

Miracle in the Storm

Lost at sea! Seth and his grandfather seemed so helpless in the small fishing boat that tumbled up and down on the high waves. Just a short time ago the sea and sky had looked so beautiful, so peaceful, and now . . . If only the storm would go away and the clouds wouldn't hide the sky!

Seth shivered in the dark. "Grandpa!" he called out fearfully. "Grandpa, where are you?"

His grandfather appeared in the doorway of the small cabin. "I'm right here, Seth. Don't be afraid. God will help us. Why don't we pray together right now?"

Seth carefully edged his way to the cabin door. He took hold of his

grandfather's hand and bowed his head as his grandfather prayed. Seth heard him asking God to be with them and guide them through the storm. He could feel his fears leave as he listened to the quiet words. He felt such a peace down in his heart.

Inside the small cabin they sat quietly for a while. Through the windows they watched the storm. Then Seth's grandfather suddenly exclaimed, "We're going to make it!"

Seth followed his grandfather out of the cabin. As they stood on the deck, they watched a miracle happen! The dark clouds parted, and a brilliant stream of light from the moon fell across the troubled sea. Then one by one the stars came out from their hiding places. And slowly the sea became calmer.

"Look, Grandpa!" Seth cried out excitedly. "Isn't that the North Star?"

"It sure is," his grandfather replied.
"We are no longer lost. We can now use
the stars in the heavens to guide us
safely home!

"You know, Seth," he continued, "after a storm like that we should be ever so grateful for God's wonderful creation. Some people don't realize that God placed those stars very carefully in space. He knew that each part of His universe would play a special part in the times and seasons

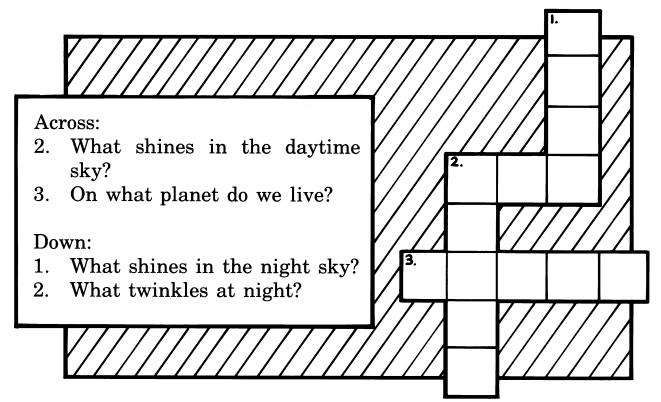
of each year. We should be very thankful for the sun and the moon. And right now, you and I should be especially thankful for those stars! Because of them we can know exactly which way to travel. Let's just get this boat headed toward home."

Seth followed his grandfather back into the cabin. He looked up at the sky through the cabin window. "Thank You, God," he prayed, "for making all the stars. Thank You for putting them in the sky to guide us."

Then he turned and said, "Grandpa, I can hardly wait to get home. I'm going to tell all my friends about this miracle in the storm."

Crossword

Fill in the words on the puzzle below. They are words about God's creation.



Parent's Corner

In this unit of lessons, we look toward the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, so for our theme we have chosen the topic of being thankful. Our first lesson focuses on God's creation of the earth, stars, moon, and sun.

For an activity you can share this week, cut a two-inch star-shaped pattern from a piece of cardboard. Allow your child to trace around it onto a piece of yellow felt, and then cut out the star he has drawn. The star can be decorated by gluing on little shapes cut from other colors of felt scraps.

If you wish, glue the star to a length of ribbon so it can be used as a bookmark. Down the ribbon write the words, God Made It!

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 97:6

MONDAY: Deuteronomy 8:10

TUESDAY: Psalm 19:1 WEDNESDAY: Acts 14:17 THURSDAY: Psalm 104:19 FRIDAY: Nehemiah 9:6 SATURDAY: Psalm 147:4

