

ACTS @ FACTS

VOL. 52 NO. 8

INSTITUTE FOR
CREATION RESEARCH

ICR.org

KIDS EDITION
2023

Kids!



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Ice Age

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Gemstones & Jewels

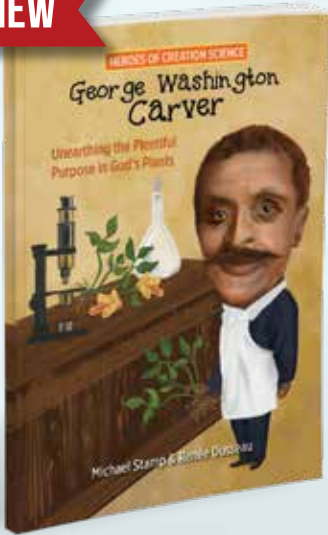
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HEROES OF CREATION SCIENCE

NEW



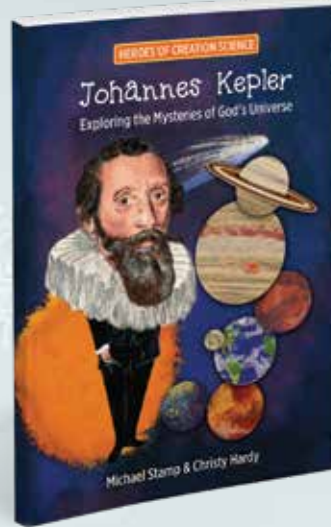
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— George Washington Carver



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— Johannes Kepler

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Published by

INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH

P. O. Box 59029

Dallas, TX 75229

214.615.8300

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[Jesus Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

(Colossians 1:15-20)

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Institute for Creation Research

ISSN (print): 1094-8562

ISSN (online): 2833-2806

All Scripture quotations are from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated.



Front cover: Axolotl
Image credit: iStock | GlobalP

Just for Kids!

Hi, kids! We hope you enjoy this kids' edition of *Acts & Facts*! Did you see the creature on the cover? Its funny name is on page 4 along with fun amphibian facts. On the other pages you can explore fascinating creatures like poodles and pups and elephants, trek through the Ice Age, peer into black holes—and more. God has given you gifts to enjoy and take care of the wonderful world He created. But more than anything, we want you to know how much Jesus loves you.



Want more copies? Scan the QR code to download and print the *Acts & Facts* PDF. Or go to ICR.org/CreationKids for the printable PDF. You can also find Creation Kids activity pages there.

Merry Christmas from ICR!

Jayme Durant

Jayme Durant

Executive Editor and
Director of Communications



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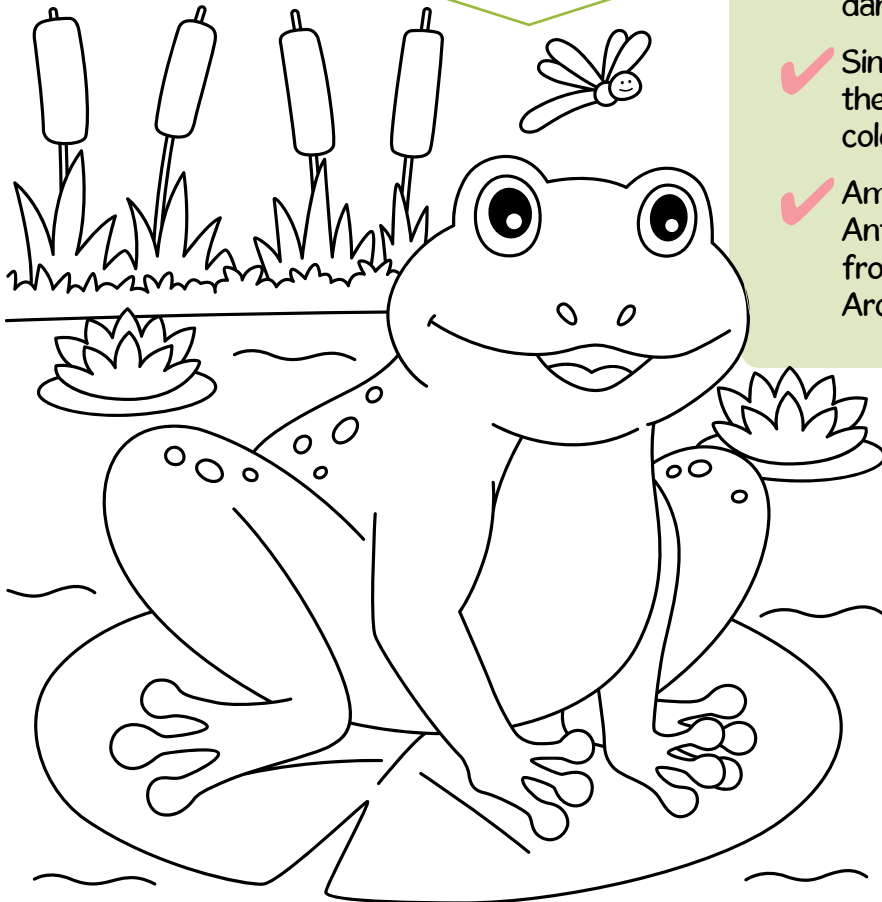
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Amazing Amphibians



The axolotl (ACK-suh-lah-tul) is a type of salamander, but unlike many amphibians, this vibrant creature lives in water its entire life.

