

General Church Education



# The Fifth Day

Genesis 1:20-23

## Lesson 5

Youth Journey Program

# Creation: Reflection of God

Level A: For ages 5-6 years

# Teacher Background

## Creation: Reflecting God through Correspondences

### A Key for Understanding the Word

There is a New Church teaching that, “The Word of God is like a body with a living soul” (*Arcana Coelestia* 1408). Many readers have sensed this deeper level of meaning within the words and images of the Bible.

God wrote His Word so that every image contains multiple levels of meaning. The literal meaning focuses on the natural, physical world. A deeper symbolic meaning focuses on the world of the spirit, the world of the human mind. The relationship between the two levels is called “correspondence”. Natural images and symbols “correspond” to spiritual qualities.

We often make this connection between levels without thinking about it. For example, we may talk about not “muddying the waters”, or say that a child is “testing the waters”. When we say “not muddying the waters” we are not talking about water at all; we are saying that false or misleading ideas should not be brought into a situation. Similarly, a child “testing the waters” is experimenting with his or her behavior to see how others react. These sayings make connections between the way true ideas work in our minds with the way water works in the natural world.

Jesus made connections like this in His conversations with people. To a woman at Jacob’s well, He said, “Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14). Jesus was associating the true spiritual ideas He came on earth to teach with water. The connection is in how they are useful—how they work in our lives. True ideas from the Word cleanse our thoughts just as water cleanses our bodies.

Sometimes these connections are harder to see in the stories of the Old Testament. The key, according to the Heavenly Doctrine for the New Church, is this concept of correspondences. Correspondences allow us to see more than the general allegory of the human journey to the “promised land” of heaven. They help us see who God is and what He intends for us in specific ways. A knowledge of correspondences can help us gain fresh insight into the stories of the Old Testament.

This is true for the creation story. The Heavenly Doctrine explains creation in terms of a person’s step-by-step spiritual progress along the path to heaven. Each “day” of creation pictures a new level of personal development. The seventh day is a beautiful picture of the restful state of heaven—a state free from the struggles against selfishness that we all deal with in this world.

The spiritual meanings of the days of creation are interwoven throughout this lesson. We hope they bring this familiar story to life in new ways.

Correspondences are natural truths in which spiritual truths are reflected as in a mirror. *Arcana Coelestia* 9300



# The Fifth Day

# Level A

Genesis 1:20-23

Ages 3-6

**Life Focus:** The Lord made me.

**Lesson Focus:** The Lord creates everything in our amazing world.

**Reading:** Then God said, “Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.” So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” So the evening and the morning were the fifth day (Genesis 1:20-23).

Lesson 5		Materials Supplied	Materials Needed
<b>1. Getting Started</b> (2-3 minutes)	<b>Welcome Warm-up Activity</b>	<b>Swim Like a Fish, Fly Like a Bird</b> directions p. 4	
<b>2. Focus on the Word</b> Use all activities (5-7 minutes)	<b>Read the Word</b>	<i>see Reading above</i>	
	<b>Talk About It</b> discuss the reading	<b>Talk About It</b> discussion guide p. 4	
<b>3. Learn by Doing</b> Choose 1-2 activities (15-20 minutes)	<b>Make and Act</b> make a bird and a fish; have a parade— “fly” a flock of birds and “swim” a school of fish	<b>Fish and Birds on Parade</b> directions p. 5 <i>Fish on Parade</i> p. 7 <i>Birds on Parade</i> p. 8	scissors, stapler, glue, glitter, crayons or markers, paper scraps to stuff fish, 12 in (30 cm) of yarn or ribbon per child
	<b>Make a Service Project</b> make ornamental feeders for children to take home and hang up for the birds	<b>Feed the Birds</b> directions p. 43 <i>Bird Seed Ornaments</i> <i>Photo Directions</i> pp. 9-10	circle-shaped cereal; string, twine or yarn (18 in/45 cm per child); masking tape  OR bird seed (3 cups for every 4-6 students), unflavored gelatin, boiling water, round cookie cutters (1 per child) or plastic/Styrofoam egg cartons, twine (12 in/30 cm per feeder), wax paper, spoons, bags
	<b>Coloring Picture</b>	<b>The Fifth Day</b> p. 11	crayons, markers or colored pencils
<b>4. Wrap It Up</b> (2-3 minutes)	<b>Memory Verse</b> introduce memory verse for the week	<b>Memory Verse</b> p. 6 <i>Parent Note</i> p. 12	



