

Grade 1 - Chapter 3

Discover

- Catechist Tips: Rooted in Understanding
- Catechist Tips: Don't Waste
- Catechist Tips: Share Poetry
- Catechist Tips: Protecting God's Creatures
- Glossary Activity: Caretaker
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- Additional Activity: Act It Out
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Discover

Catechist Tips: Rooted in Understanding

Give the children a first-hand glimpse of gardening by giving each child a small disposable cup half-filled with potting soil. Provide easy-to-grow seeds for the children to plant in the soil, and encourage them to take the planted seeds home and water them regularly. Remember to ask how the mini gardens are faring at future sessions.

Catechist Tips: Don't Waste

Expand the children's understanding of care by talking about not wasting food or water. Supermarkets give young children the inaccurate impression that there is an endless supply of food. Guide the children to make rules for not wasting food.

Catechist Tips: Share Poetry

You may wish to share with the children selections from the book *The Best Part of Me: Children Talk about Their Bodies in Words and Pictures* by Wendy Ewald (Little, Brown, 2002). It is a collection of children's poems and photos.

Catechist Tips: Protecting God's Creatures

The people of Japan were alarmed by the many building projects that encroached on the habitats of Golden Eagles. In fact, today only 134 pairs of Golden Eagles remain in Japan.

- After a three-year research project, there was a significant decrease in land development and wildlife protection areas were increased. The Forestry and Environment agencies prepared guidelines for protection of these birds.

Glossary Activity: Caretaker

Ask a volunteer to call out the name of any living thing.

- Encourage the children to name things that are found in their everyday environment.
- Invite another child to describe one way of caring for the creature the other child named.

Additional Activity: Animal Care

Ask the children to think of a television show or movie that has an animal in it. Let them tell how the animal is cared for. If the observations are scarce, make up an animal for a television show or movie, and let the children suggest good ways to treat it.

Additional Activity: Act It Out

Have the children act out situations in which they are not taking care of their bodies and minds.

- Invite the children to form small groups to plan and carry out their dramatizations.

Have the class respond to each dramatization by suggesting better choices.

Additional Activity: Mural

Have the children work together to make a mural illustrating the consequences of making bad choices about health.

- Divide the class into groups, and let each group select a bad health choice to illustrate.
- Ask the children to draw both the choice and the consequences.