Bible Text

Genesis 1:1-8,14-19

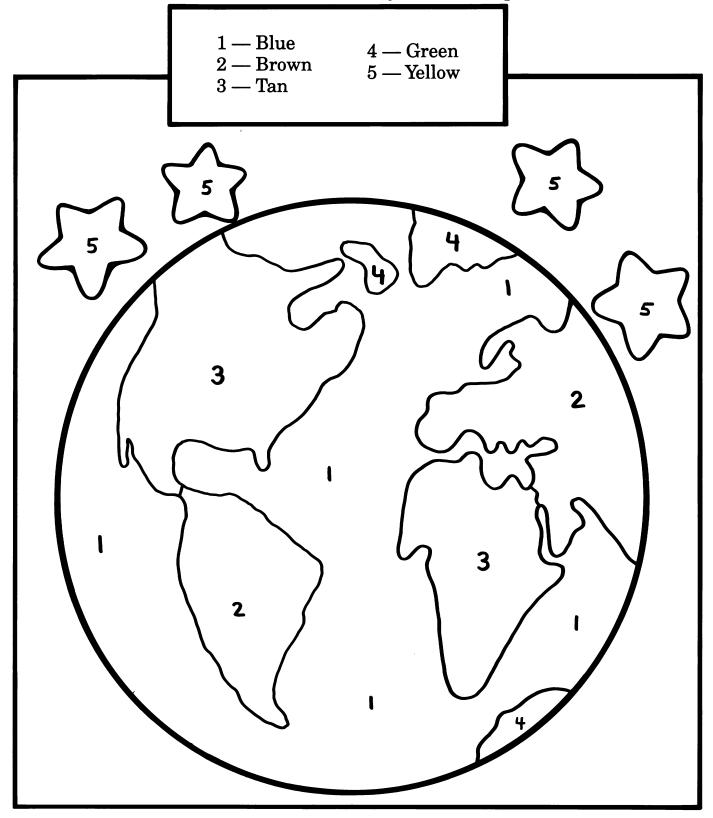


Memory Verse

The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. — Psalm 97:6

See God's Glory

Use the correct color for each number as you color the picture of our world.



Name: _



God Made It All

Up until his eighth birthday Troy had lived in the big city. How different the sights and sounds around the farm were compared to the loud janglebang he was used to. It was so quiet and peaceful here.

When his family had first moved to the country, Troy had been sure he would be bored forever! He had missed having neighbor kids who lived close by. He had even missed being able to run to the corner store to spend his allowance. But now Troy didn't think he would ever be bored again. There was just too much to explore and enjoy here in the country! It was early morning and Troy was sitting on the front steps when he heard Simba barking. He laughed as the golden-colored spaniel stumbled and bumped her nose while running to meet him. He had been thrilled when his dad brought this new puppy home. They hadn't been able to have any pets in their apartment in the city.

"C'mon, girl!" Troy said, getting up off the porch steps. "Let's go check out the garden. Dad says my pumpkins are almost ready to pick."

Troy and Simba raced across the green lawn, through the barnyard, and down the hill to the spot Dad had given him for his very own garden. It seemed like only yesterday he had planted those little seeds. Now there must be close to thirty pumpkins! Their round, orange shapes were scattered in the tangle of thick vines.

"They look really good, Simba," he said. "I think people will buy all of the ones I put out at our roadside stand. Thanksgiving is almost here, and they can't make a pumpkin pie with out a pumpkin!"

Then Troy saw his dad coming out of the barn. He had just finished milking the cows. Troy and Simba ran back up the hill to meet him.

"Hey, Dad, will you be able to go down to the creek with me today?" he asked. "You said we should go before all the trout were gone." His dad laughed. "I think today would be just fine. We'll go after lunch. Do you think you'll have your chores finished by then?" he asked.

"Sure I will. Come on Simba, let's get busy," Troy called over his shoulder as he ran toward the house. Even with chores to do, he still liked the country.

Later that afternoon, Troy and his dad returned from the creek with their catch of fish. "Dad, I love our new home in the country. It was fun helping to plant our garden and watching it grow. The fishing is great! And being able to have a puppy of my very own is super," Troy said as he knelt down to give Simba a hug.

"I'm so thankful God made such a beautiful world."

Riddles

Write in the missing words in the riddles below.

1. I live in the water. I rhyme with tale. I am a w	4. I am round and red. I am good in pies. I am an a
2. I live on a farm. I give milk. I am a c	5. I live in the jungle. I am king of the beasts. I am a l
3. I grow tall and green. I help make a forest. I am a t	Can you make some riddles about God's creation? Share them with a friend.

Parent's Corner

An awareness of the beautiful world God has created for us to enjoy is something that should be developed in every child. As we study how God created the plants and animals, it is a good time to talk about how thankful we should be for these things He has provided for us.

Take your child on a nature walk around your own neighborhood. Count the number of animals, birds, and insects you see. (He may enjoy keeping a tally sheet as you walk.) Also point out all the different kinds of trees and plants.