# 1. Getting Started

## Welcome Fly Like a Bird, Swim Like a Fish

### Warm-up Activity

Get the children to talk about the many kinds of fish the Lord has created. Encourage the children to name or describe fish they know e.g. fish in aquariums, ornamental pools, rivers, lakes and oceans. The Word does not say “fishes”, but all kinds of creatures that live in the sea. Expand thinking by mentioning other creatures, e.g. octopus, crab, whale, etc. Pretend to be in the ocean and swim like a sea creature! Call out the name of a sea creature. Encourage the children to “swim” around the room, moving like that creature.

Repeat the activity with birds. Introduce birds of prey (e.g. eagles) that soar high in the sky and see everything with their amazing eyes, water birds (e.g. ducks) that swim and large land birds (e.g. ostriches). Get up and move around the room, flapping your arms like a bird. Imagine what you see, feel the wind, rest on a branch, land in a field, etc. The Lord made so many amazing animals—each one is different.

# 2. Focus on the Word

## Read Genesis 1:20-23

**Talk About It** The story of creation is at the beginning of the Word. Which book of the Word tells us about creation? Genesis. It means beginning.

**Today we are talking about the fifth day of creation. What did the Lord create on the fifth day?** Fishes and other sea creatures, and all kinds of birds.

**Let’s all take a deep breath. Breath in. Hold it for a couple of seconds. Now breathe out. Could you breathe if you were under water?** No, your nose would get full of water. The Lord made fish and many other sea creatures so they can breathe under water.

**How are fish useful?** They clean water in ponds by eating insects and plants that could fill the whole pond. We can keep them as pets. Some fish are also good food for us to eat.

**What kinds of fish do you like?**

**Imagine you could fly like a bird! What would the world look like from so high up? You would be able to see all around!**

**Have you ever seen a bird’s nest? How do birds build their nests?** With their beaks. Imagine making something that is woven so delicately with a beak!

**Our bodies are covered with skin. What are birds covered with?** Feathers. Feathers are useful in many ways; wing feathers allow birds to fly, tiny downy feathers keep birds warm when it is cold, colorful feathers help birds find a mate, camouflage feathers keep birds safe.

**In what ways are birds useful?** They give us eggs to eat and feathers that we can use for pillows, comforters and warm winter coats.

**The Lord made birds and fish in many colors, shapes and sizes. Each one is a unique and special part of the Lord’s amazing creation!**

# 3. Learn by Doing

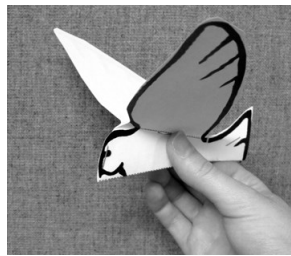
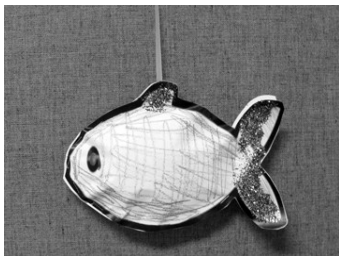
Choose one or two activities

**Choice**

## Fish and Birds on Parade

Create a paper dove with wings that can flap, and a fish on a string. Parade around the room with doves in hand, moving together like a flock, and changing leaders. Parade around the room with fish on strings and “swim” like a school of fish. Practice changing directions together!

