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# GOD'S AMAZING CREATION



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Carol Stream, Illinois

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*God’s Amazing Creation*

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Designed by Libby Dykstra

Content taken from *My First Hands-On Bible*, published in 2011 by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

*My First Hands-On Bible* Editorial Team: Sue Geiman, Erin Gwynne, Becki Manni, Joani Schultz, Betty Free Swanberg, Ali Thompson, Stephanie Rische, and Christine Yount Jones

*My First Hands-On Bible* Design Team: Jean Bruns, Daniel Farrell, and Randy Maid

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For information about special discounts for bulk purchases, please contact Tyndale House Publishers at [csresponse@tyndale.com](mailto:csresponse@tyndale.com), or call 1-800-323-9400.

**The Library of Congress has catalogued the hardcover edition as follows:**

Bible. English. New Living Translation. Selections. 2011.

My first hands-on Bible / [writers, Renée Gray-Wilburn et al.].

p. cm.

ISBN 978-1-4143-4830-8 (hc)

I. Gray-Wilburn, Renée. II. Title.

BS391.3.G73 2011

220.9’505—dc22

2011005493

ISBN 978-1-4964-3750-1

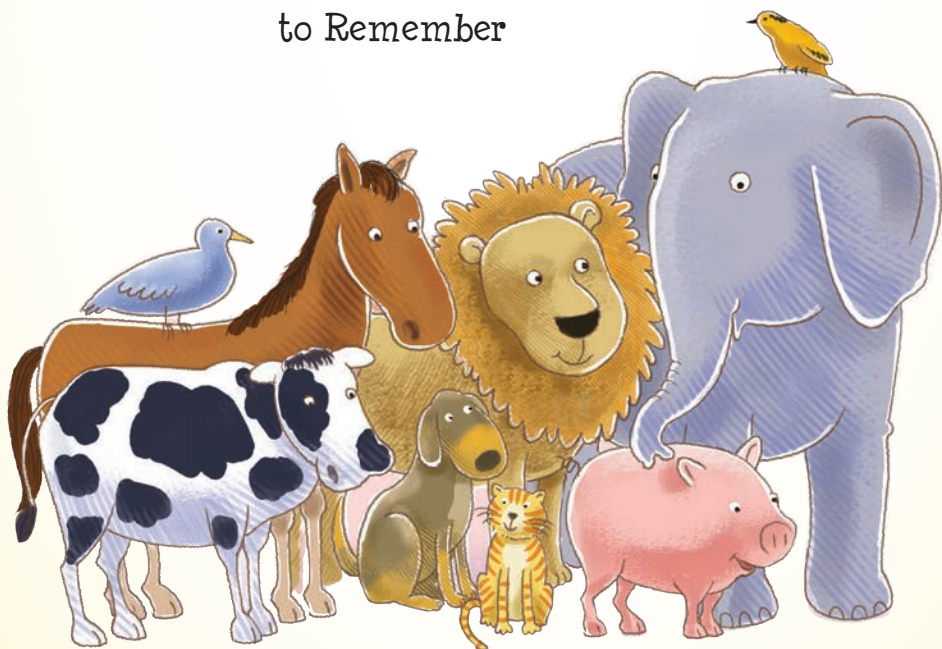
Printed in China

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 |
| 7  | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  |

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# How to Use These Bible Stories

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Welcome to *God's Amazing Creation*! You and your child will explore God's Word together in fun and exciting ways as you read this book. You'll get to dig in to the Bible passages with fun activities as you read them, and then follow up your reading with simple activities that will make the Bible a part of your child's life.

## Real Bible Text

*God's Amazing Creation* is special! We selected the New Living Translation (NLT) for its clarity for readers of all ages. Hearing Scripture in its true form will be a powerful experience for your child. Second Timothy 3:16 tells us, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives." With this book, your child can hear the God-inspired words of his book, the Bible.

We abridged the NLT passages to provide the most age-appropriate Scripture for preschoolers. You may find, though, that you occasionally come across a word that's unfamiliar to your child. If that's the case, stop and help your child understand what's happening in the part of the Bible you're reading. Or after you read a passage, ask your child to tell you what happened in the Bible story, and fill in any gaps in your own words.





## Hands-On Activities

As you read, you'll come across colored handprints in the Bible text. When you see a handprint, stop reading and lead your child in the activity by the matching handprint. These are written for you to read aloud to your children. You'll get your child involved in the Bible passage through moving around, acting out, looking for things in the pictures, and enjoying all sorts of other fun, hands-on activities. The Bible will come alive for your child through these hands-on activities!