Have him pick up two or three leaves to use for making leaf prints when you get home. To make leaf prints, fold thin white paper in half. Place the leaf, face down, inside the fold. Peel paper from a scrap of crayon, and run the side of the crayon over the top layer of paper, leaving an imprint of the leaf.

Time Together for Family Devotions

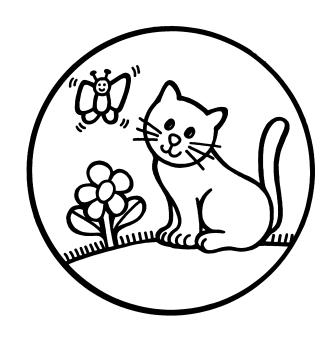
Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Psalm 92:5 MONDAY: Psalm 68:19 TUESDAY: Psalm 104:24 WEDNESDAY: Hebrews 6:7 THURSDAY: Genesis 8:22 FRIDAY: Genesis 9:3

SATURDAY: Deuteronomy 8:10



Genesis 1:9-13,20-25

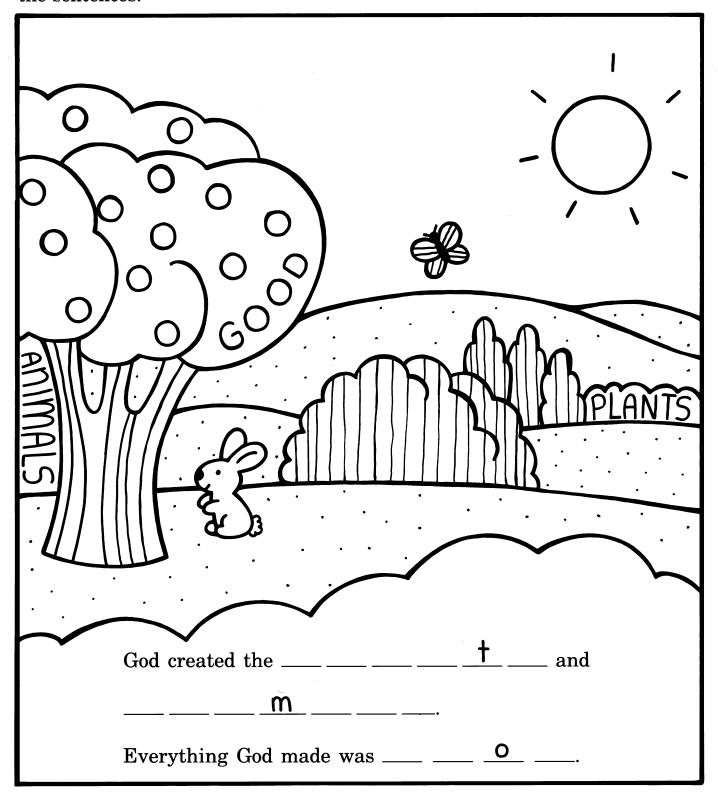


Memory Verse

O LORD, how great are thy works! — Psalm 92:5

God's Beautiful World

Find the words hidden in the picture. Write them on the lines below to complete the sentences.



Name:			
manne.			



God's Greatest Creation

Justin had been working for quite some time with a big drawing tablet and a set of marking pens. He was busy drawing some kind of plans. His mom looked over his shoulder and asked, "What are you drawing, Justin?"

Justin held up his drawing so his mother could see it better. "I'm inventing a robot, Mom! I still need to make a few changes on this, but when I'm done it's going to be the neatest machine ever made. See? It has arms that swing, legs that run and skip, and hands that write and carry things. It can see, and hear, and smell, and taste. When I finish, I'll call it 'Justin's

Greatest Creation."

His mother laughed, "Justin, your machine has already been invented!"

"Oh, c'mon, Mom!" Justin's look was disbelieving. "I've seen the kind of robots they sell at the stores. None of them can do the things my robot will do."

"Come here, Justin." His mother led him over to the mirror in the hallway. "Look there! Arms that swing, legs that run and skip, hands that write and carry things. You can see, hear, smell, and taste."

"You're right, Mom!" Justin grinned and said, "God is the greatest Inventor of all time!"

"And guess what?" his mother continued, "God's robot comes in a whole bunch of different models. The one right next to you does all the same things, but it is taller and has brown hair instead of red."

"And every model made is a special one-of-a-kind!" Justin said, "Right, Mom?"