1. Cut out two copies of the fish. Decorate with crayons, glue and glitter. Inspire each child to make a special fish of his or her own!
2. When both sides of the fish are decorated, staple the two sides together. Crumple some scrap paper to stuff inside as you staple.
3. Staple yarn or ribbon inside the top fin. Hold the ribbon or yarn to make the fish “swim”.
4. Cut out the dove (one copy). Fold the body in half along the central fold line. Fold the wings downwards on the fold lines. (See picture below.)
5. “Fly” the bird, by holding the body and moving it up and down. Watch the wings flap!
6. Practice “flying” together like a flock of birds and swimming like a school of fish.
7. FISH: Practice changing directions all together like a school of fish.
8. BIRDS: The lead bird decides where they will go. Flocks change leaders periodically because the lead bird uses more energy. Let everyone have a turn being the leader.



**Choice**

## Feed the Birds

Make a simple bird feeder to attract birds. See how many different kinds of birds come to visit! Choose from two simple designs.

### Cereal Circle

String circle-shaped cereal pieces on an 18” (45 cm) length of twine. Tie a knot or cereal piece at one end of the twine and wrap masking tape around the other end for easier threading. When the twine is full, knot the ends together to form a circle. Hang outside on a tree for the birds to enjoy.

### Activity Hint!

Show pictures of colorful tropical birds and fish. Point out the wonderful variety! Look for stripes, dots, and bright colors. Encourage the children to “create” their own special fish and birds!

Videos are available at [www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation](http://www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation)

### Materials for Each Child

2 copies of *Fish on Parade* p. 7, and 1 copy of *Birds on Parade*, p. 8, scissors, piece of yarn/ribbon 18” (45 cm) long, stapler, crayons or markers, glitter, glue, paper scraps to crumple and stuff in the fish

### Prepare in Advance

Copy the fish and birds (pp. 7-8) ahead of time. Note that each child will need 2 fish. If children require a lot of help cutting, cut birds and fish out ahead of time.

### Cereal Circle

#### Materials for Each Child

circle-shaped cereal pieces, 18” (45 cm) piece of twine or string, masking tape





## Feed the Birds *continued*

### Bird Seed Ornaments (Photo Directions on pp. 9-10)

Make a no-bake seed “cake” for the birds to enjoy.

1. Spread wax paper on the table at each child’s place. Cut an extra square of wax paper approx. 6x6” (15x15cm) for each child. Put a cookie cutter, Mason jar lid or several sections of a Styrofoam or plastic egg carton, and a piece of knotted string at each child’s place.
2. Put 1 package (1/4 oz) unflavored gelatin into a mixing bowl. Teacher adds 1/4 cup boiling water and stirs until dissolved.

The ratio of water-gelatin suggested creates a cake that firms fairly fast. Do NOT mix ingredients before your activity time as it will set too fast! Prepare ahead of time by setting up a mixing bowl with dry gelatin powder. Mix in the boiling water and seeds during the activity.

3. Children can add 3 cups bird seed. Stir until the seed is thoroughly coated (the children can stir as it cools).
4. The children can spoon the seed mixture into their molds. When the mold is half full, cover the seeds with wax paper and press firmly. Put the knotted end of the string into the mold. Fill the mold up completely with the seeds and gelatin mixture. Press down firmly again.
5. Set aside and allow to dry in mold. Gently press out of mold when dry. Send home in a bag. Hang on a bush or tree for the birds to enjoy.

**Choice**

### Coloring Picture: The Fifth Day

Hand out copies of *The Fifth Day* (p. 11) and invite the children to color it.

#### Important Note

This project may take up to half an hour to become firm enough to remove from a cookie cutter mold. Reverse the order of your lesson if this will create a hardship OR use segments of Styrofoam or plastic egg cartons and send the project home in the mold to avoid drying time issues.