(Note: The handprints are there to help your child experience the story as he or she hears it. It may be helpful for some children to stop and do each activity at the spot indicated in the Bible passage, while other children may benefit from reading the story all the way through and then going back to do the activities later.)

## Time to Pray and Let's Talk

Each passage ends with a prayer that makes the point of the Scripture personal. Discussion questions help you and your child discover how the Bible connects to your lives. Pray these prayers and discuss these questions with your child to help make your Bible reading meaningful. These are great ways for you and your child to interact with each other as you explore the meaning of the Scripture you've just read together.

## Pockets and Cuddles

Your child will love how these adorable animals guide you both in making discoveries. Your child can easily find the prayer by looking for Pockets, the kangaroo. Likewise, Cuddles, the lamb, leads you and your child in the activities with each Bible story.

These fun characters give your child something familiar with each Bible story. Your child will look for Pockets and Cuddles in anticipation of fun learning.



To bring these recurring characters to your home, you can find Pockets and Cuddles puppets for sale at [www.Group.com/MyHandsOnBible](http://www.Group.com/MyHandsOnBible).

## Activities

Each Bible story has two activities with it. These are simple activities, and many of them are things you can do as you go through your normal routines. These activities make it easy for you to make the Scripture a part of your child's life. They're a great way to review the story with your child the next day or later that week.

Read these on your own, and plan a time to lead your child through them. You may choose to do both of the activities or just one. Either way, each activity reinforces the Scripture to your child.

## The Jesus Connection

Each passage ends with "The Jesus Connection." Your child will see that Jesus is the center of all Scripture, even passages that don't mention him. And your child will know that Jesus is a real part of life. So read these Jesus Connections to your child as a great way to show Jesus' presence in all of Scripture.


Thank you for choosing *God's Amazing Creation* for your child. God will use you to bring the Bible to life as you and your child go through it together!




# God Creates

## Genesis 1

**I**n the beginning  
God created the  
heavens and the earth.

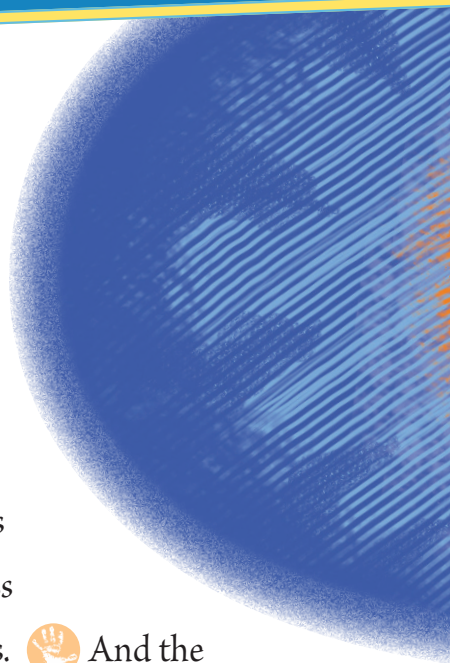
<sup>2</sup>The earth was formless  
and empty, and darkness  
covered the deep waters.  And the  
Spirit of God was hovering over the surface  
of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light,” and  
there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light  
was good. Then he separated the light from the  
darkness. 

