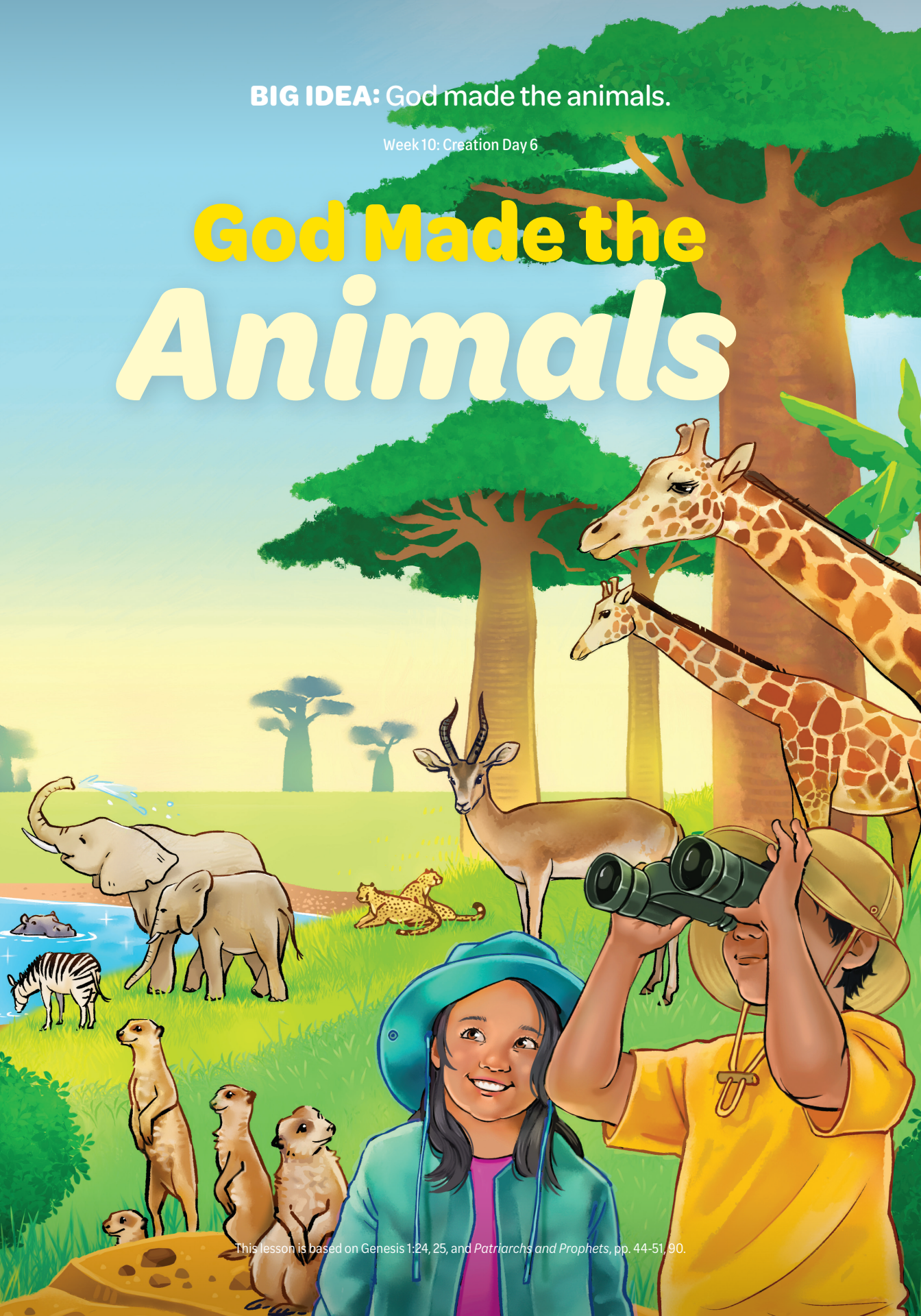
BIG IDEA: God made the animals.

