

Adam and Eve

Lesson At-A-Glance

Scripture Reference
Genesis 2:4-25

Lectionary Sunday/
Church Season
Pentecost

Lesson Focus
**God cares for creation,
and I do, too!**



If you are using the Semi-Continuous version of the Revised Common Lectionary (ELCIC, Episcopal Church USA, Anglican Church of Canada, PCUSA, United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ), the lesson for this Sunday is Jesus Blesses the Children (Mark 10:13-16). The leader material for this lesson is found on page 97. The leaflet for this lesson is included with all other leaflets for this quarter.

Tear here for easy use!

Gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Arrival Time Kids make different animals out of modeling clay and do an Activity Page.	Activity Pages 	Modeling clay, markers or pencils
Circle Time Kids greet each other using the letter C, hear about the church season, and share their animal creations.	Leaflet	Modeling clay animals, whiteboard, dry erase markers
Prayer Time Kids use motions to help them pray.	None	None

Open the Bible (15 minutes)


	Spark Resources	Supplies
Adam and Eve Storytelling Leader or kid reads aloud from the Spark Story Bible, and kids act out ways to care for creation.	Spark Story Bibles	None
Look at What God Made! Kids use their eyes to remind them of all that God created.	Leaflets, Lesson Stickers	None
Furry Friends Kids write about their favorite kind of animal.	Leaflets	Pencils or markers


Activate Faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Creation Critters! Kids find things that God created in a hidden picture.	Leaflets	Pencils or markers
God's Natural Elements Kids learn science facts about four of the earth's elements.	Leaflets	None
Busy Bees Kids play an active game that reminds them of creation.	None	None

Tear here for easy use!

Send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Good-bye Time Kids select what they will do at home this week and make the sign of the cross as a blessing.	Leaflets	Pencils, scissors
Prayer Time Kids do a "popcorn style" prayer.	Leaflets, Family Pages 	None

 Visit www.sparksondayschool.org for more Spark content! Watch a short Lesson Prep video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find four downloadable resources for this lesson: an Activity Page, a Family Page, and two additional in-class activities.

Gather (10 minutes)

Arrival Time

Set out copies of the Activity Page for this lesson and markers or pencils on a table.

Give each kid some modeling clay. **We're each going to make an animal out of clay. It can be as simple as a snake or as difficult as a dinosaur! The only rule is: don't tell us what you're making! Later, we'll use our creatures to help us guess what today's Bible story is going to be.**

Invite kids to do the Activity Page. When all kids have arrived, invite them to put their animal creations on a table and join you in a circle or small group.

Spark Resources

Activity Pages



Supplies

Modeling clay

Markers or pencils

Circle Time

Let's welcome everyone today. For each person in our class, we will say, "God welcomes name of kid into the family of God!" Today we hear the story of Adam and Eve and how God wants us to care for creation. The words *creation* and *care* both start with the letter C. Let's use the letter C today as we greet each other. Tell something about yourself that begins with the letter C. I will go first. "I can care for creation when I clean up candy wrappers." Give each kid a turn, helping those who might struggle with this.

Hold up a leaflet, and point to the picture of the leafing tree on the green background under the lesson title. **Let's look at the front of our leaflet to find out what season it is in the church. What color do you see? (*green*) What picture clue do you see? (*leafing tree*) We've seen this tree symbol for several weeks. That tells us it is the season after Pentecost. Have you seen anything else in our church that tells us that it is the season of Pentecost?** Listen and affirm kids' answers.

If the kids in your class tried the Faith on the Go! activities from last week's leaflet, be sure to invite kids to share what they did. Ask everyone how they showed love to someone or helped another person during the last week.

