BIG IDEA: God made the birds of the sky.

Week 9: Creation Day 5

God Made the Birds of the Sky



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



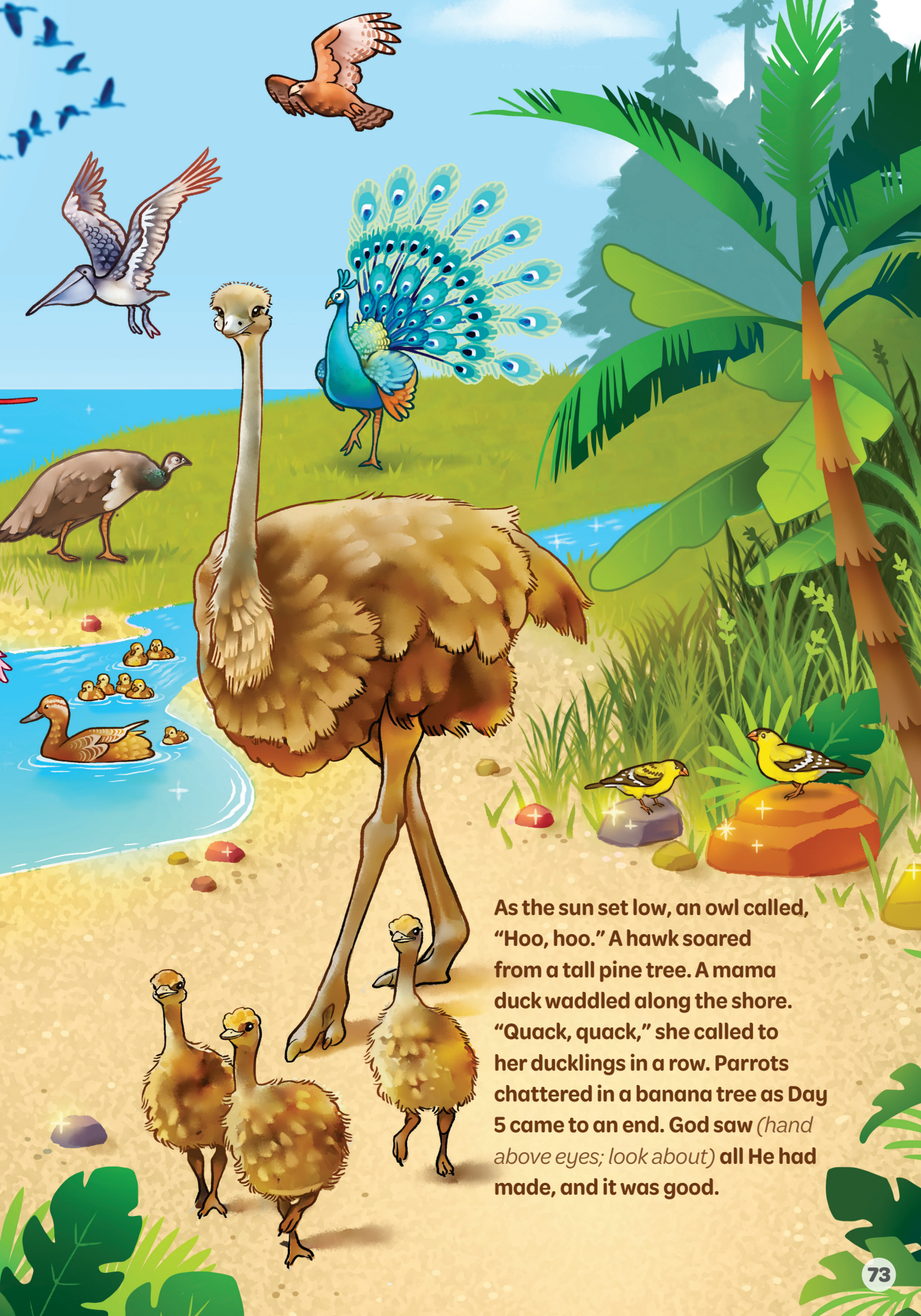
In the beginning, before there were seals that play and slide or pretty butterflies, there was God. Day 5 *(five fingers)* had begun, and the earth was coming alive. God had filled the sea with creatures big and small. There were fish to swim in the rivers and dolphins to jump in the sea. There were starfish on the rocks and octopuses in the deep. God had filled the water with life, but there was still more to arrive on Day 5.



