



1 Appreciate God's Creation

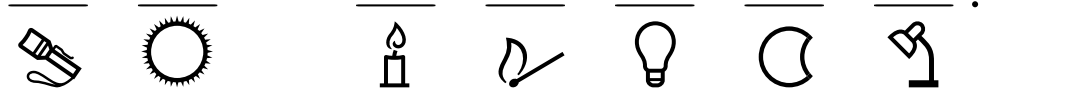
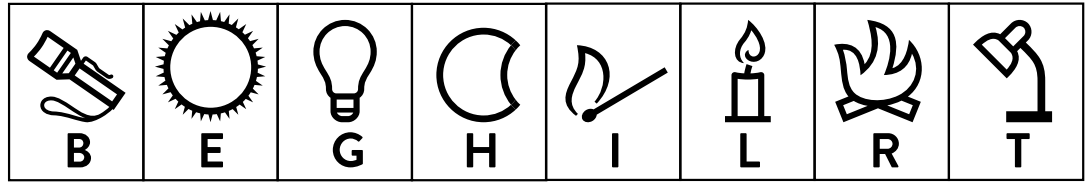
WAYS TO PRACTICE AT HOME

Care for creation starts at the beginning with the first verses of Genesis 1: the creation story and our place in God's creation as both the created and stewards of God's good gifts to us. Before we can take on that role of stewards of creation, we can pause to appreciate all that God has created.

- As a family, make an alphabet poster of items in creation that you are thankful for. You could use old magazines and cut out pictures or draw your own.
- Each day of the week, invite family members to notice the elements of creation you encounter. Then when you are together, take turns sharing your creation inventory for the day. Wonder what your life might be like without one or more. Give thanks for God's creation!
 - Monday: light, dark, time
 - Tuesday: sky and waters above and below
 - Wednesday: land and vegetation (*plants, trees, flowers, fruits, vegetables, seeds, and such*)
 - Thursday: sun, moon, stars, and seasons
 - Friday: creatures in the skies (*birds and such*) and creatures in the waters (*fish and such*)
 - Saturday: creatures on the land (*animals and such*) and humans
 - Sunday: rest

Dear God, everywhere we look are elements of your creation, from the stars in the sky to the bugs that creep and crawl. Thank you for creating me so I can appreciate them all! Amen.

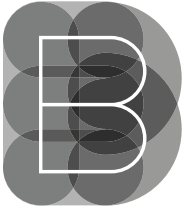
Use the key to find what God said when there was nothing but darkness.



Write or draw five dark things and five light things.



Let there be light.



BIBLE STORY

Based on Genesis 1:1-5; 14-19; Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

How did the world start?

That is a big question!

The Bible has a story that imagines how it might have happened.

In the beginning, the world did not have a shape. The world did not have a color. There was nothing at all, so God created.

God spoke and said, “Let there be light.” And there was light!

God spoke and created earth and sky, wind and water, light and darkness.

“What good things!” God said.

The time of light, God called Day; and the time of dark, God called Night. The sun brought the day, and the moon watched over the night, sharing the job of waking the world and putting it to sleep. The days and nights moved through seasons giving all creation times to work and rest and times to plant and grow.

By creating the sun and the moon, times of light and darkness, warmth and coolness, God also created seasons and time. The hours and seasons gave purpose to everything in God’s world that we could imagine: time to plant and pick, time to be sad and to be happy, time to listen and to talk.

God did so much creating, but God was not done yet. There would be another day coming for more of God’s good creation!

