

GOD IS PROTECTOR

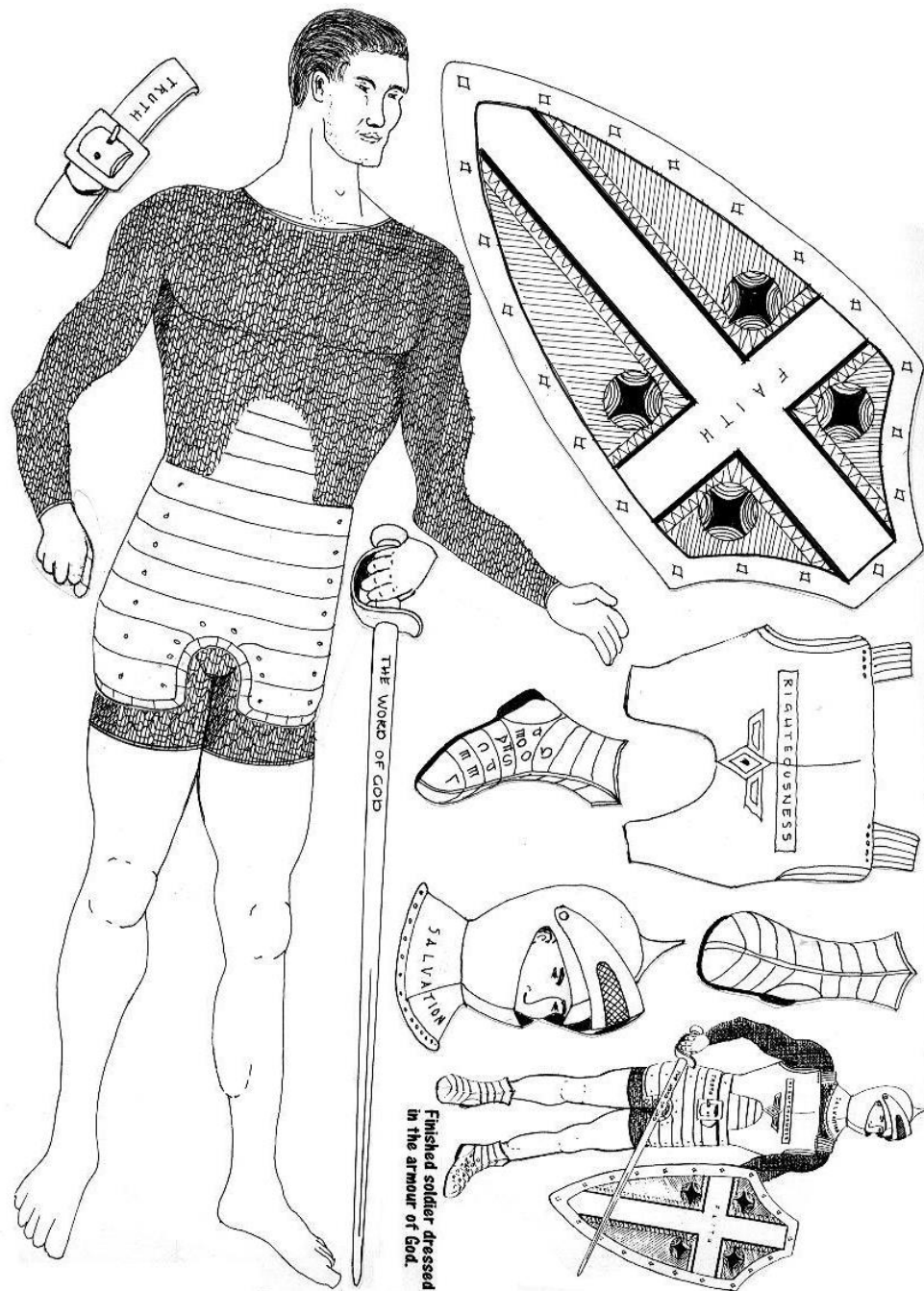
**How animals
protect themselves**

Term 4

God is Protector – How animals hide

God protects us from the power of Satan, by giving us the armour of God.

God gives animals a way of protecting themselves – some through camouflage, some through protective shells and some through protection of animal parents.



How God protects animals

Everything has enemies. Insects eat other insects. Birds chase insects in order to catch and eat them. Spiders try to catch insects in their webs. Because sin is in the world, we see animals killing other animals. But God has given all living things some way to keep themselves alive.

Fish and sea creatures

No matter what colour the top of a fish may be, a fish's tummy is white. This keeps its enemies that are below from seeing the fish so easily in the water. The backs of some fish are the same colour as the things around them, and this helps them to hide them from their enemies. Some fish, like the flounder, sink to the bottom where there is a lot of sand. It is nearly impossible to tell the sand from the fish. The squid and octopus throw out a black inky liquid when they are attacked, so the enemy cannot see it, giving it a chance to get away.

Minibeasts

The wasp, the spider and the bee defend themselves by their bite and sting.

Birds

Brightly coloured birds are easily seen in trees and bushes, so the Lord protects them by giving them the strength to fly away quickly. Some of the larger birds like the parrot, have such strong beaks and sharp claws that their enemies are afraid to attack them. Eagles fly so high and so fast that other birds can't follow them and the hunters can't reach them.

Reptiles

Snakes are protected by their ugliness, by their strength and by their poisonous bite. Alligators and crocodiles can't run very fast, but they have a coat of thick, hard, stiff hide to protect them. They also have sharp teeth and strong jaws. Turtles and tortoises have a house on their back made of a very hard substance, almost as hard as stone. When danger is near, it crawls into its house, closes all the doors and windows, and waits to see what will happen. If a dog barks, the turtle doesn't open the door to see what's going on. The dog would try to eat it! As long as the turtle stays in the shell, the dog cannot find the place to get hold of it. There is no taste to the shell, so nothing wants to eat it.

