

God, Our Father

Lesson Objectives

- The children will state that God takes care of the needs of creation.
- The children will state that God takes care of their needs.
- The children will describe ways that God takes care of their needs.

Lesson Text

Matthew 6:25-33

Scripture Memory Verse

All the believers shared everything they had.

Acts 4:32

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Flower Face

Welcome and Singing

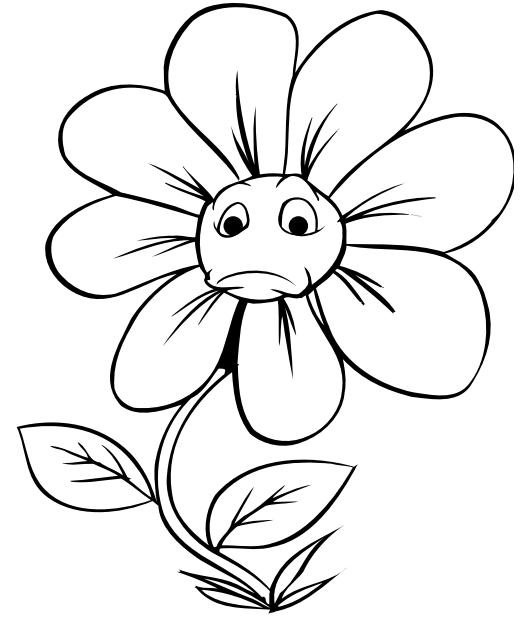
Centers:

Bible Story: Birds and Flowers

Life Application: Caring Case

Craft: Happy Hat

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



God, Our father

Flower face

The children will make a flower mask to remind them of the Bible story.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 paper plate, 9"
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- construction paper
- scissors
- pencils

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the center circle of each paper plate.
2. Cut out the petal stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
3. Trace and cut out eight petals for each child from construction paper.
4. Make a model following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a paper plate and eight petals.
2. Have the children turn the plate face-down and glue the petals along the rim of the plate.
3. Give each child an unsharpened pencil and have them loosely roll each petal around the pencil.
4. Help the children write their names on their plates.



God, Our Father

Birds and Flowers

The children will compare God's care for his creation to his care for them.

Lesson Text

Matthew 6:25-33

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- 1 piece of yellow construction paper
- safety pins
- potted flower
- model flower mask from the Preclass Activity
- 1 baby blanket, yellow if possible
- string

Preparation

1. Fold a piece of yellow construction paper into a triangle as a beak.
2. Attach a piece of string to the beak so that you can wear it on your face.
3. Before class have two adults dress in the following costumes:
 - A. Flora Feathers:
 - 1) Tie the beak to your face.
 - 2) Pin the baby blanket to your back like a cape and then to your arms as wings.
 - B. Peter Petal:
 - 1) Wear the flower mask from the Preclass Activity.
 - 2) Carry the potted flower.

God Cares

Open the Bible. Explain to the children that they are going to hear a story from the book of John about how God takes care of all of our needs.

FLORA: (flying in and chirping or whistling) Hello boys and girls! Good morning, my name is Flora Feathers, and I am feeling very happy today! Look at all the things that God has done for me today to take care of me... (Interrupted by Peter).

PETER: (enters all flustered and anxious)

FLORA: Oh, hello Peter. Look it's my friend Peter Petal. Peter, what is wrong? You seem so worried and upset.

PETER: I'm not doing very well, not well at all! I'm so worried today! (fretting and fixing his petals) I think that my petals are starting to fall out! Oh Flora, What am I going to do?

FLORA: Peter, Peter! You don't have to worry about what you are going to wear! Don't you know about God and how much he cares for you? He knows that you need clothes, he'll give you new petals! Look at me, (strutting feathers) I have these beautiful fashion feathers. God designed them just for me! He gave them to me because he knows that I need them. They keep me warm in the winter and cool in the summer! Hey, I look good!