#### Bird Seed Ornaments Materials Needed

1/4 oz package unflavored gelatin, 3 cups birdseed, 1/4 cup boiling water, bowl to mix, spoon to stir, 12” (30cm) string, measuring cup, spoons (1 per child), wax paper, bag to take project home, *your choice*: 1 cookie cutter per child (round/heart-shaped) OR 1 Mason jar lid OR several segments of a Styrofoam or plastic egg carton

**Materials for Each Child**  
*The Fifth Day* p. 11; crayons, markers, or colored pencils

## 4. Wrap It Up

### Memory Verse

Read the memory verse aloud. Invite the children to repeat it after you and then have them try to say it on their own.

**God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves...and every winged bird according its kind.**

Genesis 1:21

### Closing

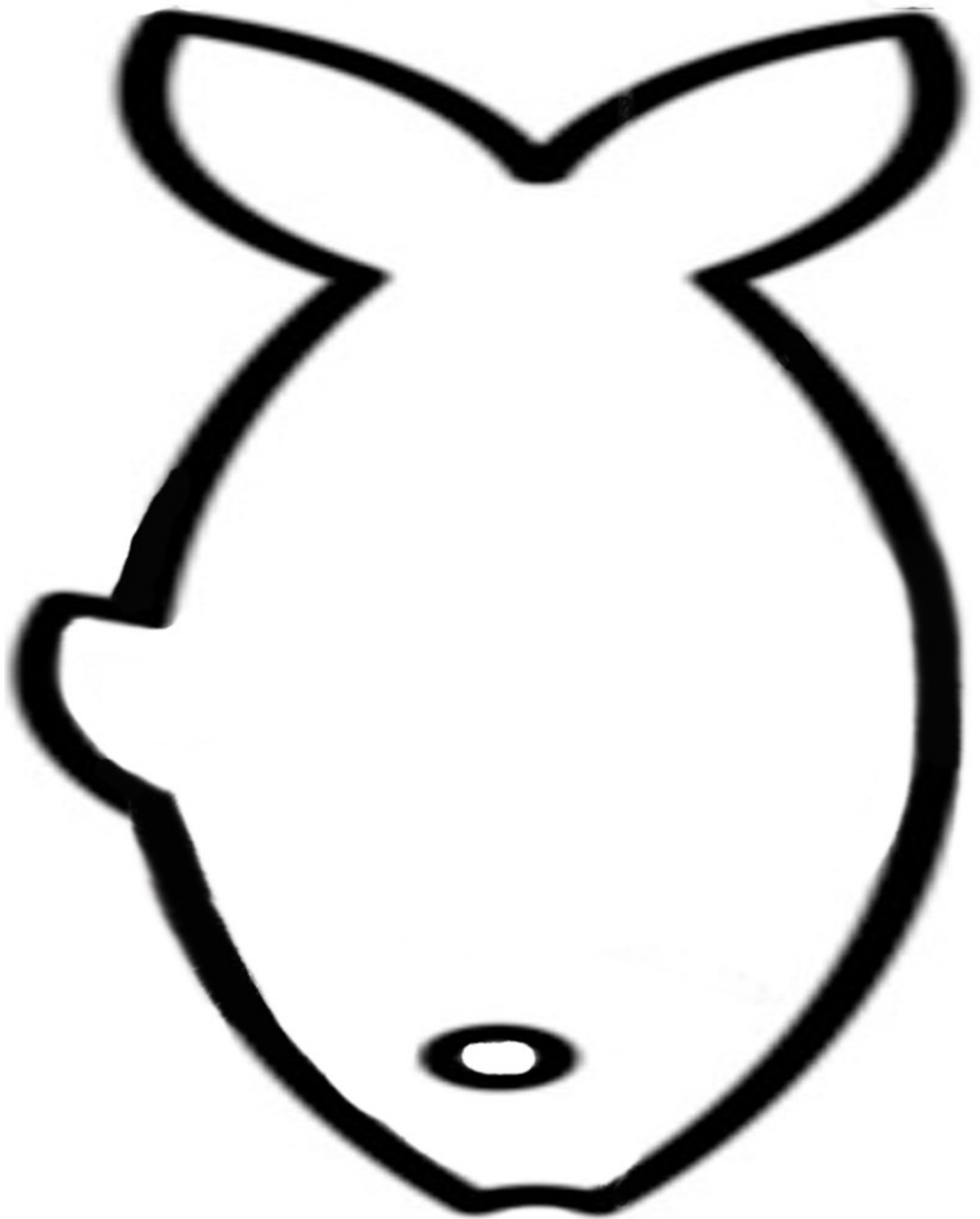
In what ways are fish special?

