

Grade 1 - Chapter 2

Invite

- Catechist Tips: Reaching All Learners—Icky Things

Discover

- Catechist Tips: Looking after God’s Beautiful World
- Catechist Tips: Wonderful Gifts
- Glossary Activity: Praise
- Additional Activity: Caring for Creation
- Additional Activity: Make Pizzas
- Additional Activity: Food Pyramid
- Additional Activity: Our Families—God’s Gift

Invite

Catechist Tips: Reaching All Learners—Icky Things

Some children don’t like worms. Point out that without worms, farmers couldn’t grow the grain that they eat.

- Tell them that even scary things serve useful purposes in God’s creation. For example, bats may be scary, but they make people’s lives easier by eating mosquitoes and other insects.

Discover

Catechist Tips: Looking after God’s Beautiful World

God put humans in charge of taking care of the Earth. But at times humans do things that damage the land, water, and air.

- Have the children think of ways they could take better care of the Earth. For example, ask them how they could reduce the amount of water they use each day.

Catechist Tips: Wonderful Gifts

On a piece of newsprint, draw a large circle like a globe to represent the world. Have pictures of water, fish and whales, birds and animals, trees, and flowers to pass out to the children. On the large circle apply pieces of two-sided tape where the children can put the pictures. Remind the children that God created the whole world and everything in it. Read the Scripture passage from page 59 slowly. Then one at a time name the gifts of creation you have given the children, pausing to let them come

forward and tape their picture onto the world. After each taping have them say together, "What a wonderful gift God gave us!" (See Genesis 1:5-25)

Glossary Activity: Praise

Have the children draw a picture of their favorite moment of the summer that has just passed.

- Invite those who know how, to write "Thank You!" at the bottom of the picture to show they are grateful to God for that moment.

Additional Activity: Caring for Creation

Have the children name familiar characters in movies, television shows, or advertisements who promote caring for the Earth. Ask the children to explain what kind of actions each of these characters promotes or discourages.

Additional Activity: Make Pizzas

Have the children assemble and share mini-pizzas from prepared ingredients.

- Supply prepared English muffin halves, pizza sauce, shredded cheese, and other non-meat toppings such as chopped broccoli, olives, or pineapple.
- As the children put together the pizzas, talk about the origins of each ingredient.

Always follow these important rules when sharing food in the classroom:

- Obtain information about food allergies and sensitivities before allowing the children to taste foods. Avoid all nuts and shellfish, as these can cause serious allergic reactions even in small amounts.
- Follow food safety practices such as keeping foods at proper temperatures and having the children wash their hands before preparing or eating foods.

Additional Activity: Food Pyramid

Review with the children the healthful eating pyramid.

- Invite the children to name examples of favorite foods in each food group.
- Have the children tell where these foods are found in God's creation.

Additional Activity: Our Families—God's Gift

Invite the children to bring to class duplicate copies of photos of their parents or guardians and of their brothers and sisters. (Request that parents write on the back of the photos the full names of the people shown.) Make a poster with the photos. Title it: "Our Families—God's Gift to Us."