Ask kids to get their animal creations and sit in a circle. **Look at the many wonderful animals you created! Let's get ready to show our clay animals. As we go around the circle, hold up your creature, and we'll guess what it is.** As the kids show what they've made, write the names of their animals on the board. Then point to the list and say: **Here are some clues to today's story! Look closely at this list. What Bible story do you think we're learning about today?** Accept all responses. **God created everything, including all of the animals and all people. God first asked two people named Adam and Eve to take care of creation. That's what we'll hear about in our Bible story today. God takes care of creation and wants us to care, too.**

Spark Resources

Leaflet

Supplies

Modeling clay animals

Whiteboard

Dry erase markers

Tear here for easy use!

Prayer Time

Invite kids to follow your motions.

Dear God,

Thank you for

Birds that fly, (flap arms like wings)

Bunnies that hop, (hop up and down)

Fish that swim, (make swimming motions)

And horses that run. (run in place)

Bless all of creation!

Amen.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

None

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

Adam and Eve Storytelling

Let's listen to the Bible story about Adam and Eve and the job that God gave them to do. I wonder how many different kinds of animals will be mentioned.

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

Pass out the Spark Story Bibles and invite everyone to find the story Adam and Eve on pages 8-13. Wait until all kids have found the story, assisting those who may need help. Encourage kids to follow along as you read or ask for a volunteer to read aloud.

Supplies

None

God gave Adam and Eve a big job—to care for the world. What's one thing that you can do, or already do, to care for the world? Think about that, and, when I call on you, act it out for us! We'll see if we can guess what you're doing!

Be ready to give suggestions: rocking a baby, raking leaves, planting a garden, brushing a dog, etc.

Have a brief conversation about the story. Ask the kids these questions:

- 1. After creating the world, how did God feel?** (*happy, tired*)
- 2. What important job did God give to Adam and Eve?** (*to care for creation*)
- 3. God put trees in the garden with good food for Adam and Eve. What foods grow on trees? What kinds of food would you have liked to eat if you were in the Garden of Eden?** Affirm all answers.

Tear here for easy use!

Look at What God Made!

If kids are not already seated at a table, move to one for this activity. Give each kid a leaflet. Hold the stickers until kids guess who is missing from the picture. Guide kids through the activity, allowing time for responses to questions and discussion.

Spark Resources

Leaflets
Lesson Stickers

God made so many wonderful things! Let's see if we can find some of them in our leaflets. What begins with *W* and is big and round? (*world*) Right! God made our world and all the places in it. What is wet and always moving? (*rivers*) Yes, God made rivers, and lakes and oceans, too. What has bark and reaches high to the sky? (*trees*) Right again! God made trees and flowers and plants of every kind. What walks on four feet? (*animals—dogs, cats, etc.*) How about two feet? (*people*) God made animals and people, too.

Supplies
None

The picture shows one person, but who is missing? (*Adam*) Let's use a sticker to complete the picture and put Adam with Eve. Hand out stickers to kids to place on their leaflets. **God wanted Adam and Eve to care for the world and wants us to take care of our world, too.**

Let's look at the bottom of this page and read about where we can find this story in the Bible.

Today's Bible story, Adam and Eve, is from the book of Genesis. Genesis is the first book of the Bible. It tells us the story of creation and God's first people.

The word *genesis* means "beginning." The book of Genesis tells us about the beginning of what? (*the world*)

Now look at the bottom of the third page in your leaflet. It has the same words that we just read, but it's missing some important words. Use the word stickers to fill in the blanks. Which word do you think goes where? (*Adam, first, creation*)

After attaching the stickers, read the statements together.

If you are interested in teaching your kids a Bible memory verse from the story, use this one. Teach it to them by inviting them to echo what you say, one phrase at a time.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. Genesis 2:15

Tear here for easy use!

Furry Friends

Invite kids to open to the second page of their leaflets. **How many of you like animals?** Wait for responses.

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Invite one kid to read the sentence at the beginning of the activity. **Let's write about our favorite animals. Write the name of your animal on the blank line. Then you can write more about why you like that animal on the other lines.** Give kids a few minutes to write. Tell kids about any pets you have (or wished you had!) while they work. **Who else has a pet story? God made all of the animals and wants us to care for them—they are an important part of God's creation!**

Supplies
Pencils or markers

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

Creation Critters!