In what ways are birds special?

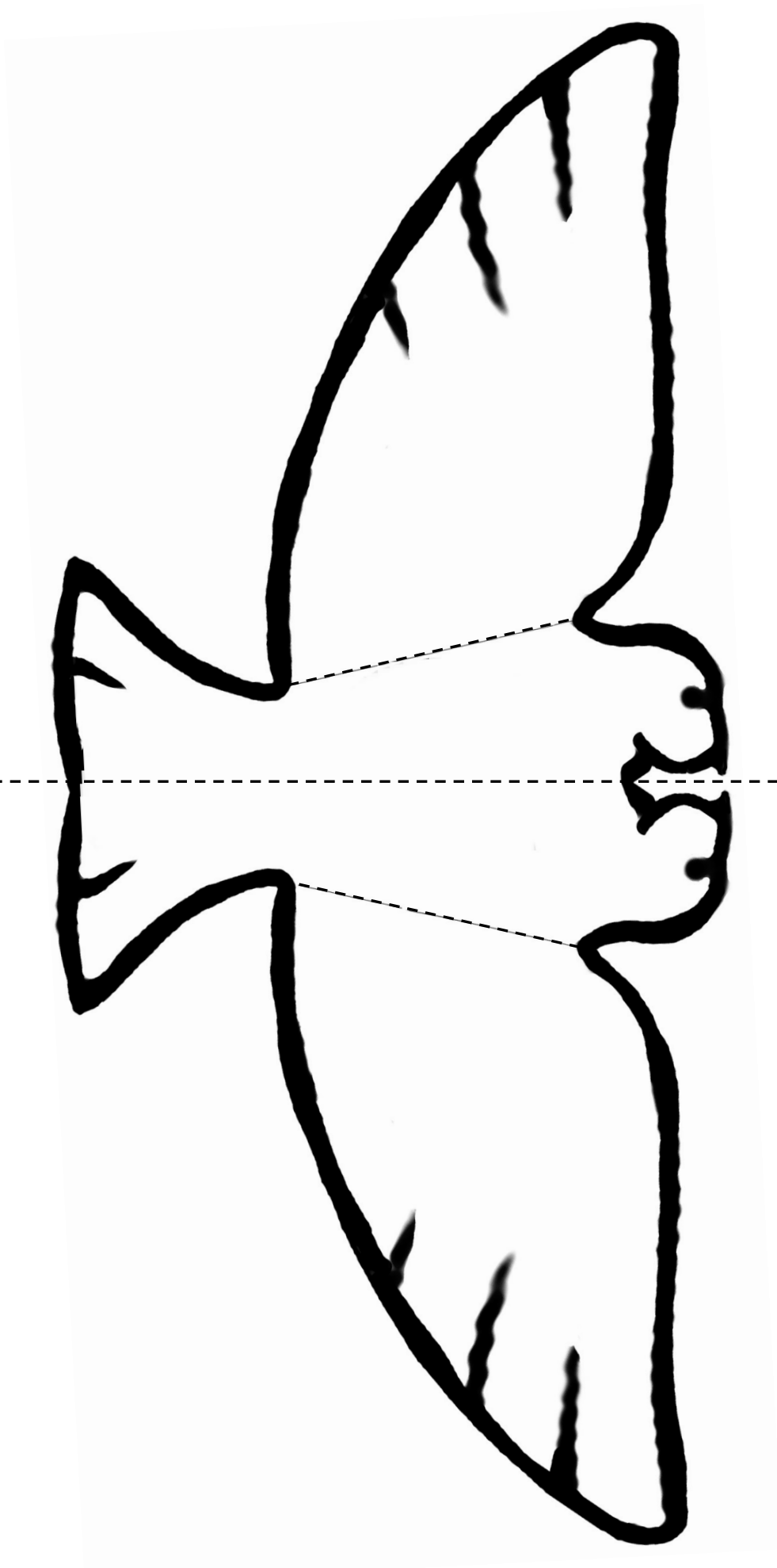
What is your favorite fish or bird?

