

Lesson 1: Stewardship

Today's Bible Story

In the beginning, when God first created the heavens and the earth, he filled the world with all sorts of living things. "Let the earth give life to all kinds of tame animals, wild animals, and reptiles!" God made every living thing, and it was good.

Then God said, "Now we will make human beings in our own image. We will let them rule the fish, the birds, and all other living creatures." So God created humans in his own image; he made men and women. God gave them his blessing and command, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply! Fill the earth with people and take care of the world. Watch over the fish in the ocean, the birds in the sky, and every animal on the earth. I have provided all kinds of fruit and grain for you to eat."

The heavens and the earth were finished, along with all the things in the universe. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day.

In the day when the Lord God made the heavens and the earth, there were no grass or plants growing anywhere at first. God had not yet sent any rain, and there was no one to work the land. But streams came up from the ground and watered the earth. Then the Lord God took a handful of soil and made a man. God breathed life into the man, and the man came alive.

The Lord created a place called Eden, where he placed all kinds of beautiful trees and fruit trees. A river flowed out to water the garden, then it divided into four rivers — the Pishon (*PIE-shon*), the Gihon (*GEE-hon*), the Tigris (*TIE-gris*), and the Euphrates (*you-FRAY-teez*). Then the Lord God put the man in the Garden of Eden to take care of it and to look after it.



From Genesis 1:26 - 2:15

Bible Rhyme

Way back when the world began
everything was good and grand.
Last of all in God's great plan,
he made made a woman and a man.

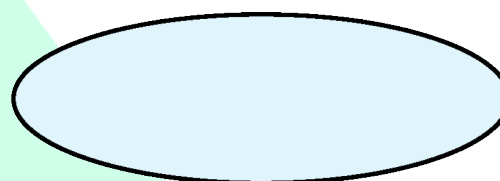
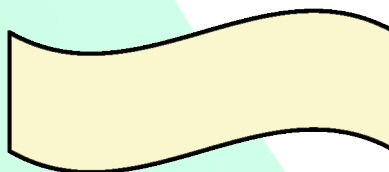
God said as he made the humans:
"In our image, let us make them."
Blessing them to grow and thrive,
God gave them breath to come alive.

With all the blessings God had given,
God gave them both a place to live in.
For their home God made a garden
full of fruit and called it Eden.

Stewards of God's Creation

God created human beings to be stewards (caretakers) of creation. We are good stewards of God's gifts when we take care of all the things God has given us. We do this because we know that God has given us everything, and we are thankful!

What are some things for which you are thankful? Fill in each shape below with a word.



God gave Adam and Eve a wonderful garden called Eden in which to live and work.

Think about the kinds of things you would need to do to take care of a garden. Put a check mark in front of the sentences that list what a good garden caretaker **would** or **would not** do.

YES NO

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| ☐ | ☐ | Plant seeds in good soil. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Walk on top of the new plants. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Pull any weeds that start to grow. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Let the plants get enough sunlight. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Make sure to water the growing plants. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Dig up seeds every day to check on them. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Let bugs chew up the leaves of the plants. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Allow the large plants to tip over and break. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Use good fertilizer to feed plants in the garden. |
| ☐ | ☐ | Flood the garden with water until it is all mud. |