PETER: Wow, I never thought about that. God does always give me new petals. But, do you know what? I'm so thirsty! What am I going to do? (Pretend to gag and cough) How am I ever going to get something to drink? I can't go out and get a job, who would hire me, I'm only a flower? (continue to choke and fall to the ground) I think that I am dying.

FLORA: Peter, (helping him up off of the ground) don't worry. Don't you know that God is your father? He made you and he will always take care of you. He will send rain for you to drink.

PETER: Well, I guess that is true, God always sends rain for me and he gave me this nice dirt to live in so that I can grow big and tall. But what if I get hungry, what will I do then? I hope that doesn't happen! What will I do if I get hungry?

FLORA: Peter, look at how God takes care of me. Look all around at the food he gives me. He even gave me a nice nest to live in so that I will have a home. In the Bible, Jesus tells us not to worry about what we will drink, or eat, or what we are going to wear. God is your father. He is a father to all of us. In the Bible, God promises to take care of us and give us every little thing that we could ever need.

PETER: You know Flora, you are right. God has always taken care of me! All this worrying that I have done has not helped me one bit! From now on I'm going to remember that God is our Father, and that he will take care of me no matter what!



God, Our Father

Conclusion

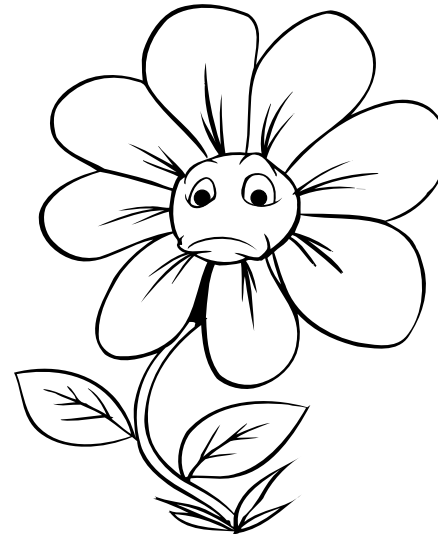
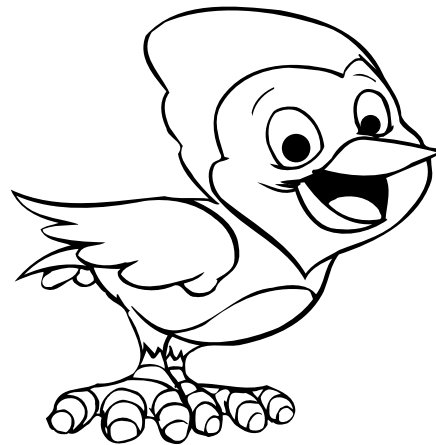
Have Flora and Peter ask the children the following questions.

Boys and girls, thank you for being such good listeners today.

Can anyone tell me something that Peter Petal was worried about? (clothes, drink, food) What did Flora teach Peter? (That he did not need to worry because God always takes care of him.) Does God like it when we worry? (No, he wants us to trust him. God loves us and will always take care of us.)

Teacher Tips

- If only one teacher is available ask another disciple to help you.
- If another adult is not available use a stuffed bird and the potted flower as puppets.



God, Our Father

Caring Case

The children will describe how God takes care of us.

Scripture Memory Verse

All the believers shared everything they had.

Acts 4:32

Materials

- a small suitcase or box
- 1 piece of construction paper
- tape
- black marker
- a bag of pasta or rice
- a shoe
- a plastic bottle half filled with water
- an umbrella
- a scarf
- a picture of your family
- a picture of some of your friends

Preparation

1. Write "Caring Case" on the piece of construction paper and tape it to the side of the suitcase.
2. Place the objects inside the suitcase.

Instructions

Today we are learning about the ways that God takes care of us. Show the children the case. This sign says "Caring Case." Inside this case are things that will remind us of how God takes care of us.