All the beautiful fish and birds in the world can help us remember how amazing the Lord is!

**Give *Parent Notes* (p. 12) to children as they leave.**



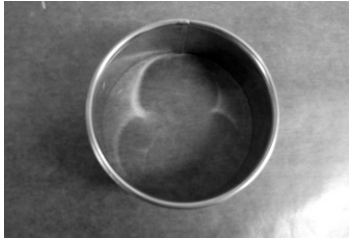
Fish on Parade



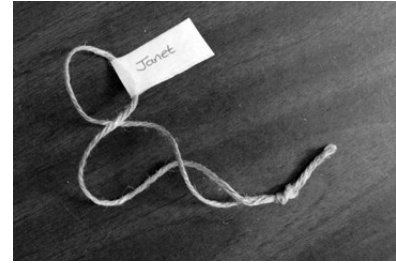


# Bird Seed Ornaments Photo Directions 1

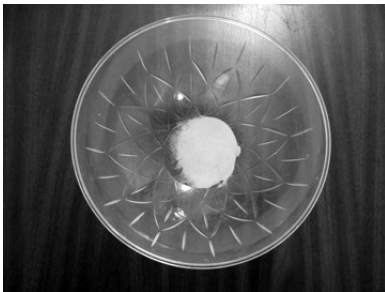
1. Set a place for each child with a cookie cutter (or Mason jar lid or sections of egg carton), 18" length of twine tied at one end, wax paper to cover the table and a smaller square of wax paper to compact the bird seed.



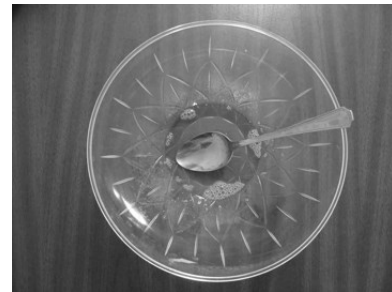
2. Label the string with masking tape if desired.



3. Empty a 1/4 oz package of unflavored gelatin into a mixing bowl.



4. Add 1/4 cup boiling water and stir until dissolved.



5. Add 3 cups birdseed and stir until well mixed.



6. Spoon coated bird seed into cookie cutter. Cover with small square of wax paper and press down firmly.



7. When the cookie cutter is about half full...

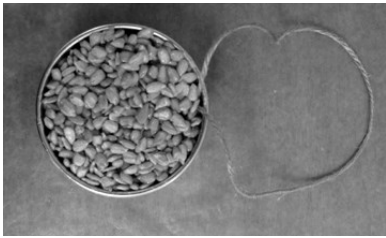


8. ...place string on top of the seeds. Continue to add coated seeds and press down firmly.



## Bird Seed Ornaments Photo Directions 2

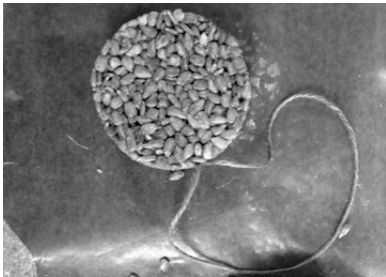
9. When completely full, allow to firm up. This may take 5-10 minutes. Continue with another lesson activity while you wait.