"Now, it's fun to think of us as robots that God created. But we are really more than that. We were made in the image of God. That is something very special because that makes us God's greatest creation. Everything else was made especially for us to enjoy. God said that man would be in charge of all the animals. Remember, God even told Adam to name each of them.

"And something very unique about each of us, Justin, is that we can worship and love God! None of the rest of God's creation can do that."

Justin held up his drawing again. "Well, it's a pretty good drawing, but nobody can do a better job than God can," he said. "I'm thankful that God was such a good inventor, aren't you, Mom?"

My Hands Hands are special. We can do many things that animals cannot do. We have fingers and thumbs. We can write. We can hold things. Some people even talk with their hands! On the lines in the hand write something special you can do with your hands. On each finger write words of thanks and praise to God who made you.

Parent's Corner

The human body is one of the greatest wonders of God's creation, and in our next lesson we will be focusing on how God created us and breathed into us the breath of life. Emphasize to your child that we are the only living thing made in the image of God.

How thankful we should be for our bodies. Have your child examine his hand. Talk about the skin, the muscles, the blood, and the bones . . . how wonderfully they all work together.

Your child would enjoy making a lifesized portrait of himself. Spread a large piece of white butcher paper on the floor, and have your child lie down on it. Trace around him with a heavy black marking pen. Then allow him to draw in the details of his clothes and features, and color it.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Colossians 1:12 MONDAY: Psalm 139:14 TUESDAY: Job 33:4

WEDNESDAY: Genesis 5:1 THURSDAY: Psalm 100:3 FRIDAY: Genesis 1:26,27 SATURDAY: Isaiah 45:12

Bible Text

Genesis 1:26-31



Memory Verse

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us. — Colossians 1:12

I Am Special

Say to yourself, "I am special. God made me." It is true. There is no one just like you. Fill in the blank lines below as well as you can. You may have to have someone at your home help you finish.

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	SCHOOL

Name:



Something That Will Last Forever

"Mom, what's a 'living soul'?" Kelly asked. "Part of my memory verse for next Sunday says, 'man became a living soul."

Kelly's mother was mixing up some pancake batter for their breakfast. She paused for a moment, and then said, "Well, God gave each one of us a living soul. We can't see a soul or touch it, but . . ." Her mother thought for a minute. Then she pointed to an egg on the counter. "Kelly, tell me what that egg looks like."

Kelly looked puzzled but she said, "Well, it's white, and kind of roundish, only not exactly . . ."

Her mother nodded. "That's right. You are telling me what you see with your eyes. You are describing the shell of the egg. But the really important part of the egg is inside the shell, isn't it? And you can't see that, can you?

"In a way, that is like a soul," she continued. "Kelly, when I look at you I see a pretty girl, with freckles and strawberry blond braids. But I can't see the real you with my eyes. That is your soul. But I know it is there because that is the way God talks to a person, through the soul. It is the most important part of you. And it will live forever and ever!

"When your Sunday school teacher talked to you about giving your heart to Jesus, she was talking about your soul. If Jesus lives in your soul you are a Christian. You will feel a real love for Jesus and will live for Him here on earth. And, Kelly, when a Christian dies, his soul is the part that goes to live with Jesus in Heaven."

Kelly nodded slowly. "I think I understand now, Mom. I love Jesus very much. He makes me feel happy deep inside. I love to sing the Sunday school songs about Jesus. And I feel good whenever I pray and talk to

Jesus. Is that my soul that wants to praise and sing about Jesus?" Kelly asked.

"That's it, Kelly," her mother answered. "Aren't you glad that you gave your life to Jesus? Now you can work for Him while you live here on earth. You can tell all of your friends that Jesus loves them and that He can make them happy too."

"Yes," Kelly nodded. "And I'm even more happy that I will live with Jesus in Heaven someday! Mom, I'm so thankful Jesus gave me a soul that will last forever."

In God's Image

We are made in God's image. He loves us and wants us to be like Him. We should love and help others. Read the list below. Check the things that you could do to help others.

Talk to them if they are sad or lonely.
Don't help them with any of their chores.
Imagine how they feel at certain times.
Pray for them.
Bother them when they need quiet time.
Give them something to cheer them when they are sad.

Parent's Corner

In this lesson we will explore the fact that God gave man a living soul. This is something that is a bit difficult to explain to the primary-age child. Perhaps a definition your child could grasp is that your soul is the part of you created especially to love and worship God, and the part that will live on forever.