Choose a child to close their eyes and pull out an object from the case. *What is that? Yes, it is a shoe. Why does God give us shoes? Yes, to protect our feet when we walk. How can we use our shoes to make God happy?* (Give our extra shoes to the poor, walk to visit a friend or to help someone).

Let each child take a turn and select a different object.

- bottle of water – to drink when we are thirsty, to baptize people, to take a bath
- umbrella – to protect us from rain, to share and help keep others dry

- scarf – to protect us from the cold weather, to give extras to the poor
- bag of pasta – to feed us, to share with others, to give to the poor
- picture of family – to take care of us and love us, to be grateful and kind to them
- picture of friends – to have fun with, to be grateful and kind to them

Scripture Memory Activity

Teach the children the memory verse when they pull out the picture of the friends. *The memory verse is about friends today, let me read it to you.* Let the children repeat it a few times.

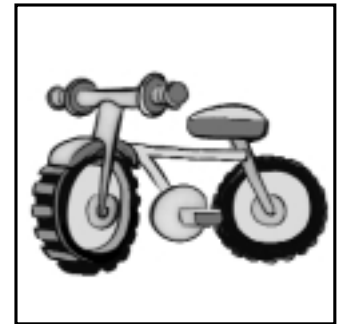
Conclusion

Say a prayer with the children thanking God for all of the ways that he takes care of us.

You can share with your friends about the ways that God takes care of them too.

Teacher Tips

- When a child chooses the pictures, be sure to explain that they are your family and your friends. This will help them to think about their family and friends.



God, Our Father

All the believers shared
everything they had.

Acts 4:32



CHRIST

God, Our Father

The Church

Lesson 1

Happy Hat

The children will make construction paper hats to remind them to be happy that God cares for them.

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick
- 1 piece of construction paper

For the teacher:

- construction paper
- markers/crayons
- scissors
- tape
- stapler
- decorative items: stickers, buttons or stamps (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures and the text boxes from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Prepare a "headband" for each child as follows:
 - A. Cut two 3" x 12" strips of construction paper for each child.
 - B. Glue the two strips together at one end.
3. Prepare three paper strips for each child as follows:
 - A. Cut three 1" x 12" strips of construction paper.
 - B. Fold each of the strips accordion style.
4. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

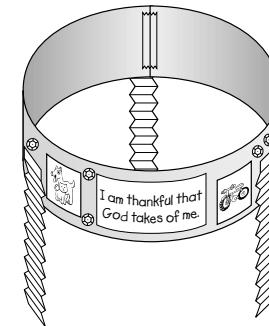
1. Explain to the children that the Bible story today is about different ways that God takes care of us and meets our needs. Show the children your model, pointing out the different pictures. Explain to them why you are thankful for what is pictured on your headband.
2. Wrap a headband around each child's head, and then place a mark where the ends of the paper fit together.
3. Give each child a text box to glue onto the middle of the headband. See Figure A.
4. Have the children decorate their headbands as follows:
 - A. Let the children choose a few different pictures. Have them color the pictures.
 - B. Have the children glue their pictures onto the headband.
 - C. Give each child three paper strips to glue onto the headband.
5. Help the children write their names on their headbands, and then tape the ends together at the mark. Cut off any of the excess paper.

Conclusion

Have the children share about the things that they chose to glue onto their headbands. Ask them why they are thankful for those things.

Teacher Tips

- Have the children decorate their hats with stickers or other decorative items.
- Use pinking shears to cut the construction paper strips into wavy lines.



