

Animals: Outcomes and activities

Land animals and mini-beasts

God is Creator Foundation Year

Spiritual Awareness:

God created all living things. He created the animals on Day 6 of the Creation.

Our response to 'God is Creator'

- **Thankfulness** to God for His supernatural ability to create and provide the things we need to live.
- **Trust** in a mighty, supernatural God. Recognize that He is in control of all He has made.
- **Stewardship**: showing care for the universe He has created.

Outcomes: Students will

Knowledge

Understand that animals are living – they move, breathe, eat and drink

Understand the requirements of animals

Understand that insects, spiders and snails are also animals, (minibeasts)

Understand the requirements of looking after a pet

Skills

Classification of land animals and mini-beasts

Classification of animals according to size, colour and species

Values

Care for animals and their habitats

Thankfulness for God's provision of animals, which provide food and clothing

Key Questions

What is an animal?

How did the animals get here?

What animals are there in my community?

Which animals have lived in Australia for a long time, when only the First Australians lived here?

Which animals have been brought to Australia from other countries?

How many types of mini-beasts can you think of?

Activities

Land animals: (Creation Day 6) Which land animals live in Australia?

Find pictures, draw and list different kinds of land animals. Look at the difference in size and appearance of mother and father and their offspring. Give the correct names for each one. Dogs have puppies, cats have kittens, bears and lions have cubs.

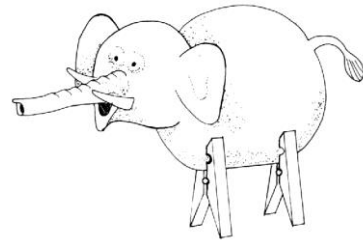
Which have fur?

Which don't have fur?

What do they eat?

Where do they sleep?

Make an animal from cardboard or paper *or* Make animals from modelling dough.



Free play with sets of plastic land animals and dinosaurs.

Encourage sorting of animals into groups such as pets, farm animals, wild animals and dinosaurs.

Dinosaurs are nothing more than extinct animals that once lived at the same time as people and were created on Day 6 of the Creation week, along with the other animals. It is important that children realize that dinosaurs are not millions of years old, as library books and TV programs tell us, but only about 6,000 years old, as old as the Creation.

Create a grassland or jungle scene: Africa or India. Stick on grass, trees, animals, birds of the jungle or grassland.

Footprints: Look at the feet of various animals and think how Father God designed them to suit what they do. The duck's webbed feet are ideal for swimming and walking on wet mud. The hen's feet would not be any good in water, but are fine for walking around the yard or barn. Draw some footprint patterns for the student to match to the animal's feet, e.g. horseshoe pattern, pig's trotters, duck's webbed feet, lizard's tracks

Farm Animals: What does the farmer have to do to look after the animals? What would each animal need?

Cows need milking twice a day, and is usually done by a machine now. But it used to be a job done by hand.

Sheepdogs help the farmer to round up the sheep.

What we get from animals: milk, cheese, butter, eggs and meat. Sheep also give us wool.

Set up a vet centre

With toy dogs, horses or whatever toy domestic animals you can find.

Minibeasts

God created: insects, spiders, snails, slugs, centipedes and worms. We can call them 'minibeasts'.

Insects:

Insects all have a body in three parts - head, body and tail part. The head has eyes, mouth and two feelers. The body has six legs (and some have wings attached). Then the tail part.

Insects are designed by God and many insects help us:

Honeybees: They have a clever tube-shaped mouth that sucks sweet nectar from flowers. They do a special dance to tell other bees where to fly to get nectar from flowers. Who likes honey?

Ladybirds: Ladybirds are a kind of beetle. Under its red wing covers are wings ready to fly whenever they need to. It is helpful insect because it eats garden pests.

Butterflies: are beautiful! What colours can they be/ They start their life as an egg, which hatches into a caterpillar, and the caterpillar turns into a butterfly!

Ants: Live together in special underground homes that they build. They all help one another.

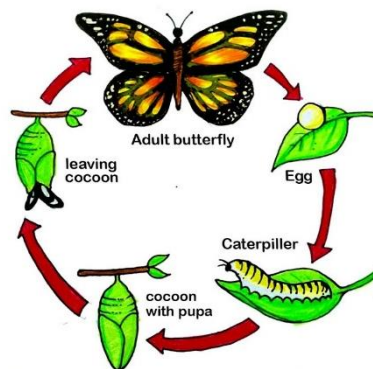
Make a list of different kinds of insects.

Make an insect play box sand tray. Find stones or make salt-dough “cookies” which become a base for gluing on pictures of minibeasts. Add leaves and other natural items. The children can play with the pretend minibeasts in the sand tray. They will enjoy holding them or putting them under leaves etc.



Make a collage of insects in their environment, e.g. a bee on a flower, a caterpillar on a leaf, a dragonfly on a pond.

Make a butterfly life cycle chart.



Use paint to make a butterfly print, by folding paper in half, painting half a butterfly on one side and folding it over along mid line.

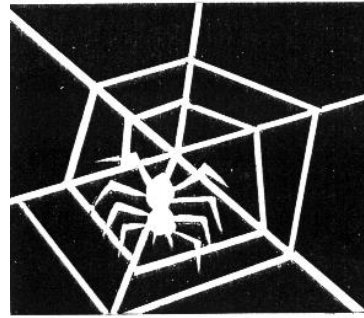
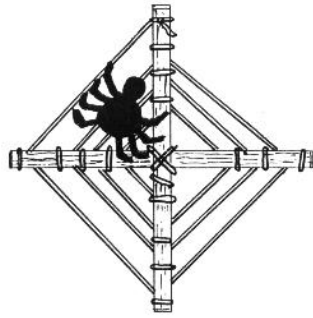


Ants: Make a 3D ant from cardboard, folding the cut-out in half

Spiders: Spiders have -

8 legs and only two body parts; many eyes that can see all around. They spin webs with fine silk that comes from their tail. They eat insects that get caught in their sticky web.

Make models of spiders and make a web for them with sticks and string...Or paper strips ...



Snails have shells.

Slugs look like snails but they do not have shells.

Most snail species have tongue that contains thousands of tiny teeth, for eating food. What do they eat?

Land snails eat leaves, stems and flowers.

There are also sea snails which eat both sea weed and shell fish.

A snail moves very slowly. It is one of the slowest creatures on Earth.

As they move along snails leave behind a silver trail of slippery slimy stuff that helps them move along.

Make snails, or make snail collages using crushed eggshells for their shell.

Earthworms are the slimy, pink, wiggly worms you commonly see on the ground after it rains. Many people use them as fishing bait, but the common earthworm is actually very important for our gardens. Earthworms make the soil healthy.

Earthworms live in the ground and wiggle through the dirt making tunnels. These tunnels allow water and air to travel through the soil. Earthworms also eat the soil, which breaks it up and makes it good for growing plants.