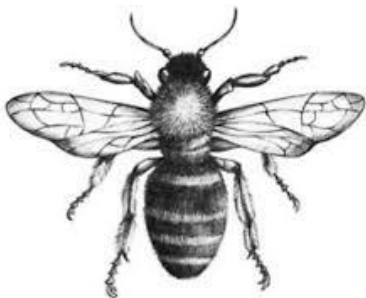
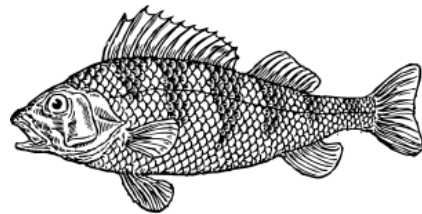
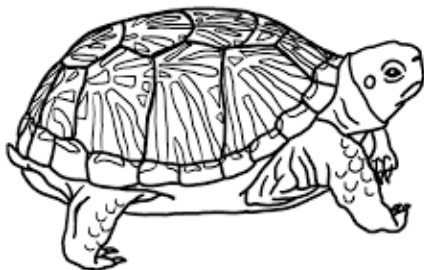
God protects us too!

All living things have some kind of protection – even people. Our Heavenly Father knows that children need special protection, so He gives them fathers and mothers to look after them, and homes, and food and clothes. He has also provided the Lord Jesus Christ to protect us from sin and Satan, our enemy. When we put our trust in Him we are safe from sin. He keeps our minds from bad thoughts. He keeps our hearts from wanting wrong things.

Psalm 91:11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Activity

Draw each of the animals below and write a sentence to show how God gives this animal protection.



Draw a picture in each box

How animals hide

1

Many animals hide to protect themselves from danger.

2

Many animals can blend in with the colours and patterns around them.

3

A sand crab is the same colour as the sand. It is hard to see.

4

A zebra has stripes which helps it to blend in with the shadows of the trees.

5

A brown moth blends in with the tree trunk that it sits on.

6

A green tree frog is hard to see among the leaves of the rainforest.

7

A stick insect looks like a twig on a branch.

8

A green caterpillar is hard to see on a green leaf.

9

Some animals can change their colour to blend in.

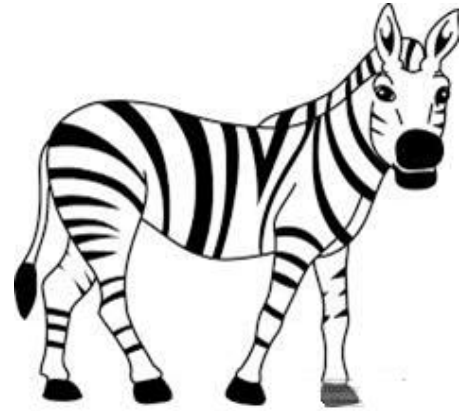
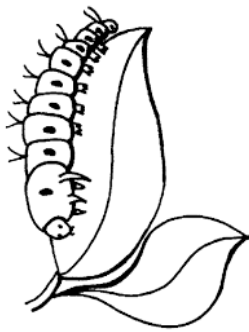
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A chameleon can change colour to blend in with the plant that it hangs on to.

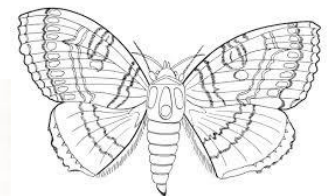
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How can animals do this? Only God could make animals to do this. When He made them, He knew that one day they would have to protect themselves from danger.

12



chameleon





Crabs

1

Crabs do not have bones. Most crabs have strong thick shells instead. The shell protects the crab from sharp rocks.

2

The shell protects the crab from other sea animals too. A small fish will not eat the crab.

3

Insects have six legs. Spiders have eight legs. Crabs have ten legs. On the front legs a crab has claws.

4

Claws help the crab to pick up food.

5

Crabs can fight with their claws.

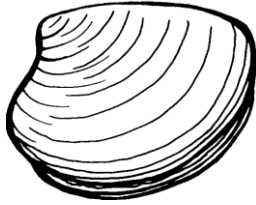
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Most crabs eat dead fish and dead sea animals.

7

Sometimes they eat pieces of food left by big fish.

8



Shellfish

1

Some shellfish have only one shell.

2

Some shellfish have two shells.
These shellfish can open and close
their shells.

3

Most shellfish with one shell live on
rocks. These shellfish have a large foot
to help it cling to the rocks.

4

The shellfish also uses its foot to
move with.

5

Most shellfish with two shells live
in the sand or the mud.

6

These shellfish use their large foot
to dig in the sand.

7

A clam hides from other animals by
doing this.

8

Some shellfish eat tiny plants and animals that float about in the water.

9

Most shellfish live in the sea.

10

Some shellfish live in rivers or lakes.

11

Shellfish belong to the snail family. Snails live on land.

12

Many shellfish are good to eat. Some people eat snails too.

13

Fish like to eat shellfish too.

14

The shell of a shellfish protects it from small fish.

15

A shellfish does not have a backbone. It has a shell instead.

16

The story of the chick

Copy the story into your book. Fill in the missing words and draw a picture for each.

egg crack hatches feet chick

1. The mother bird lays an egg, in a nest. She protects the _____ by keeping it warm.
2. Soon a young _____ begins to grow inside the egg. Soon there is a head, a beak and _____
3. After about 21 days the egg begins to _____ and the chick starts to hatch.
4. A young chick _____ from the egg, ready to start its new life.

