

KINDERGARTEN

God Loves Us



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God's World Is Good

Blue skies
Spotted giraffes
Hoppity rabbits
Puddles to splash.

Red-ripe apples
Trees to climb
Sandy beaches
Shells to find.

Green grass
Tickling my toes
People with hugs
A baby that grows.

**God made this
wonderful
world!**



God gave the world to us.
God wants us to care for it.
... The Bible tells us so.



All the good things
in the world tell us
about God.

They tell us that
God loves us.



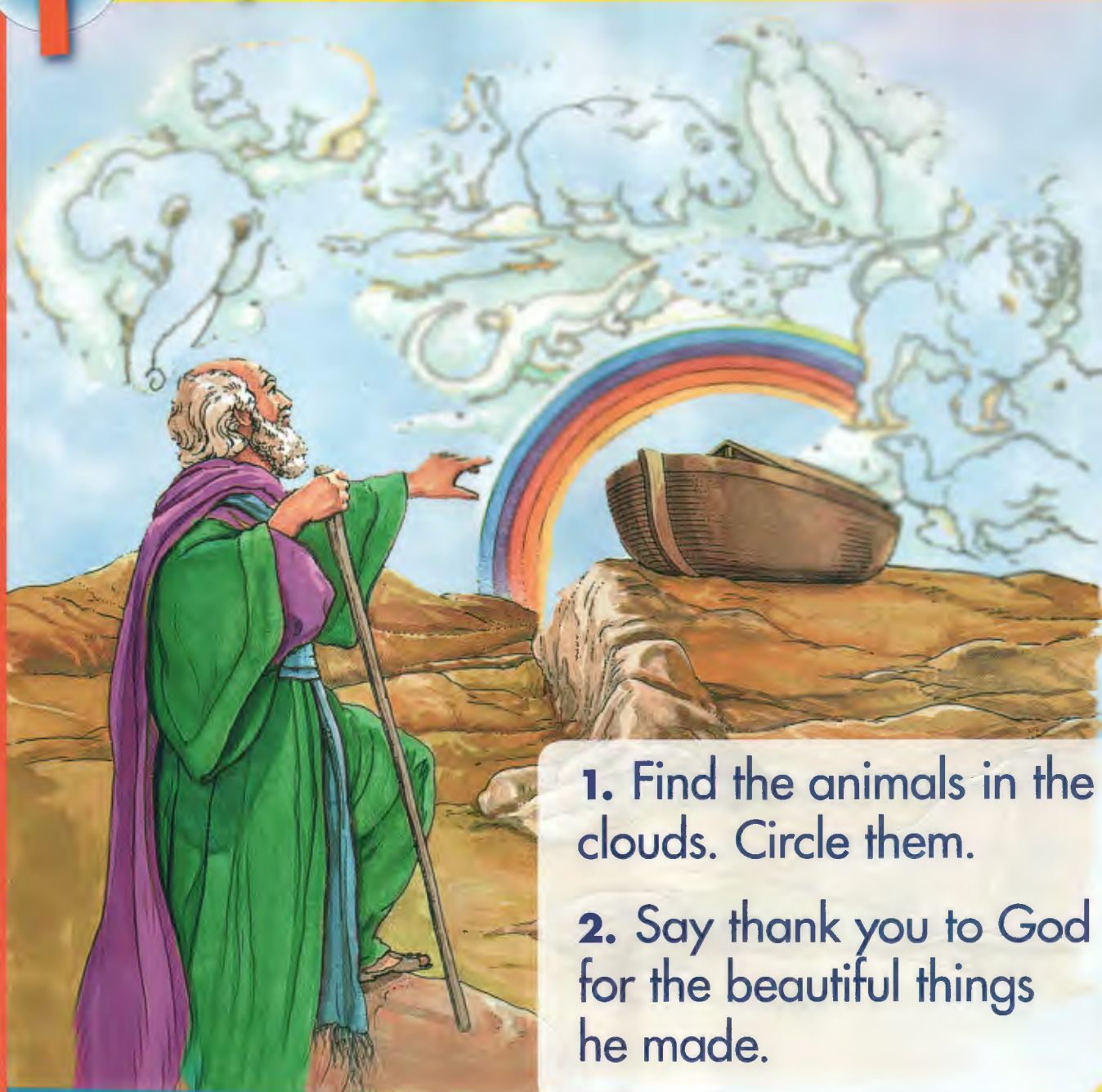
Scripture

The earth is full of the goodness
of the Lord. Based on Psalm 33:5



In the Bible God made a promise to Noah. God promised to always love everything on earth. The rainbow is a sign of God's love.

Try This

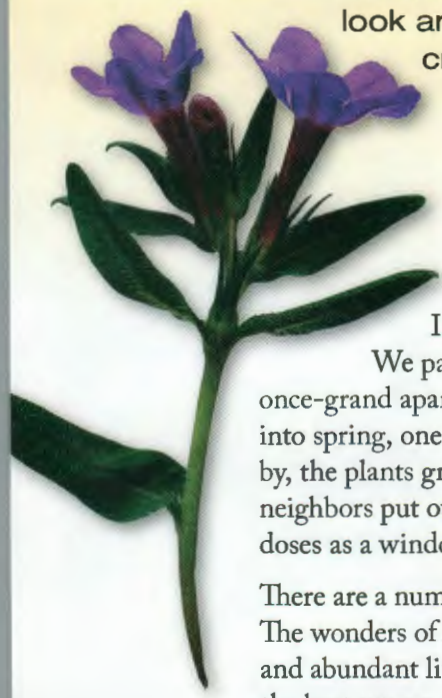


1. Find the animals in the clouds. Circle them.
2. Say thank you to God for the beautiful things he made.

Creation in Families

The Lesson Your Child Learned

All creation speaks of God's glory and love for us. When we look around, we can see God's handiwork. Everything that God created is good, and through the works of creation, we know God better. In this chapter the children were led to see how the wonderful works of creation show us God's goodness and love. They were encouraged to respond to God's love by caring for the world God made.



Living the Lesson

I used to ride the "El," Chicago's elevated train, on my way to college classes.

We passed through some neighborhoods that were on the decline, traveling alongside once-grand apartment buildings that had seen better days. One year as winter moved tentatively into spring, one of the apartment dwellers planted a window box with flowers. As the days went by, the plants grew and the flowers blossomed, offering a sign of hope to passersby. Soon other neighbors put out their own window boxes, proving that a touch of nature—even in such small doses as a window box full of flowers—can be healing and transforming.

There are a number of spiritual lessons to be learned from time spent appreciating God's creation. The wonders of nature can teach us that all creation is connected, that dying often leads to new and abundant life, and that having "enough" is better than constantly craving more. But perhaps the best reason to spend time cultivating an appreciation of nature is that doing so helps us develop our capacity to notice the subtle signs of God's action in our own lives. Nature helps us become attuned to mystery and thus to the reality that there is more going on in the world than first meets the eye. There are wonders all around us if only we will awaken to them.

—Tom McGrath, author of *Raising Faith-Filled Kids* (Loyola Press)

Bringing the Lesson Home

- Encourage your child to tell you about what he or she has learned this week. Read with your child the pages that were sent home.
- To help your family stay more attuned to your surroundings, create your own litany. Have each of your family members pick out something they observe and say, for example, "For that tall tree," to which everyone else responds, "Praise the Lord."
- Let your child participate in a recycling program in your area or work in your garden. Your child will learn responsibility and various ways to respond to God's call to care for the earth.
- Pray Psalm 33:5 as part of your family prayers this week. Invite your child to lead your family as you pray this together.
- Read aloud Genesis 1:31 and appropriate sections from Psalms 65, 66, and 104.