As the sun rose high above, God's new creation explored their home in the sea below. A playful dolphin leaped and dove. A gray whale blew from its spout *(clap hands together and up)***, and a crab scurried about. A clown fish swam among brightly colored coral. Light sparkled across the sea, bursting with life. God had just begun to bring the earth alive on Day 5** *(five fingers)***. What would be next for us to see?**

God's strong, kind voice echoed across the hills. As He spoke, the air came alive with birds of every color and size, tiny hummingbirds and giant ostriches *(show size with hands)*, pink flamingos and purple finches. Birds tweeted and chattered in the trees, and pelicans soared above the sea. A pair of yellow meadowlarks had a lovely song to sing, and geese flew high above in a V. The earth and sky were alive with the birds God made on Day 5.





As the sun set low, an owl called, "Hoo, hoo." A hawk soared from a tall pine tree. A mama duck waddled along the shore. "Quack, quack," she called to her ducklings in a row. Parrots chattered in a banana tree as Day 5 came to an end. God saw *(hand above eyes; look about)* all He had made, and it was good.



Listen *(hand to ear);* **do you hear the singing birds? They are happy as they sing of God's love. There are red ones, and blue ones, and yellow ones, too. God made each with a special song for you. Some birds fly way up high, like an eagle, and others run on the ground, like an emu. God cares for each one He made, and even more, He cares for you. God was excited for what would be next. What do you think is ahead on Day 6** *(six fingers)?*

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

play throughout the day

Create

Help your child finish the Day 5 page in their Creation Book. Cut out small circles of different colored paper and small yellow triangle beaks. Have your child glue the circles down. Stick on googly eyes and beaks. Glue on craft feathers for the wings. Write at the bottom of the page, *"On Day 5 God created the fish in the sea and the birds of the air."*

Explore

Share how birds build nests to keep their babies safe. Go outside and use sticks, leaves, and bark to build a nest. Pretend to be birds and fly around looking for a safe place for your babies. "Land" in your "nest" and pretend to look after your babies.

Learn

Show your child pictures of birds with large colorful tail feathers, such as peacocks and turkeys. Develop coordination and hand skills by making a tail plumage by pushing craft feathers into the holes of a colander placed upside down.

Care

Make a birdseed feeder. Mix two spoonfuls of coconut oil with birdseed. Add peanut butter or sunflower butter. Firm up in the fridge for 30 minutes, then form into a cookie cutter or muffin pan. Poke a hole in the top for a loop of string. Place in the freezer for two hours to harden. Remove, and hang outside. Share how God loves and cares for your child, just as He cares for the birds.

Prayer and Praise

Sit quietly with your child outside and listen for birds singing. Search for the birds whose songs you hear and talk about their different colors. Share the Bible verse Matthew 6:26 about God caring for the birds of the air, and how much He cares for you. Make up a song together to thank God for the birds and for watching over us, too.



Extension weekly memory verse: "So God created . . . every winged bird" (Genesis 1:21).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

Have you ever stopped and watched a large bird soar, getting higher and higher with seemingly no effort at all? The Andean condor, one of the world's heaviest flying birds, can fly up to 21,325 feet (6,500 meters). That is higher than Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa, or Mount Denali, the highest peak in North America.

How do such large birds fly so high? It is called thermal soaring—pockets of hot rising air that birds will ride to go higher and higher. This is the same rising hot air that can cause turbulence when flying in an airplane. Watching a large bird soar so peacefully on this turbulent air is a wonder. Scientists study this phenomenon to learn more about improving human-made flight. It seems that birds use a "go with the flow" method. This means that they do not worry whether the air is taking them in the direction they want to go, but rather allow the air to take them in circles to reach higher altitudes, where the wind is smoother and faster. They then glide as they search for food, losing altitude until catching another thermal upward.

When finding yourself amid bumpy times, is your tendency to try to control your situation? It can be difficult to stop worrying and settle in for the ride, trusting that God cares about your every need and has a plan for good in your life. These massive birds trust the air flow to carry them even when it seems they are going in circles without direction. Just as the eagle that soars on the air, you too can trust that God will carry you through (see Isaiah 40:31). "Spread out your case before the Lord, and whatever your anxieties and trials, your spirit will be braced for endurance. . . . Trust in God as your present Helper, who will overrule all things as One who knows best" (Ellen G. White, *This Day With God*, p. 82).

God's creation is a beautiful demonstration of His love and a reminder of His faithfulness. When storms approach, birds find shelter from the wind and rain in dense bushes or close to tree trunks. As the storm passes, listen for the song of the birds. Even while it is still raining, they will sing.

God has promised to be our shelter in the storm. As you trust in Him you too will find that you can sing even in the turbulent and stormy times. When you do not know which direction to turn or where to wait out the rain, focus on the promises of God. Watch for His provisions to help you soar.