Color the frog picture below.



God's creation is filled with all sorts of incredible animals—like amphibians! These colorful creatures start their lives in water, but they become land-dwellers as adults. Amphibians are vertebrates, which means they have backbones. There are over 6,000 known species of amphibians. Our Creator, Jesus Christ, provided them with the exact traits they need to thrive all over the world!

Did you also know...

- ✓ Amphibians include frogs, caecilians, and salamanders.
- ✓ Most amphibians grow into their adult form through metamorphosis. During this process, they lose their gills and develop features to survive above water, such as legs and lungs.
- ✓ To protect themselves, many amphibians have brightly colored skin. This feature helps them blend in and/or warn predators that it's dangerous to eat them.
- ✓ Since their body temperatures depend on the environment, amphibians are known as cold-blooded animals.
- ✓ Amphibians are on every continent except Antarctica. Some, like the Siberian wood frog, live in cold habitats as far north as the Arctic Circle!

Did you know?

Amphibians don't drink water—they absorb it through their skin.



Circle the five differences in the pictures below.



The Life Cycle of a Frog

Number the stages of the frog life cycle in order starting with eggs.

1. EGGS



___ TADPOLE
(with two legs)



___ TADPOLE



___ ADULT FROG



___ FROGLET



___ EMBRYO

Answers: 2. embryo, 3. tadpole, 4. tadpole, 5. froglet, 6. adult frog

Did you know?

The colors on the black and yellow-spotted fire salamander might look cool, but stay away! This creature sprays poison from behind its eyes, and its skin releases toxins, too. Today these features help protect salamanders from predators.



Make a Frog

Supplies: white paper plate; green paint; black, white, green, and red construction paper; scissors; a pencil; a paintbrush; glue; and a black marker



1. Paint the back of the paper plate with green paint. Let it dry.
2. Draw two big circles on the white paper and two small circles on the black paper. Cut out the circles.
3. Glue the black circles inside the white ones to make eyes. Glue them to the top of the plate.
4. Draw a crescent shape on the black paper and cut it out. Then glue the crescent on the plate as a smile.
5. Trace your hands on the green paper. Cut out the shapes and glue them to the back of the plate.
6. Cut a long strip of red paper for the tongue. Roll and attach it to the frog's mouth.
7. Draw nostrils with the black marker. Enjoy your froggy friend!



Poodles & Pups



There are paw-sitively so many things to love about dogs! For centuries, these energetic animals have been loyal companions to people. They have lots of different traits. Some have furry coats, pointy ears, and long noses. Our fuzzy friends were created by the Lord Jesus with all their unique features. Did you also know...

- ✓ Dogs have an incredible sense of smell and expert hearing, too.
- ✓ They're members of the canine family, a group of animals that also includes wolves, foxes, coyotes, and more.
- ✓ Many dogs are descendants of animals that closely resemble wolves. They have the genetic potential to create a huge variety of breeds—all within their kind.
- ✓ Today, the seven main groups of dog breeds are herding, working, sporting, non-sporting, hound, terrier, and toy.

How Old Are Dogs in Human Years?

How old a dog is compared to a human varies based on its size. Bigger dogs usually age quicker than smaller ones. For a medium-size dog, the numbers below provide estimated comparisons.

First year of a dog's life = 15 human years

Second year of a dog's life = 9 human years

Each year that follows = 5 human years

Did you know?

Dogs help people in many ways. They often have important jobs. A few examples include herding livestock, serving alongside police officers, and providing comfort to therapy patients.



Circle the two identical dogs below.



What colors of the rainbow can dogs see? Use the code below to find out.

a b d e l n o u w y

Can you name that breed? Use the words below to identify each dog.

- Poodle Golden Retriever Beagle Great Dane
 English Bulldog Shih Tzu Dachshund Dalmatian

