



Friday of Respect Life Week
Caring for Creation
Grades 1-3

Theme: Appreciating God’s Gift of Our World

Goal: To introduce children to the concept that God has given us a beautiful gift in the creation of the entire world around us. Students will explore creation and see how caring for it is a prayer of thanksgiving to God.

Materials: He’s Got the Whole World in his Hands ([video link](#))
The Creation Story ([video link](#))
What Does It Mean to Be Green? ([video link](#))

Lesson: Have the children gather in a circle on the floor. Play and sing the song, “He’s Got the Whole World in his Hands” ([video link](#))

Talk about what the song means—that there is nothing in creation that God did not intend and find to be good. From the mountains to the trees to all of the creatures on the earth to each and every person, God created them all just the way he wanted them to be.

Scripture: The Creation Story – Chapters 1 and 2 ([video link](#))

Questions for Discussion

What do we learn about the way God created the world?
Is God far away from us or is he very much involved in how the world works?
Does God seem happy with his creation? Why or why not?
Who did God put in charge of the animals and the garden?
How do you think Adam and Eve took care of the animals and the garden?

Watch: What Does It Mean to Be Green? ([video link](#))

Questions for Discussion

What does it mean to be “green?”
Is it important to be “green?” Why or why not?
What are some ways you can be “green?”
Does being “green” show love and respect for God’s earth?

Activity:

1. “Do”: Have students go around the classroom to identify items to discard, recycle, or put away.
2. “Commit”: Give each student a piece of green paper. Ask them to draw or write ways that they will be “green” this week at home.

Prayer:

*Father, we thank you with all your wonderful creatures
and all of the beautiful plants and flowers on our earth.*

*Everything in creation came forth from you;
they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love.*

Help us to always treat your creation with love and respect.

Amen

Lesson adapted from the plans on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Life, Justice and Peace website.