Week 10: Creation Day 6

God Made the Animals



This lesson is based on Genesis 1:24, 25, and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44-51, 90.



In the beginning, before there were baby chicks or noisy crickets, there was God. It was Day 6 *(six fingers)*, and God was about to do something big! On Day 5 the earth had come alive. God had made birds that flew through the sky *(lift hand up)*, and fish that swam and dove *(push hands low)*. The sun shone bright, and the stars twinkled at night, but not a lion or lamb was in sight.



As the sun rose, birds sang as they awoke. A gentle breeze blew across the tall reeds and scattered seeds. The fresh smell of mango and pear drifted through the air. The river tumbled into a pool where goldfish swam *(swim hand)* **about in a school. God had a plan much bigger than all this. He was ready to begin Day 6** *(six fingers).*

God's strong, kind voice echoed across the hills, "Let the earth be filled with animals" (Genesis 1:24, ICB). **As He spoke, a herd of elephants appeared, and from under a rock scurried** *(scurry fingers)* **a spotted lizard. A bunny rabbit wiggled its nose while prairie dogs popped up from their holes. A black bear lumbered down the hill, eating berries. God made so many animals, big and small. All this God made on Day 6.**

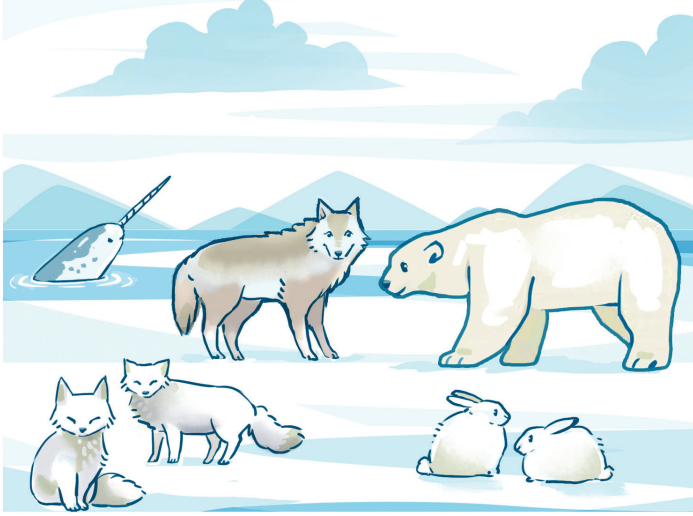




As the sun climbed high in the sky, a hedgehog watched a cheetah race by. A cow mooed happily, chewing on grass, while a playful goat scampered past. Monkeys swung in the branches above, while a tall giraffe chewed on a leaf. A lion roared in delight at the view. There was still more to be done on Day 6. God saw *(hand above eyes; look about)* **all He had made, and it was good.**

God made all the animals big *(hands wide)* **and small!** *(Hands closed.)* **Do you know an animal that lives on the farm? In the jungle . . . the pond . . . the bush . . . the snow? There are animals that roar, and ones that bark, some that trumpet or wiggle their nose, ones that creep, and some that jump** *(do each as you read)***. So many animals, tiny and tall; God made them all. He was not done yet; the best was still to come before the sun set.**

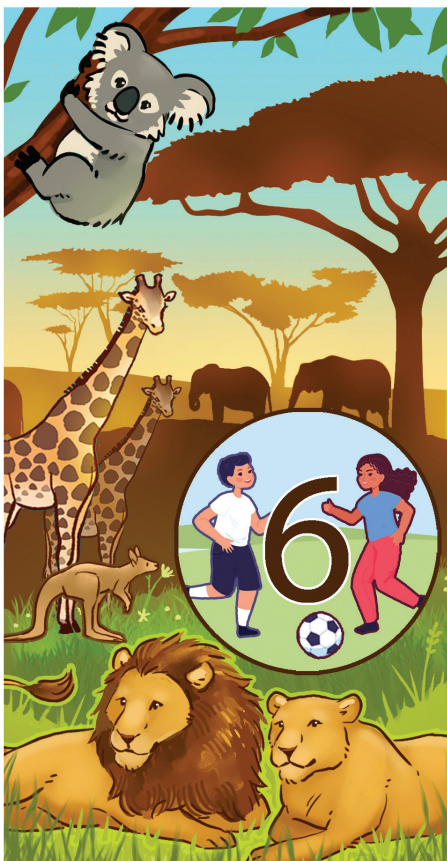
(Say together) **Thank You, God, for making the animals!**