Our memory verse for this lesson is quite long. Work with your child so he will be able to say it from memory. Play some games together to achieve this goal. Divide the verse into six or seven sections (including the reference). Write each section of the verse on an index card. Arrange the cards in order. Say the verse together then remove a card or two and see if your child can still say the verse. Continue removing more and more of the cards.

For a variation, try shuffling the cards together and timing your child to see how long it takes him to put them into the proper sequence.

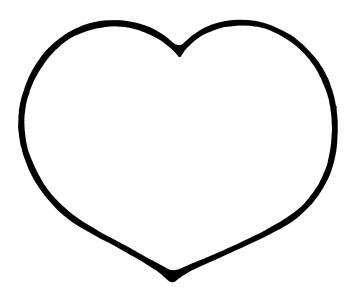
Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Genesis 2:7 MONDAY: Matthew 10:28 TUESDAY: Psalm 62:5 WEDNESDAY: Romans 13:1 THURSDAY: Psalm 33:20 FRIDAY: Psalm 130:5,6 SATURDAY: Matthew 16:26

Bible Text

Genesis 2:7; John 3:3-7

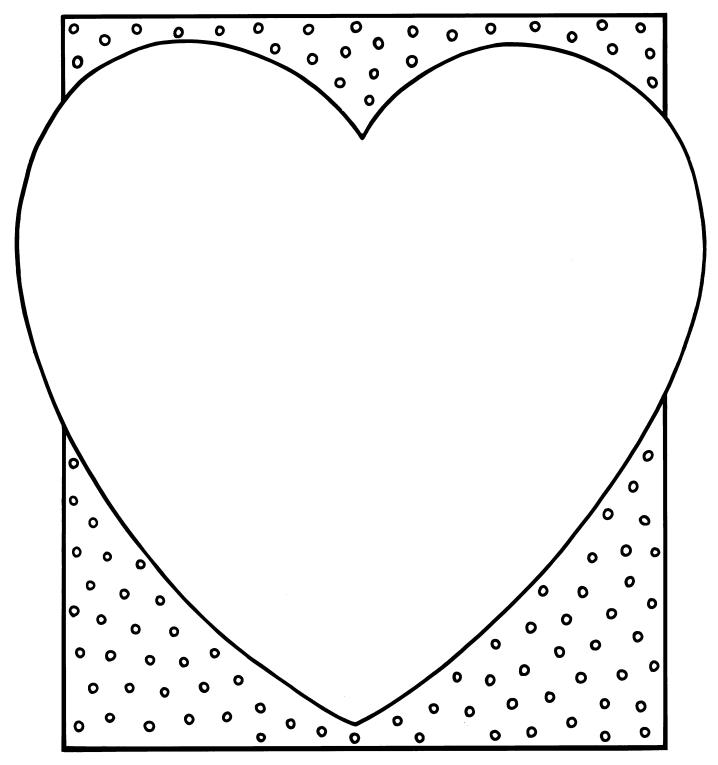


Memory Verse

The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. — Genesis 2:7

Thank You, Jesus

God loves us and shows His love in many ways. He gave everybody a living soul. The Bible says we should love God with all our souls. If we love God with all our souls we will live with Him forever. In the heart, draw a picture of where you want to live forever.



Name:



What Do You Think?

"Charlie said I don't have a brain in my head!" Janie stormed to her mother. "I do so, don't I, Mom?"

"Yes, Janie," her mother smiled. "Of course you do. Your brother was only teasing you."

"Well, I told him I did have a brain, but he just laughed. How can I show him I do, Mom?"

"Well, calm down for now, Janie," her mother said. "You can't show him your brain. But all the things you are able to do prove that you have one."

Janie looked puzzled. "What do you mean?"

"When God made us," said her

mother, "He gave us a mind. That's the most important part of our brain. Our mind is what helps us remember things. That is called our memory. That way we are able to learn things. We can learn to read and memorize Bible verses. We can learn to sing new songs. We can learn to tie our shoes and ride a bike."

Her mother went on. "Sometimes you may feel sad—like when Charlie teases you. Sometimes you may feel happy—like when Daddy takes us to a park. We have feelings like that because God gave us a mind.

"And one very important part about

our mind is our thoughts," she continued. "Sometimes you might think about sad things. You may even start to feel sorry for yourself. If that happens you had better be careful. The devil wants you to think about sad things. And sometimes he tries to give you scary thoughts. The devil likes it when you are scared. But in our Bible, the Apostle Paul says we should only think about things that are good.