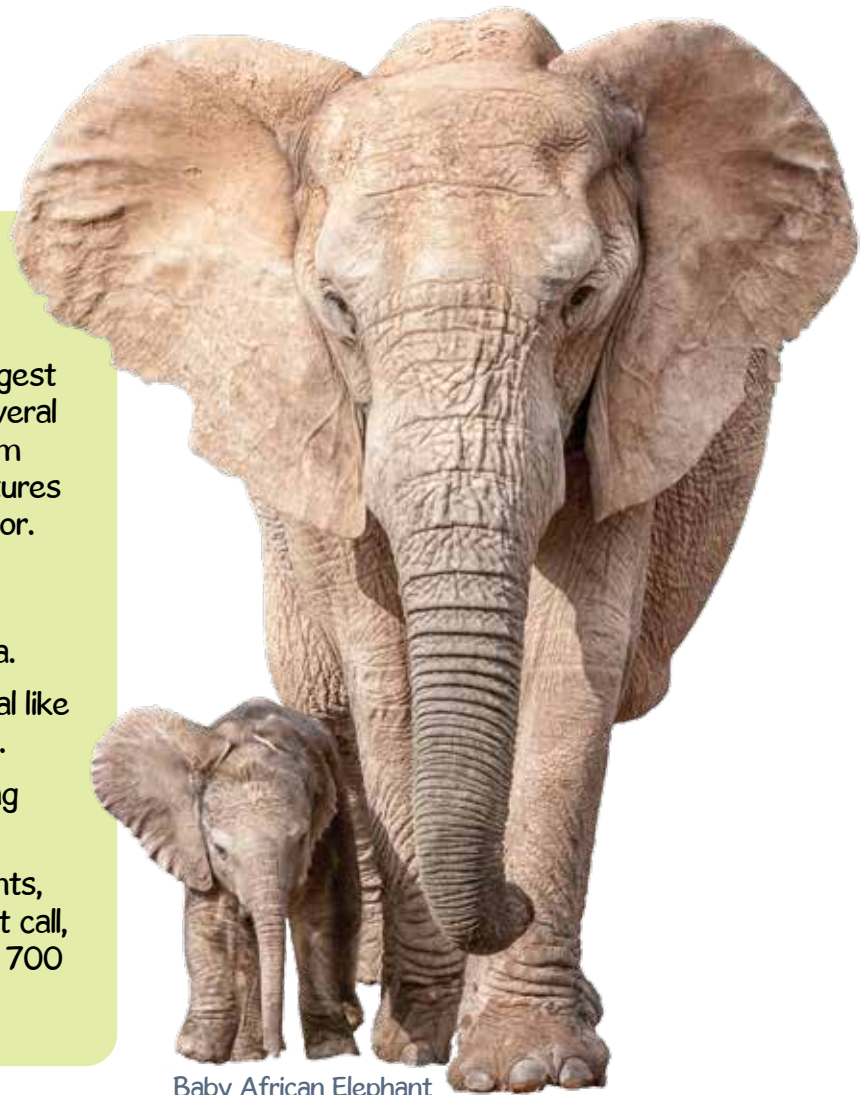
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____

Answers for what color: blue and yellow. Answers for Name: That Breed: 1. Dachshund, 2. Dalmatian, 3. Poodle, 4. Great Dane, 5. Golden Retriever, 6. Shih Tzu, 7. Beagle, 8. English Bulldog

Elephants

There are so many extraordinary things to discover about elephants. The Lord Jesus gave them tons of unique traits, like strong trunks and gigantic ears. They're also the biggest land animals in the world. Elephants live in several types of habitats across Africa and Asia. From tough tusks to hair-tipped tails, elephant features point to the wonderful artistry of their Creator. Did you also know...

- ✓ Three species of elephants exist today—Asian, African forest, and African savanna.
- ✓ As herbivores, elephants eat plant material like grasses, leaves, roots, fruit, and tree bark.
- ✓ Elephants have an expert memory, hearing ability, and sense of smell.
- ✓ An elephant's trunk is used to detect scents, draw water, carry things, sound a trumpet call, and greet other elephants. It can lift over 700 pounds!



Baby African Elephant with Its Mom

Connect the dots and color the picture.



Did you know?

You can tell the difference between types of elephants by their ears. African elephants have large ears that are said to look like the continent of Africa. How cool is that?

A baby elephant is called a calf. It can walk an hour after it's born!

Can you find the elephant in the room?



Silly Safari

Finish the story by filling in the blanks below.

Last night, I had a dream that my family went on a

safari in _____ . I saw a huge
(place)

_____ elephant with
(color)

_____ polka dots. It was eating
(color)

_____ and wore a _____
(food) (color)

_____. I watched it _____
(clothing item) (verb)

and _____ before I woke up. Maybe
(verb)

someday I'll have a pet elephant and call it

_____ !
(name)



The textured skin of elephants retains more water than smooth skin does. This ability helps them stay cool in warm climates. Isn't it awesome that God thought about their smallest wrinkles?

Asian Elephants

The Fall, Flood, & Fossils

Word Scramble

ofsils _____

dfolo _____

egesnis _____

taronice _____

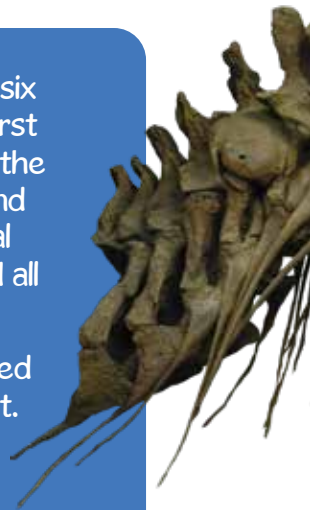
alfl _____

rtaeh _____

mniala _____

Our Creator, Jesus Christ, made the entire universe in six days. Everything He created was good, including the first humans, Adam and Eve. But they disobeyed God, and the world became cursed. After the Fall, the evil of mankind only got worse. So, God destroyed the earth in a global flood, but He saved a man named Noah, his family, and all kinds of animals on the Ark.

Most fossils today represent creatures that were buried rapidly by the Flood. They remind us of God's judgment. Our Creator won't ever flood the earth again, but we're still separated from Him. That's why God sent His Son to die for our sins. By trusting Jesus as your Savior, you can live forever with Him. It's the most amazing plan of rescue ever!