Let's look at the third page of the leaflet. The Garden of Eden was probably overflowing with fruits, vegetables, and every kind of animal.

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Look at the picture on this page. What do you see that might have grown in the actual Garden of Eden? Can you find 5 birds? 7 animals? 2 fish? Do you see any things from our times in the picture that God didn't put in the Garden of Eden? What are they? (*car, baseball cap, soccer ball, figure skates, fork*)

Supplies
Pencils or markers

Even though the things you would find today were not in God's Garden of Eden, do we still need to care for them? How? Listen to and affirm kids' responses.

God's Natural Elements

Turn to the back page of your leaflets.

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Have you ever heard this word, *element*? In science, we say there are four elements: fire, water, wind, and earth. When God made the world, God included all these elements. Let's look at the back page of the leaflet and see what we can learn about these four elements. Let's read the sentences together. Ask for volunteer readers and help with pronunciation as needed. **God created all of these elements as part of creation—the creation God cares for and that we can care for, too!**

Supplies
None

Tear here for easy use!

Busy Bees

God created everything in the world—even the smallest of insects! How many of you like bees? *(Some kids may say, “Not me! Not me!”)* **Bees can be scary at times if they sting, but do you know that they also have an important job in taking care of God’s creation? Yes, it’s not just Adam and Eve and us who take care of creation, but animals and bugs also care for creation. What do bees do, and how does that help creation?** *(Bees make honey, carry pollen between trees and flowers, helping them to grow new seeds and flowers.)*

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

None

Let’s play a game where you pretend to be busy bees. Have the children stand together in pairs. If there is an odd number of kids, one of the groups can have three kids. **I’m going to call out different commands, like “Stand back to back” or “Link arms together.” When I do that, each pair of you will follow the commands as quickly as you can. Whenever I say, “busy bees,” you buzz around the room, pretending to take pollen to trees and flowers, and find a different partner! Ready? Here we go!**

Other sample commands could be “stand side by side,” “stand toe to toe,” etc. To calm things down, you could also instruct kids to be “woolly worms” instead of “busy bees” and move in slow motion to find a partner. **Wasn’t it fun being part of God’s creation? We’re not really little bees, but God has given bees an important role in caring for creation, just like God has given us an important role, too!**

Send (5 minutes)

Good-bye Time

Thank you for coming to class today! We learned about Adam and Eve and the job God gave them to do. It’s good to take care of our world. God made and cares for creation, and so do we! There are many things we can do to care about creation and other people. Direct attention to the back of the Faith on the Go! slip on the bottom of the back page, and have the kids fill-in the blanks with the name of someone they want to give this slip to, their own name, and today’s date. Encourage them to mark one or more of the ideas or add their own. Cut the slip off on the line, ready to give to someone else. **Next week we can tell each other what we did to show God’s love to someone else!**

Spark Resources

Leaflets



Supplies

Pencils

Scissors

When we make the sign of the cross, we remember that God is with us every moment of every day. Make the sign of the cross on your forehead or in your hand to remember God’s protection for you this week. Then make the sign of the cross in a friend’s palm and say, “God cares for creation, and I do, too!” At the end of class, do the same for each kid and ask them to do the same for you.

Prayer Time

We're going to close with a popcorn prayer. I'll start by saying "Thank you, God, for animals." When I pause, you can pop up and name an animal. And then I'll continue by saying, "Thank you God for fruits and vegetables," and then when I pause, you can pop up and name a fruit or vegetable, and then...well, you get the idea, right? We will be like popcorn popping! Any questions? OK, let us pray!

Dear God,

Thank you for animals, for . . . (pause)

Thank you for fruits and vegetables, for . . . (pause)

Thank you for insects, for . . . (pause)

Help us to care for our world!

Amen.

Be sure to send the leaflets and Family Pages home with kids, dismissing them as appropriate.

Spark Resources

Leaflets

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Tear here for easy use!