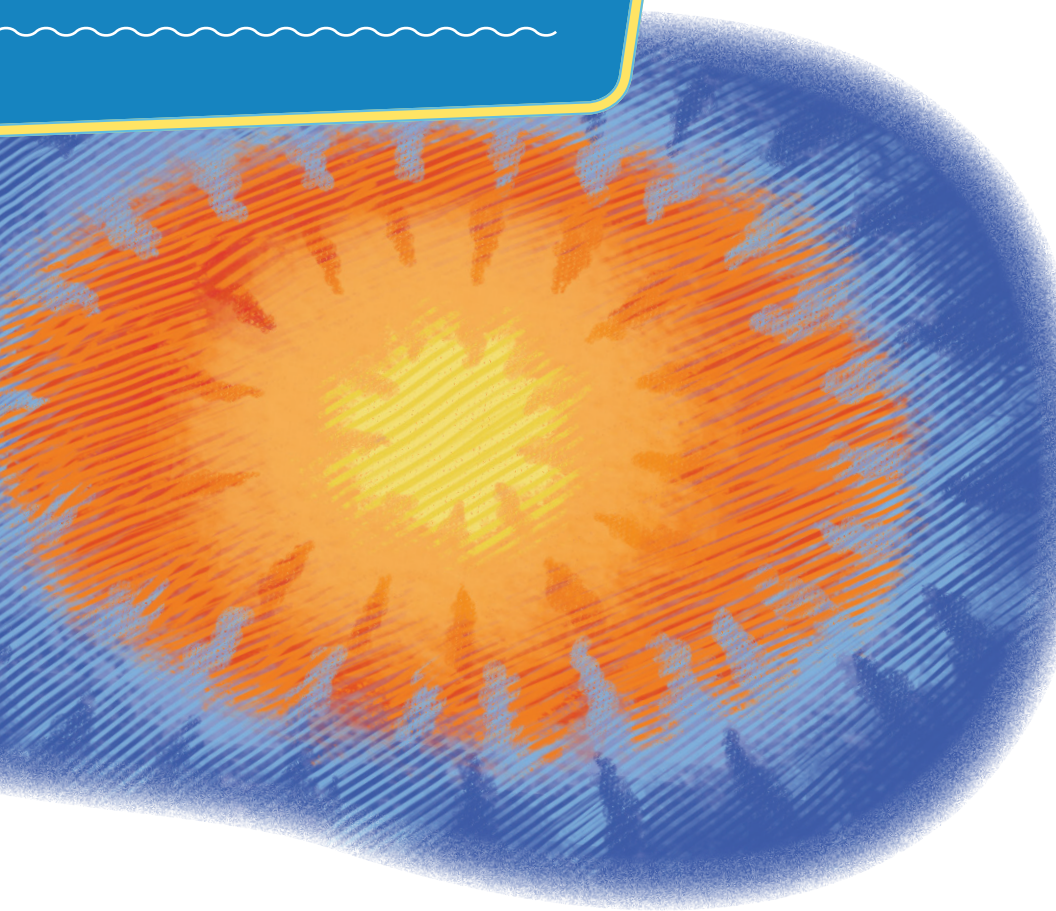
<sup>6</sup>Then God said, “Let there be a space



*“Cover your eyes  
for a few seconds  
and imagine what  
the earth was  
like.”*



# the World



between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.”

“Then God said, “Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear.” And that is what happened.


“Turn a light off  
and on as you  
say, ‘Let there  
be light!’”





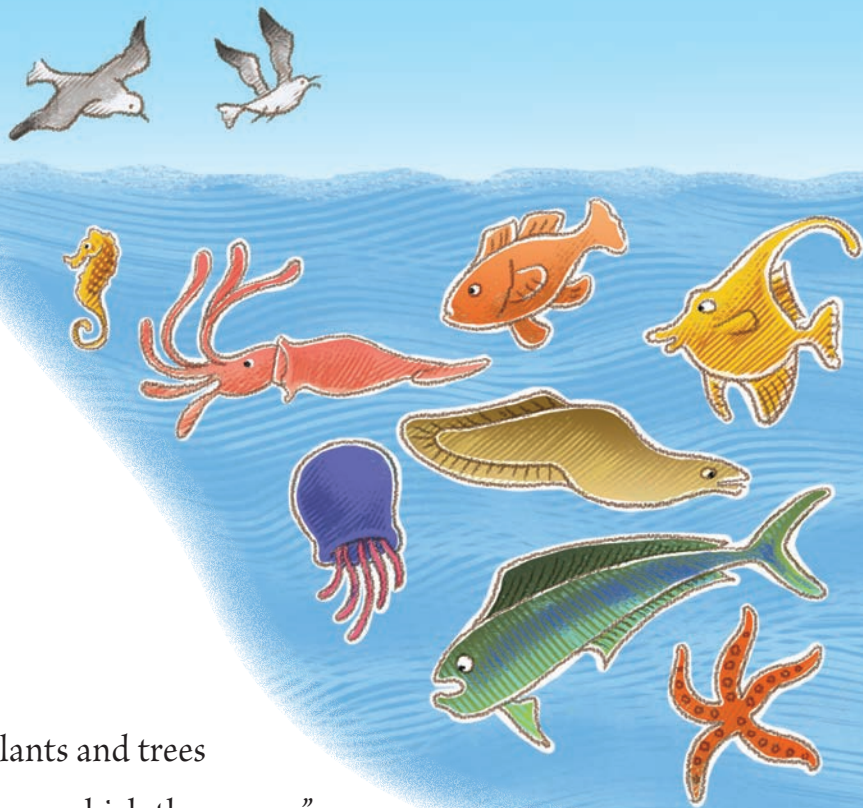


"Squat down like  
you're a little  
seed, then stand  
up like a tall tree."