Fill in the Blanks

"For God so loved the _____ that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever _____ in Him should not perish but have everlasting _____." (John 3:16)





T. rex

How old are fossils, really?

- ✓ Fossils are formed when once-living things get covered in sediment quickly, before they have a chance to decay or get eaten by scavengers.
- ✓ Today, fossils don't form often. Most fossils are from animals and plants that were buried rapidly during the global Flood only 4,500 years ago.
- ✓ Some people believe that fossils are millions of years old, but many fossils contain soft tissues, like blood vessels and bone cells, that can't last that long.
- ✓ There are fossils on every continent because the entire world was once underwater!
- ✓ At ICR we say, "Floods form fossils fast."

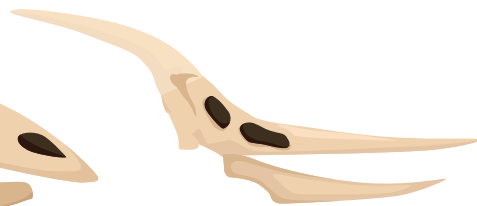
Name the creature represented by each fossil using the list below.

Camarasaurus
Stegosaurus

pteroactyl
Tyrannosaurus

Liopleurodon
Leptoceratops

Spinosaurus
Triceratops



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____



5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Answers for Word Scramble: fossil, flood, Genesis, creation, fall, earth, animal; Answers for Fill in the Blanks: world, believes, life; Answers for fossil matching: 1. Triceratops, 2. Stegosaurus, 3. pterodactyl, 4. Leptoceratops, 5. Spinosaurus, 6. Liopleurodon, 7. Camarasaurus, 8. Tyrannosaurus

Dinosaurs & Birds

Did dinosaurs evolve into birds? Many scientists imagine they did. In movies, television shows, and artwork, they're often shown as bird-like. But dinosaurs were very different from birds, and nobody's ever seen one kind of animal transform into another kind. From the beginning, birds have always been...well, birds!

- ✓ Artists often draw dinosaurs with feathers to reinforce the idea they evolved into birds. But research shows "feathers" found on dino fossils are likely just decayed skin fibers.
- ✓ Scientists disagree on which fossils show evolution. They haven't found any genuine dinosaur-to-bird transitions.
- ✓ Fossils of dinosaurs and birds are buried in the same rock layers. That means they lived at the same time, so it didn't take millions of years for birds to appear.
- ✓ A dinosaur that started to evolve into a bird over time wouldn't survive. In-between skeletons, lungs, and other systems won't work.

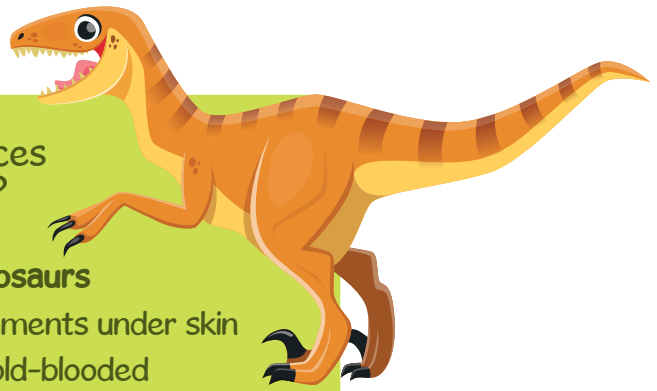


Help the dinosaur find her baby.

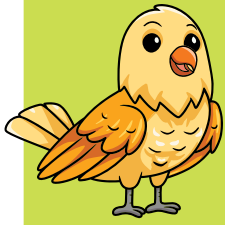


The fossil pictured here is known as *Archaeopteryx*. Some scientists claim this creature was part bird and part dinosaur. But there's no evidence that it was anything but a bird. It had wings, feathers, and feet that allowed it to perch on things just like many birds do today.





What are some of the differences between dinosaurs and birds?