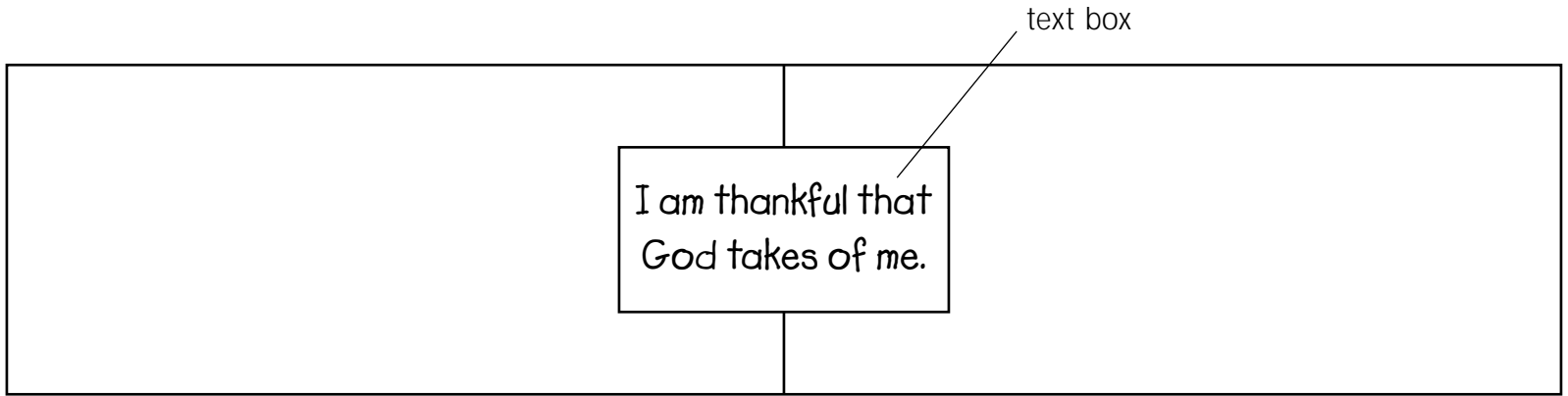


Figure A



Finished Craft



Lesson Objectives

- The children will state that God takes care of the needs of creation.
- The children will state that God takes care of their needs.
- The children will describe ways that God takes care of their needs.

Lesson Text

Matthew 6:25-33

Scripture Memory Verse

All the believers shared everything they had.

Acts 4:32

Creation Background

The children will be reminded how God takes care of everything he created.

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick
- crayons
- scissors

For the teacher:

- 1 large piece of butcher paper or newsprint
- magazines
- construction paper
- cotton balls
- feathers (optional)
- yarn
- scissors
- white paper

Preparation

On a large piece of butcher paper draw the following: a hill, the sun, flowers, clouds.

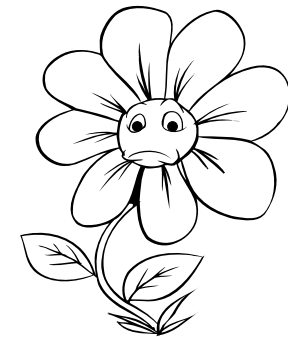
Instructions

1. Talk to the children about how God takes care of all his creations; including us. Remind them that he meets all of our needs.
2. Have the children complete the mural by doing one or more of the following:
 - Cut out pictures from magazines of things that God created.
 - Draw pictures of things that God created.
 - Tear and glue small pieces of construction paper to the pictures that you drew to decorate them.

- Decorate the pictures with feathers or string.
- Give the finished mural to the game teacher.

Teacher Tips

- Choose other decorative items for the children to glue on the pictures such as twigs or flower petals.



Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Creation Background

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Who Said It?

Craft: Flowers of the Field

Life Application: Caring Case

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Who Said It?

The children will separate worrying from faithfulness.

Materials

For the teacher:

- mural from the Preclass Activity
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child



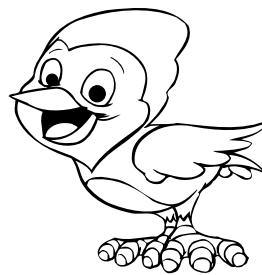
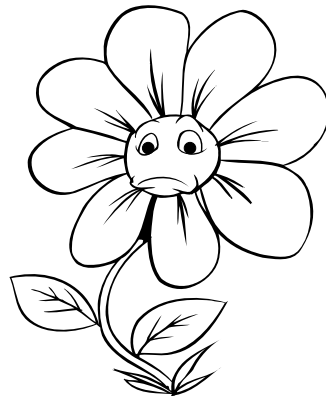
Preparation

Cut out the bird and flower pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page C.