"You already know, Janie, that you should always tell the truth. And you know that you should never say bad things about another person, even if they are true. But did you know that it isn't even good for you to think about things that are false? And you should never think bad things about someone else. And if you ever feel scared, you

can start singing a good song, like 'Jesus Loves Me.' Or you can just start thanking Jesus for all the things He has done for you. If we will think about the good things, we will have perfect peace. That is a promise from God!"

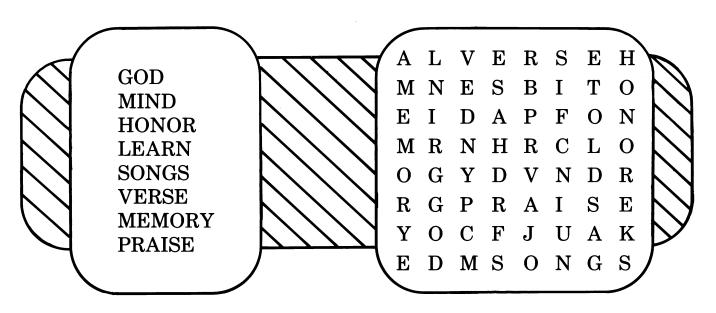
"Well, I feel happy right now," laughed Janie. "I am thankful God gave me a mind. And Charlie will believe that I do have a brain when I thank him!"

"What do you mean?" asked her mother. "Why are you going to thank Charlie?"

"Well, I didn't like him at all when he was teasing me. But now I'm glad he did," replied Janie, "because I've learned that I'm much happier if I think only about good things! I'm going to go and find Charlie right now."

I Remember

We can use our minds to honor God. We can learn to sing songs of praise to God. We can memorize Bible verses. Find and circle the words that are about honoring God with our minds.



Parent's Corner

This lesson will help your child understand that God gave each of us a great gift when He gave us a mind. It is marvelous and complex, and it gives us the ability to do many things.

To zero in on particular skills and functions of the mind, give your child a large piece of paper and a pile of colored squares cut from construction paper. Explain that this week he will build, on paper, as big a tower or building as he can, using the squares of paper. When he does something that his mind made possible (for example, ties his shoes), he may write that on one square and glue it onto his sheet of paper.

At the end of the week, look over the building he has glued together and reinforce once more what a wonderful gift from God our mind is.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Matthew 22:37 MONDAY: Daniel 2:23 TUESDAY: Proverbs 3:13 WEDNESDAY: Romans 8:6 THURSDAY: Philippians 2:5

FRIDAY: Psalm 19:14 SATURDAY: Psalm 104:34

Bible Text

Genesis 6:5-7; Psalm 119:113 Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:8

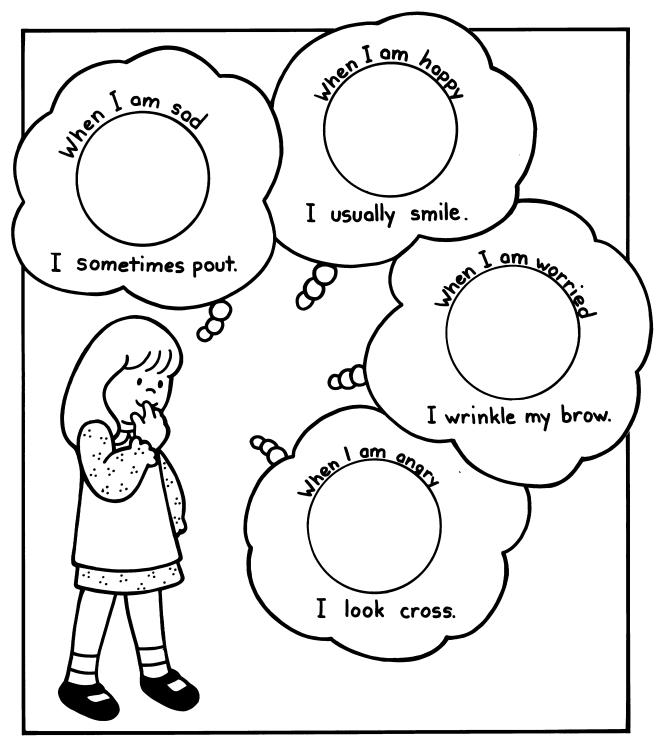


Memory Verse

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. — Matthew 22:37

How Do You Feel?

We have been studying about people—God's special creation. God gave each person a mind. The mind controls the feelings and emotions. In the thought balloons below are several different feelings a person might have. Draw in the face to match each feeling.



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