

22 Special Studies

1.	Naming the Animals	12.	Elijah's Ravens
2.	Noah's Dove	13.	Elisha's two Bears
3.	The Proud Ostrich	14.	Daniel's Lions
4.	The Behemoth on Land	15.	Jonah's Great Fish
5.	The Leviathan in the Sea	16.	The Temple Doves
6.	The Frogs in Egypt	17.	The 2,000 Swine
7.	The Deadly Quail	18.	The Fish with a Coin
8.	The Fiery Serpents	19.	The Donkey's Colt
9.	Balaam's Talking Donkey	20.	Paul's Viper
10.	The Scapegoat	21.	Tribulation Predators
11.	Samson's Foxes / Jackals	22.	The Kingdom Animals

The animals, birds, and fish in the Bible that were selected for this set were real and in most ways ordinary, but they were special in how they were used. Thus the great fish / whale which swallowed Jonah and the donkey which was enabled to speak to Balaam were probably not different in their basic nature from others of their kind even though the Creator chose to use them in special ways.

Seven Keys to the Special Animals in the Bible

1. The Creation Connection

For each study, the Bible passage is to be read AND some articles on the animal or bird therein are to read as well. Thus, these studies can easily be linked to Christian school / homeschool science projects.

For instance, for the study on Balaam's talking donkey (Numbers 22:22-35), one will learn through outside reading that donkeys are highly intelligent and protective. So though the donkey being able to speak was, of course, miraculous, the things that she said were in line with what a normal, intelligent, domestic donkey would have thought.



2. The Gospel Connection

Four of the studies are in the Gospels. Moreover, the gospel can be made clear through animal studies, such as one on the fiery serpents (Numbers 21:4-9). The lifting up of the bronze serpent was like the sacrificial lifting up of the Son of Man on the cross (John 3:14-15). Those who by faith looked up were saved.



Doing a study on the kinds of vipers that live in the Arabian desert may not be pleasant, but neither is a serious study on the deadly nature of sin. Yet, on the other hand, the gracious nature of the forgiveness of sin is clearly seen through the study on the scapegoat (#10).