Instructions

1. Introduce the flower and the bird to the children as Faithful Flora Feathers and Poor Peter Petal. Ask them which one is smiling. *Yes, Flora is smiling because she knows that God is her father and will always take care of her. Who is frowning? Yes, Peter is. He is frowning because he is worried. He is afraid that God is not going to help him and take care of him.*
2. Explain to the children that they are going to play a game called "Who Said It?" *I'm going to say something. If it sounds like I'm worrying, you will put a picture of Peter somewhere on the mural. If I say something faithful and encouraging, something that Jesus would say, put a picture of Flora on the mural.*



3. Choose a child to go first and recite one of the following:
 - I'm so worried today! I think that my petals are starting to fall out!
 - You don't have to worry about what you are going to wear! Don't you know about God and how much he cares for you?
 - What am I going to do (pretend to gag and cough)? How am I ever going to get something to drink?
 - Don't you know that God is your father, he made you and he will always take care of you.
 - What about if I get hungry, what will I do then? I hope that doesn't happen! What will I do if I get hungry?
 - In the Bible, Jesus tells us not to worry about what we will drink, or eat, or what we are going to wear. God always takes care of us.
4. As the last statement says: From now on I'm going to remember that God is our Father, and that he will take care of me no matter what!
5. Tell the children that Peter changed at the end of the story and decided to become faithful. God loves it when we trust him. Draw a smiling face on Peter and put him on the mural. Now Peter is happy because he stopped worrying.

Teacher Tips

- Include any statements in which you think the children may worry about.
- Write each statement on a piece of paper and put them all in a bag. Have the children take turns picking a statement out of the bag.



Flowers of the Field

The children will make bookmarks reminding them that God takes care of his creation.

Materials

For the teacher:

- clear contact paper or laminate
- fresh flowers
- yarn or thin ribbon
- scissors
- hole punch
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for every 10 children



Preparation

1. Prepare a piece of contact paper for each child as follows:
 - A. Cut the contact paper into 4" x 8" pieces.
 - B. Leaving the backing on, fold each piece of contact paper in half lengthwise, and then make a firm crease on the fold.
2. Remove the petals from the flowers. NOTE: If the flowers are very small you may leave the petals attached.
3. Cut a 10" piece of yarn for each child.
4. Cut out the text boxes from the copies of Reproducible Page D.
5. Make a model following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Show the children the model of the craft. Remind them that in the Bible God says that he takes care of all of his creations. *Some of the things that he takes care of are flowers. He makes sure that they look and smell beautiful. God also feeds them with rain. This bookmark is to remind you that God takes care of the flowers and that he takes care of you too.*
2. Give each child a piece of contact paper. Help them to peel the backing off, and then lay the piece flat on the work surface with the sticky side facing up.

3. Have the children place the items on the contact paper, see Figure A, as follows:
 - A. Give each child some flower petals and have them arrange them on the right side of the contact paper.
 - B. Give each child a text box and have them place it on the bottom right side of the contact paper.
 - C. Help the children to fold the contact paper along the prior fold. See Figure B.
4. Punch a hole in the top end of each craft.
5. Help the children thread a piece of yarn through the hole and tie it.
6. Write each child's name on a piece of tape and loosely affix it to their craft so it can be easily removed when they get home.

Conclusion

Talk with the children about the different ways that God takes care of the flowers. Ask them how God takes care of them.

Teacher Tips

- Find a field that has wild flowers that you can pick. Pick them as close to class time as possible.
- The children in most cases do not know their left from their right. Help them to understand where you want them to place items in relation to the contact paper by showing them.
- Make tassels for the bookmarks by tying a few short pieces of yarn onto the end of the longer pieces.