Birds

Feathers

Warm-blooded

Beaks for preening feathers

Breathe in a one-way loop

Dinosaurs

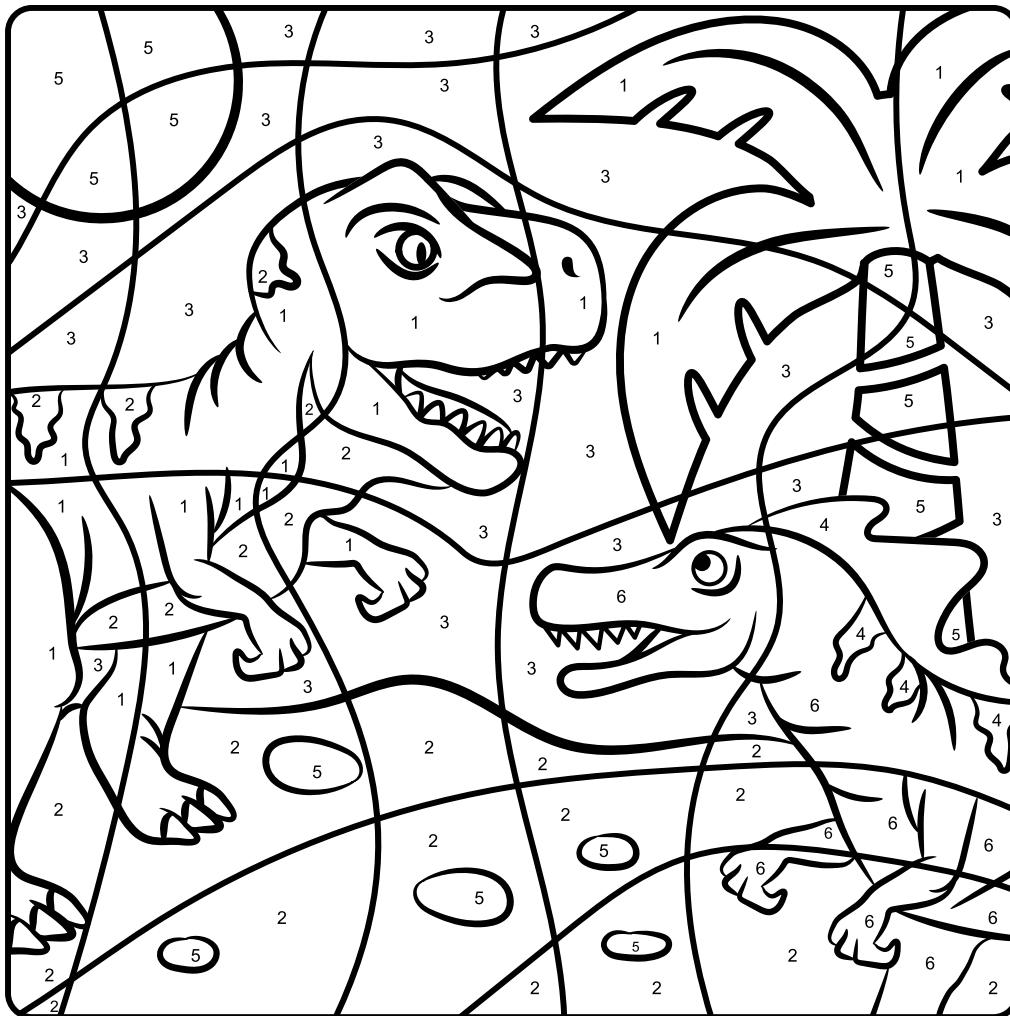
Scales/thin filaments under skin

Likely cold-blooded

No beaks for preening

Breathe in and out

Color by number



Did you know?

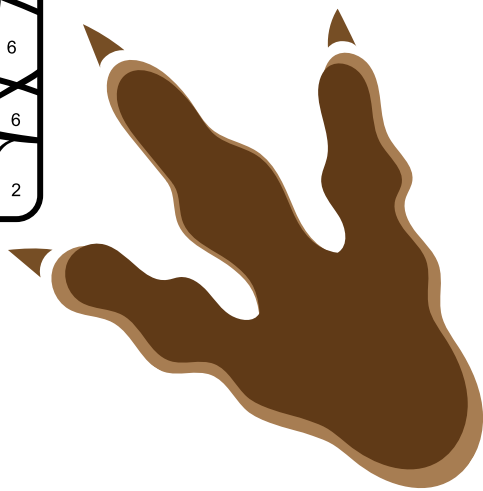
Pterosaurs weren't dinosaurs. They were reptiles like dinosaurs, but dinosaurs were land animals while pterosaurs were designed to fly.

- 1 green
- 2 yellow

- 3 blue
- 4 red

- 5 orange
- 6 purple

"I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine." (Psalm 50:11)



Ice Age



The Ice Age is one of the coolest parts of Earth's history—literally! Massive ice sheets covered about a third of Earth's land surface. What caused this? The global Flood provided the exact conditions for the world's first and only Ice Age.

Geologic activity during the Flood heated the oceans. This increased evaporation, so after the Flood more snow fell in high places. Volcanoes ejected tiny particles called aerosols that blocked sunlight and cooled the planet. Thick ice sheets kept growing until Earth settled down and the oceans cooled.

- ✓ The Ice Age lasted around 700 years, which allowed plenty of time for a massive ice buildup.
- ✓ Most of the land wasn't covered in ice, so there were plenty of places where humans and animals could live.
- ✓ The water frozen in ice sheets resulted in lower sea levels. People could migrate to other continents over land bridges.
- ✓ The Ice Age was part of God's incredible plan for humans to spread throughout the earth after the Flood.