<sup>10</sup>God called the dry ground "land" and the  
waters "seas." And God saw that it was good.  
<sup>11</sup>Then God said, "Let the land sprout with  
vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant,  
and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. 


These seeds will then produce  
the kinds of





plants and trees  
from which they came.”  
And that is what happened.


<sup>16</sup>God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. 

<sup>20</sup>Then God said, “Let the waters swarm with fish and other life.  Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.” <sup>21</sup>So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing

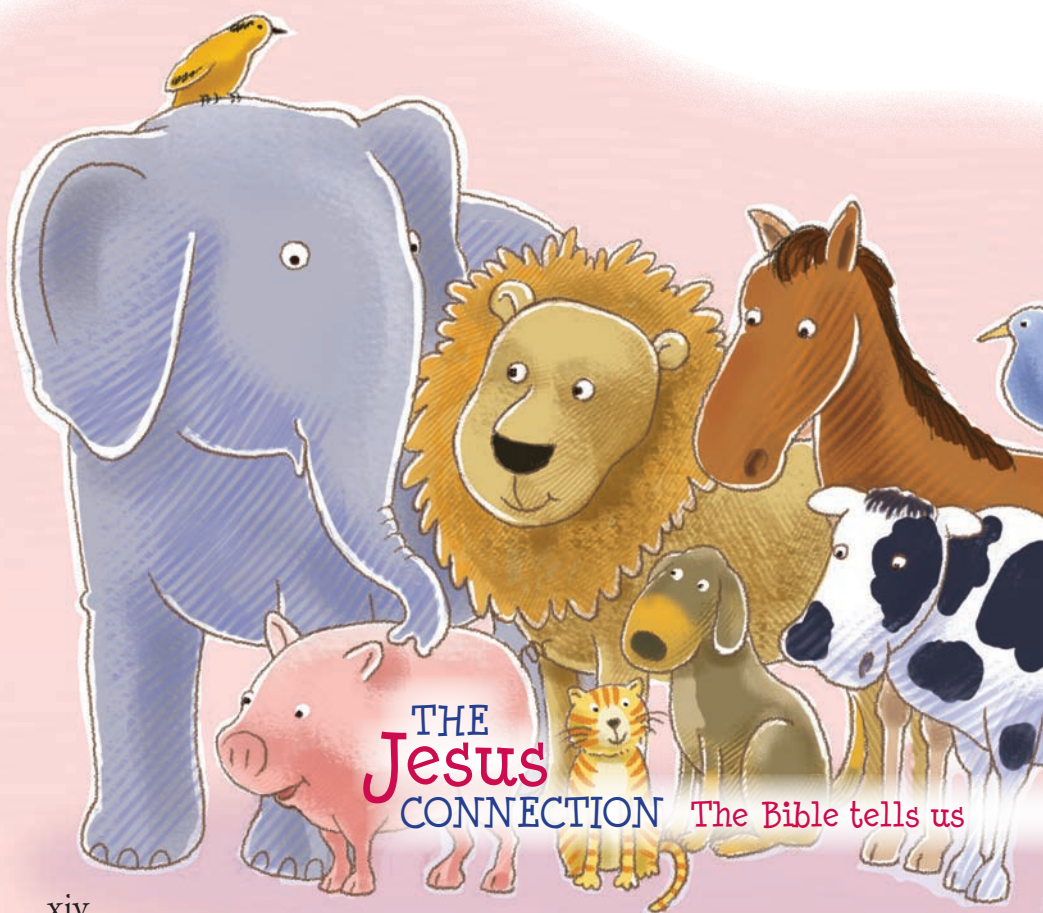


“Let’s draw a  
sun and a moon.  
Then let’s sing  
‘Twinkle, Twinkle  
Little Star.’”

offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>25</sup>God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. 

*"Act like your favorite animal."*



THE  
**Jesus**  
CONNECTION The Bible tells us



## Let's Talk

- What's your favorite thing that God made?
- If you could change one thing that God made, what would it be?

**Dear God,** thank  
you for making such an  
amazing world for us.

**We love it—and we love you!**

**In Jesus' name, amen.**

Pockets says,  
"It's time to pray!"



## Cloud Watching

Look at the sky this week to see if any clouds look like animal shapes to you. God made all those clouds—and every animal you can think of.

## A New Creation

With your child, draw pretend animals. Then talk about the animals you made and the animals God made.

Cuddles says,  
"Let's get creative!"



**God created everything with his Son, Jesus.**