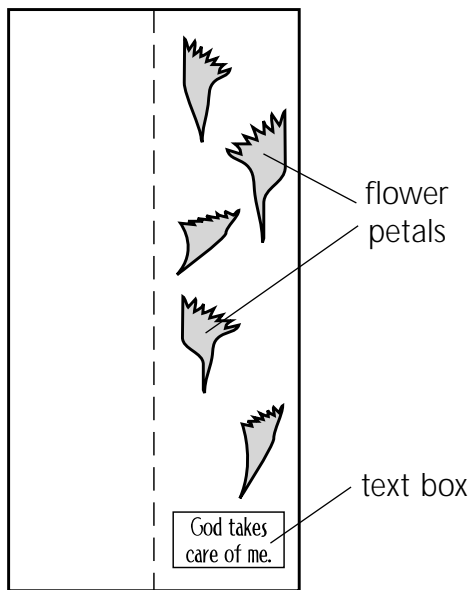


Figure A

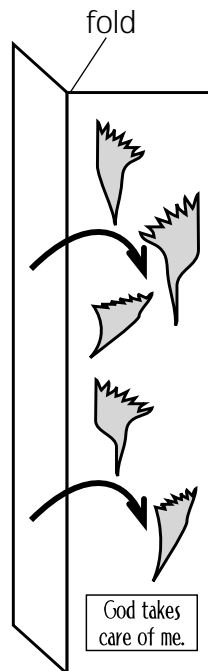
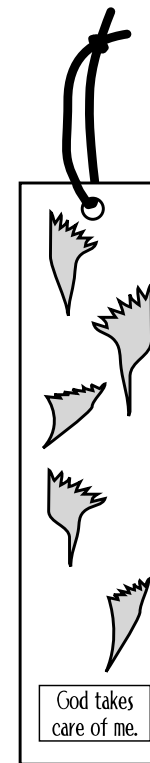


Figure B



Finished Craft

Caring Case

The children will describe how God takes care of us.

Scripture Memory Verse

All the believers shared everything they had.
Acts 4:32

Materials

- a small suitcase or box
- 1 piece of construction paper
- tape
- black marker
- a bag of pasta or rice
- a shoe
- a plastic bottle half filled with water
- an umbrella
- a scarf
- a picture of your family
- a picture of some of your friends

Preparation

1. Write "Caring Case" on the piece of construction paper and tape it to the side of the suitcase.
2. Place the objects inside the suitcase.

Instructions

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Let each child take a turn and select a different object.

- bottle of water – to drink when we are thirsty, to baptize people, to take a bath
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Scripture Memory Activity

Teach the children the memory verse when they pull out the picture of the friends. *The memory verse is about friends today, let me read it to you.* Let the children repeat it a few times.

Conclusion

Say a prayer with the children thanking God for all of the ways that he takes care of us.

You can share with your friends about the ways that God takes care of them too.

Teacher Tips

- When a child chooses the pictures, be sure to explain that they are your family and your friends. This will help them to think about their family and friends.



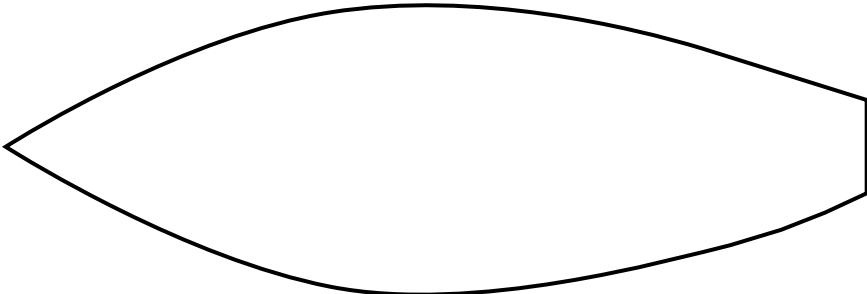
All the believers shared
everything they had.