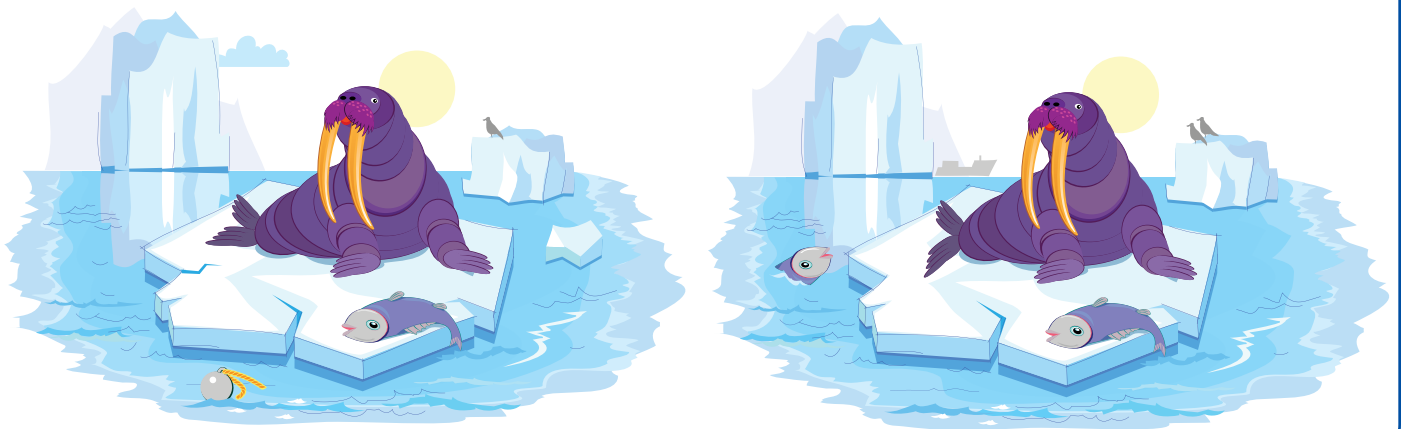
The **HEAT** Model

One way to remember how the Ice Age formed is the **HEAT** model.

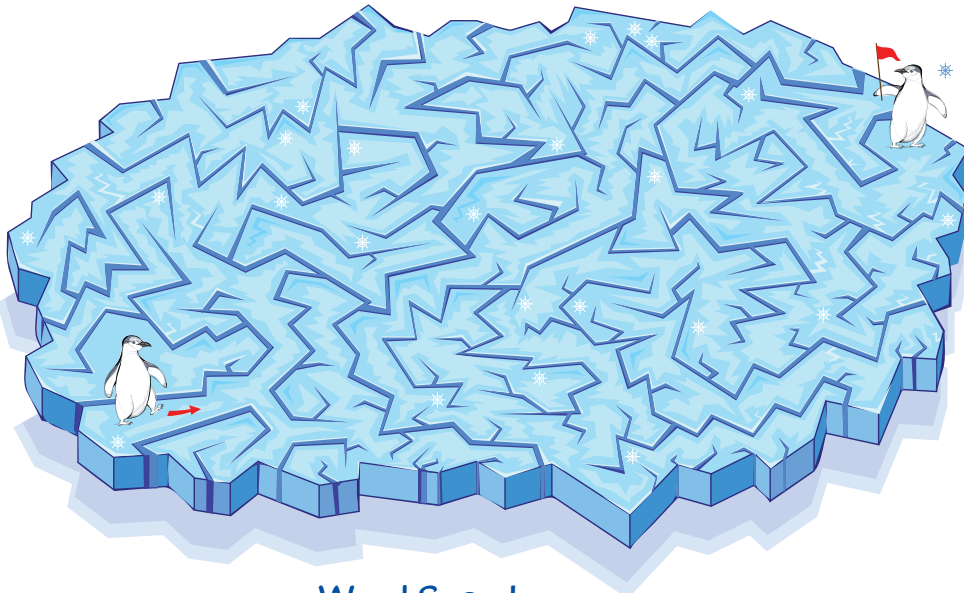
Hot oceans
Evaporation
Aerosols
Time



Find eight differences between the two pictures below.



Help the penguin through the maze to meet his friend.

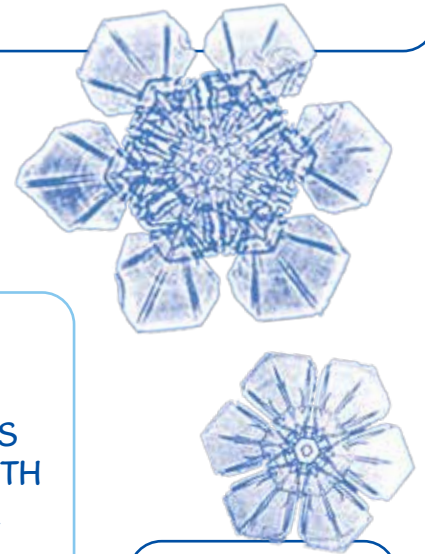


Word Search

C	L	W	L	E	S	B	S	L	F	S	R	O	B
E	A	A	A	A	S	E	D	A	E	L	H	T	P
O	E	O	N	E	A	W	A	G	T	B	O	H	L
C	R	L	D	G	B	G	P	P	A	R	H	O	H
O	O	O	B	O	E	I	B	O	O	H	R	E	D
G	S	O	R	R	R	C	P	L	O	N	R	W	B
L	O	D	I	T	T	W	A	O	T	E	A	N	E
A	L	R	D	C	O	A	O	A	N	H	L	I	O
C	S	I	G	H	O	S	H	N	T	C	O	E	R
I	W	L	E	O	T	O	T	O	S	D	P	B	S
E	B	E	O	A	H	H	M	L	N	R	T	B	L
R	M	L	I	H	G	M	L	T	B	O	A	N	A
O	N	O	C	O	A	L	O	T	C	I	E	T	G
S	M	B	E	M	A	D	R	L	E	O	H	A	N

Did You Know?

