;
His truth shall be your shield and buckler"
(Psalm 91:3, 4).