Acts 4:32



Core/Preclass Activity

1 copy for the teacher



petal stencil

Pre-Preparation

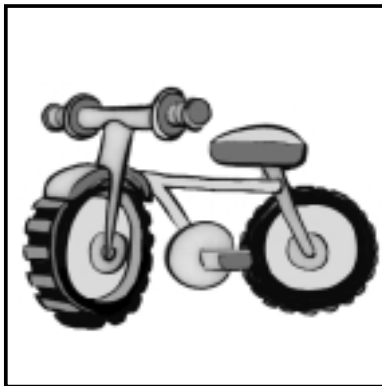
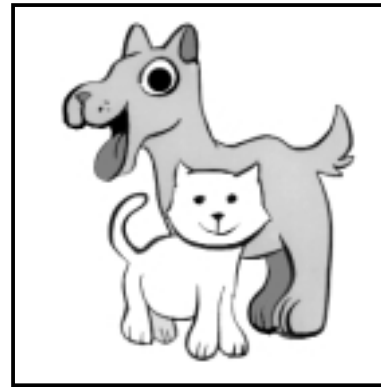
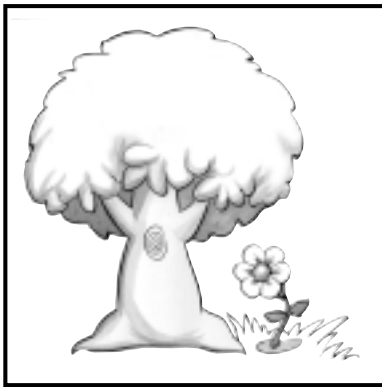
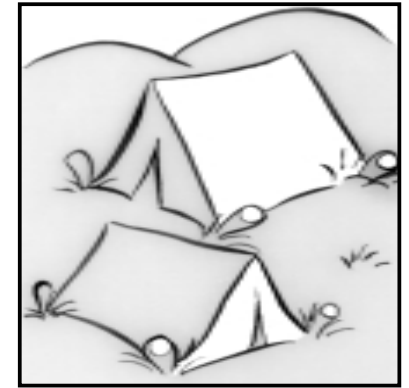
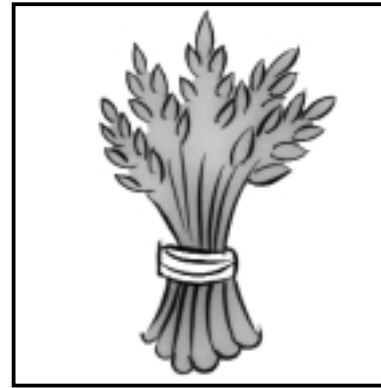
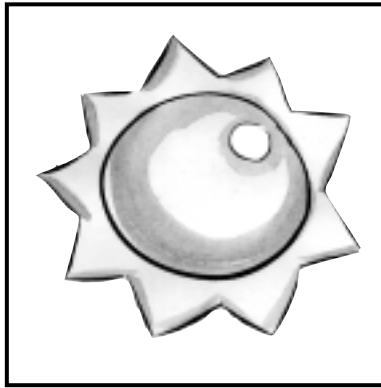
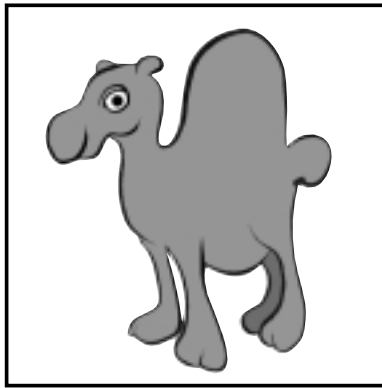
Page **A**



Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

The Church

Lesson 1



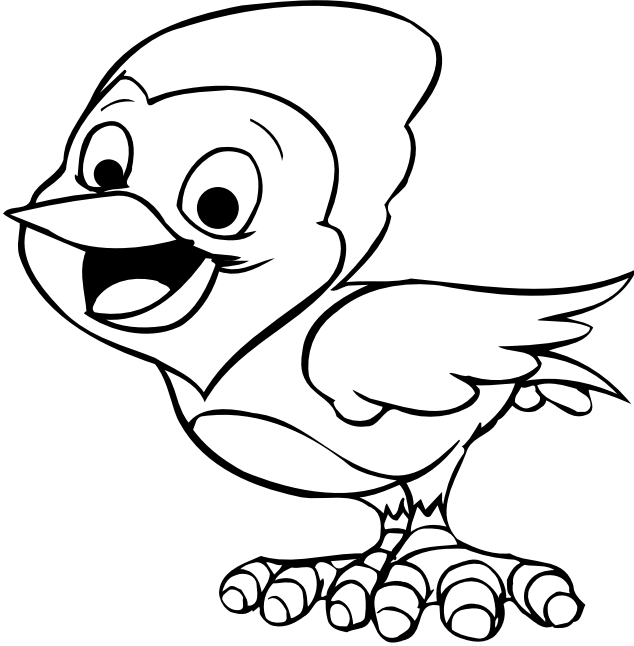
I am thankful that God
takes care of me.

pictures

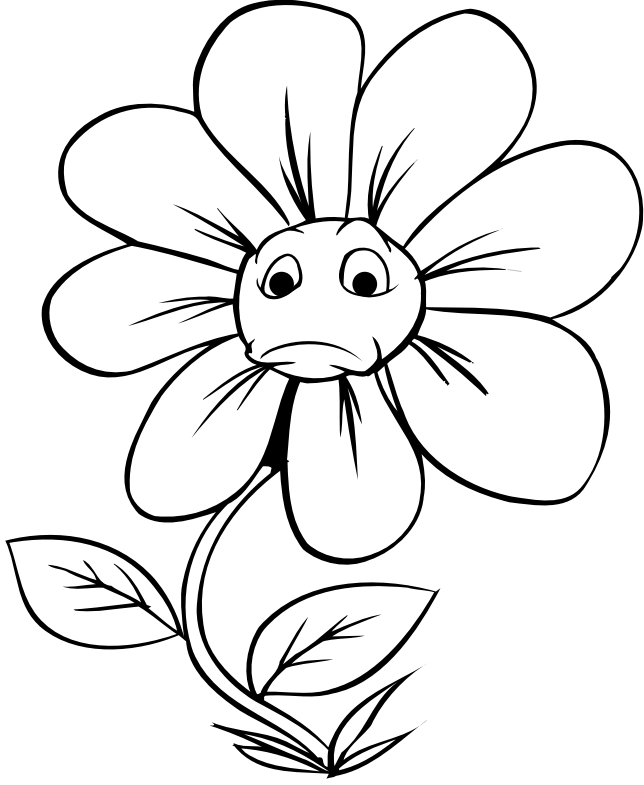
text box

Supplement/Game
1 copy for each child

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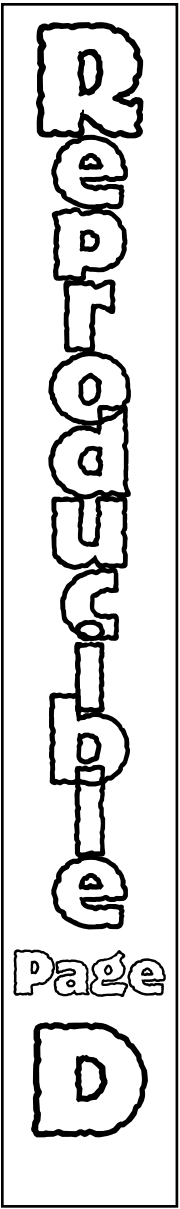
bird



flower



Supplement/Craft
1 copy for every 10 children



God takes care of me.	God takes care of me.
God takes care of me.	God takes care of me.
God takes care of me.	God takes care of me.
God takes care of me.	God takes care of me.
God takes care of me.	God takes care of me.

text boxes