The book of Job was probably written during the Ice Age. It references snow and ice, even though Job lived in the Middle East. The glaciers would've extended into lower latitudes than today, so travelers passing through could've described them to Job—or he might've seen them for himself!



ICE
SNOW
AEROSOLS
SABERTOOTH
GLACIER
FLOOD
LAND BRIDGE
POLAR
MAMMOTH
HEAT

“By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen.”
(Job 37:10)

Black Holes

Black holes are some of the most mysterious objects in space. Some scientists believe that they form when giant stars explode and collapse into dense regions of matter. The gravitational pull of these areas is so strong that even light can't escape. In fact, anything that comes too close is stretched apart! So, the Lord Jesus placed them at a safe distance from Earth. Each one declares His great power!

- ✓ Black holes don't let light escape, so scientists look at how they affect the things around them.
- ✓ Time slows down near a black hole because of its ultra-strong gravitational field.
- ✓ The bright rings that surround many black holes are called accretion disks. These are made up of celestial material that's stretched as it spins around the hole.
- ✓ Scientists believe there are 100 million black holes in the Milky Way galaxy alone.



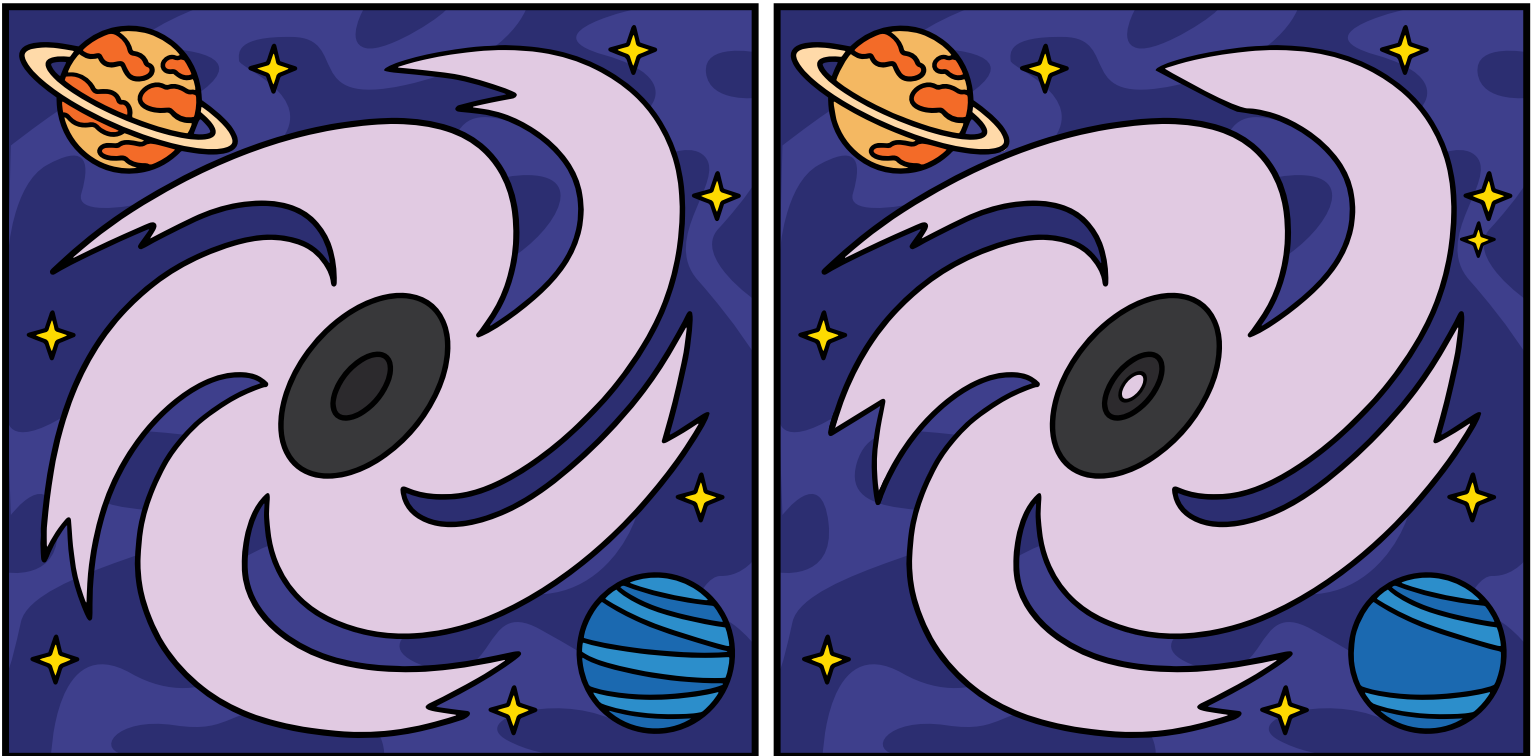
Black Hole Activity

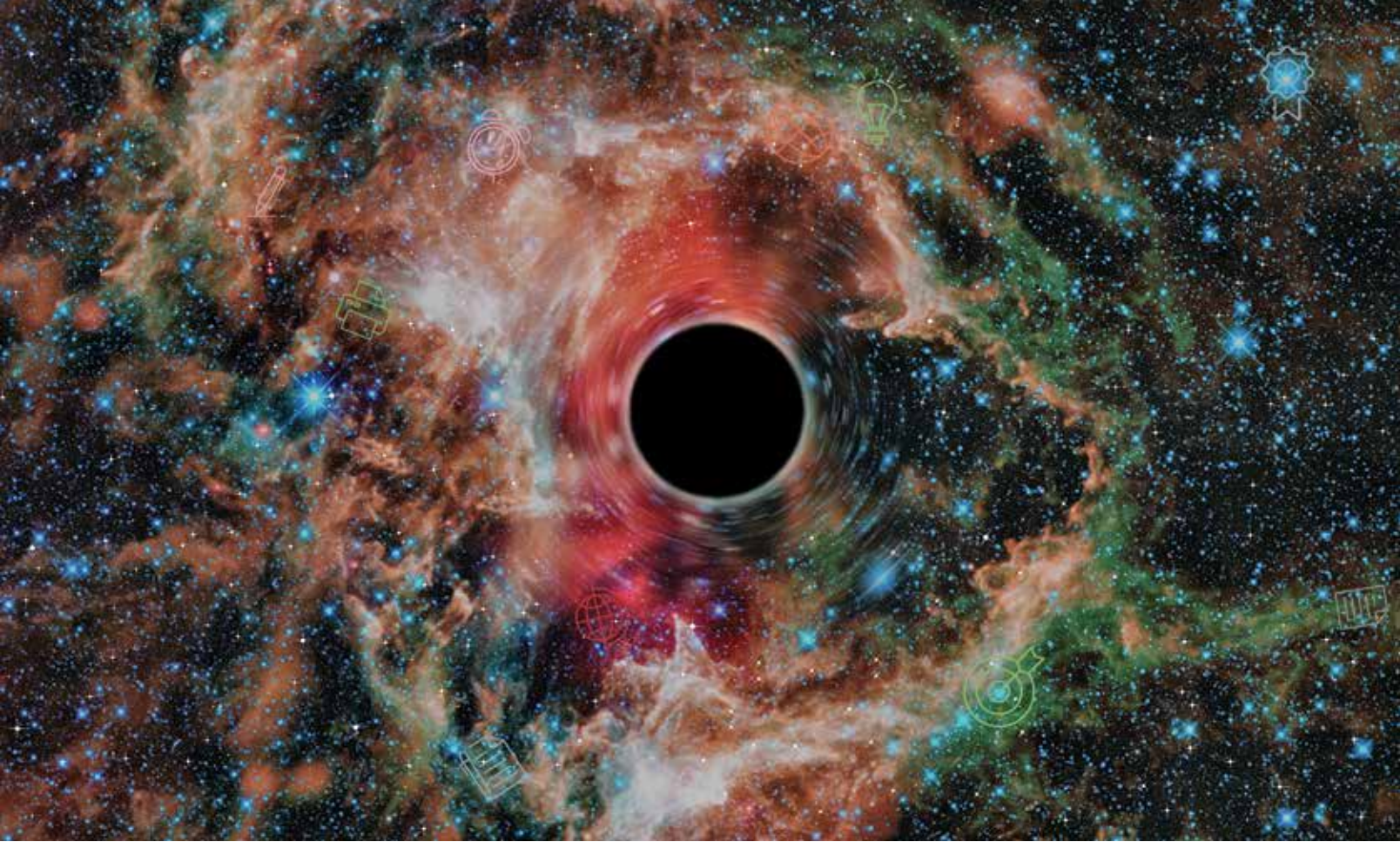
Supplies: a magnet and several paper clips

1. Place the magnet on a table and pretend it's a black hole.
2. Slowly move one paper clip closer and closer to the magnet.