play throughout the day

Create

Help your child make the Day 6 page of their Creation Book. Use blue cardstock for the sky, artificial grass turf or green paper with lots of cuts for the grass, cotton balls for clouds, and colored paper for flowers. Use foam or felt stickers for animals or cut out some pictures of animals to use to create the scene. Leave space to add Adam and Eve next week.

Care

Have your child help care for pets. Teach them to use soft, gentle hands when playing with or petting them. When approaching others' pets, demonstrate calm and respect and always ask before approaching or petting. If you don't have pets at home, pretend to care for some stuffed animals. Talk about the things animals need to have a happy, healthy life.

Explore

Use play dough and plastic animals to create different footprint tracks in the play dough. Have your child guess the animal that left the tracks. Let them create tracks with their favorite animal. Thank God for all the unique animals He made for us to enjoy.

Learn

Play an animal sorting game. Make two groups using a circle of string or two sheets of paper. Gather plastic animals or plush animals. Sing "Animals, Animals," and choose one. Put the animal in the correct circle. Sorting could include big/small animals, animals with two legs and four legs, etc.

Animals, Animals

Animals, animals, Jesus made
the animals!
Great big animals, little tiny animals
(stand up tall, crouch down small)
Animals, animals, Jesus made
the animals!
Here is an animal that I know . . .
a (great big or little tiny) _____.

Pray

Play "Who am I?" Give your child clues to guess what animal you are thinking about. Ask your child to think of their favorite animals that they can thank Jesus for, then pray together.



Extension weekly memory verse: "God said, 'Let the earth bring forth the living creatures . . . '" (Genesis 1:24).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

What an exciting day the sixth day of Creation must have been! God created animals of every shape, size, and color imaginable. When spending time in nature, pause for a moment and ponder the amazing creativity of God. It is in the animals' incredible design that we can see the divine nature of God.

God did not design a monochromatic world, but rather one of rich beauty and variety. Each animal species has their own unique characteristics. The beautiful spots on the snow leopard or the remarkable coloring of the emerald swallowtail butterfly demonstrate God's desire not only to create for function but also to create a world of wonder and beauty.

God created the animals as a gift for us to enjoy and to care for. They were originally designed as helpers and companions. While much has changed since sin entered the world, we can still glimpse God's original design. When we take the time to notice the many incredible things in nature, we learn more about God and His love and care for us.

Animals provide an appreciation for all God's creatures and a wonderful opportunity to teach your child about kindness and caring for others. Children can learn much about compassion and being gentle and respectful to animals, whether in the wild or a pet at home. When on a walk, be observant for God's creatures. Teach your child to watch in wonder and enjoy without disturbing their natural patterns. Take the time to watch a caterpillar cross a path and marvel at the funny way it moves, or to observe a trail of ants busy about their work. God's love and care for even the tiniest of His creatures is great, but is merely a pale reflection of the greater love He has for each of us.

"Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the Lord has done this,
In whose hand is the life of every living thing,
And the breath of all mankind?"
(Job 12:9, 10).

"Upon all created things is seen the impress of the Deity.
Nature testifies of God. . . . The unity of man with
nature and with God, the universal dominion of law,
the results of transgression, cannot fail of
impressing the mind and molding the character"
(Ellen G. White, *Education*, pp. 99, 100).