10. Gently press the seed cake out of the mold.



11. Allow to harden on a sunny windowsill or near a heater.

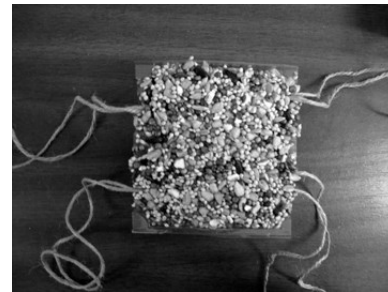


12. Put feeder into a bag to take home. Remind the children to hang the feeder up outside for the birds to enjoy! The birds (and other animals) can also use the string for nesting!

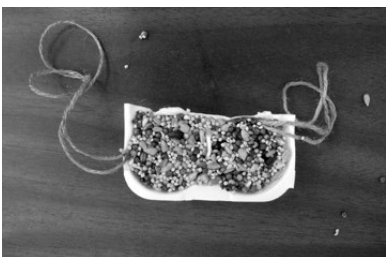
13. Alternatively, use a Styrofoam or plastic egg carton instead of a cookie cutter. Cut into 2-4 piece sections. Fill and press seeds into carton.



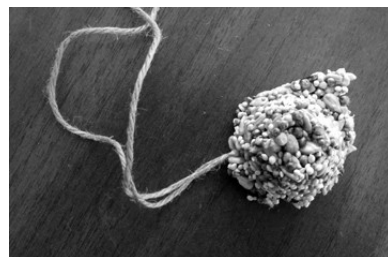
14. Provide a string for each egg carton section the children will be filling. When firm, gently cut or pry sections apart and remove from the mold.



15. Here is a Styrofoam carton with two sections.



16. Put feeder into a bag to take home. Remind the children to hang the feeder up outside for the birds to enjoy! The birds (and other animals) can also use the string for nesting!





## Parent Notes

Make a copy for each child. Hand out as children leave.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT NOTE</b></p> <p>Dear Parents,                  Today we learned how the Lord made fish and birds, Genesis 1:20-23. They help us see that the Lord is infinite because they come in so many amazing shapes and colors. There are videos online that can help us see this at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation">www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation</a>.</p> <p>We encourage you to help your child keep the Lord's Word in his or her heart by learning this week's Memory Verse. Try saying it once or twice in the morning, at mealtime or before bed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves...and every winged bird according to its kind (Genesis 1:21).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT NOTE</b></p> <p>Dear Parents,                  Today we learned how the Lord made fish and birds, Genesis 1:20-23. They help us see that the Lord is infinite because they come in so many amazing shapes and colors. There are videos online that can help us see this at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation">www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation</a>.</p> <p>We encourage you to help your child keep the Lord's Word in his or her heart by learning this week's Memory Verse. Try saying it once or twice in the morning, at mealtime or before bed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves...and every winged bird according to its kind (Genesis 1:21).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT NOTE</b></p> <p>Dear Parents,                  Today we learned how the Lord made fish and birds, Genesis 1:20-23. They help us see that the Lord is infinite because they come in so many amazing shapes and colors. There are videos online that can help us see this at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation">www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation</a>.</p> <p>We encourage you to help your child keep the Lord's Word in his or her heart by learning this week's Memory Verse. Try saying it once or twice in the morning, at mealtime or before bed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves...and every winged bird according to its kind (Genesis 1:21).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PARENT NOTE</b></p> <p>Dear Parents,                  Today we learned how the Lord made fish and birds, Genesis 1:20-23. They help us see that the Lord is infinite because they come in so many amazing shapes and colors. There are videos online that can help us see this at <a href="http://www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation">www.bitly.com/WondersOfCreation</a>.</p> <p>We encourage you to help your child keep the Lord's Word in his or her heart by learning this week's Memory Verse. Try saying it once or twice in the morning, at mealtime or before bed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves...and every winged bird according to its kind (Genesis 1:21).</p>