3. At some point, the magnet's pull will quickly draw the paper clip to itself.

The paper clip's movement acts like an object falling into a black hole.

Circle the six differences between these two pictures.





Find these objects hidden in the picture above.



Giant red star

Fill in the Blanks

“By _____
we understand that the
worlds were framed by the
_____ of
God, so that the things which
are _____
were not made of things
which are _____.”
(Hebrews 11:3)

Did you know?

As an object approaches
a black hole, it's stretched
into a noodle shape. This is
known as “spaghettification.”

Answers to Fill in the Blanks: faith, word,
seen, visible

Gemstones & Jewels

“And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.”
(Revelation 4:3)

Gemstones are dazzling works of God’s creation. They come in a brilliant array of colors, and some of them are incredibly rare. Most gemstones begin as minerals that crystallize below the earth’s surface under extreme heat and pressure. From the deepest, most hidden parts of our planet come all sorts of beautiful jewels—each designed by our magnificent Creator!

- ✓ Gemstones are valued for their rarity, beauty, and durability.
- ✓ There are two kinds of gemstones: precious and semiprecious.
- ✓ Some gemstones are formed by layers of sediment. Others, known as organic, are made from plant and animal material—like pearls inside mollusks.
- ✓ Many scientists think diamonds and other gemstones are billions of years old. But the radiocarbon found in diamonds can’t last that long, so they must’ve formed recently.

Math Game



$$+ + = 6$$



$$+ + = 6$$



$$+ - = 4$$

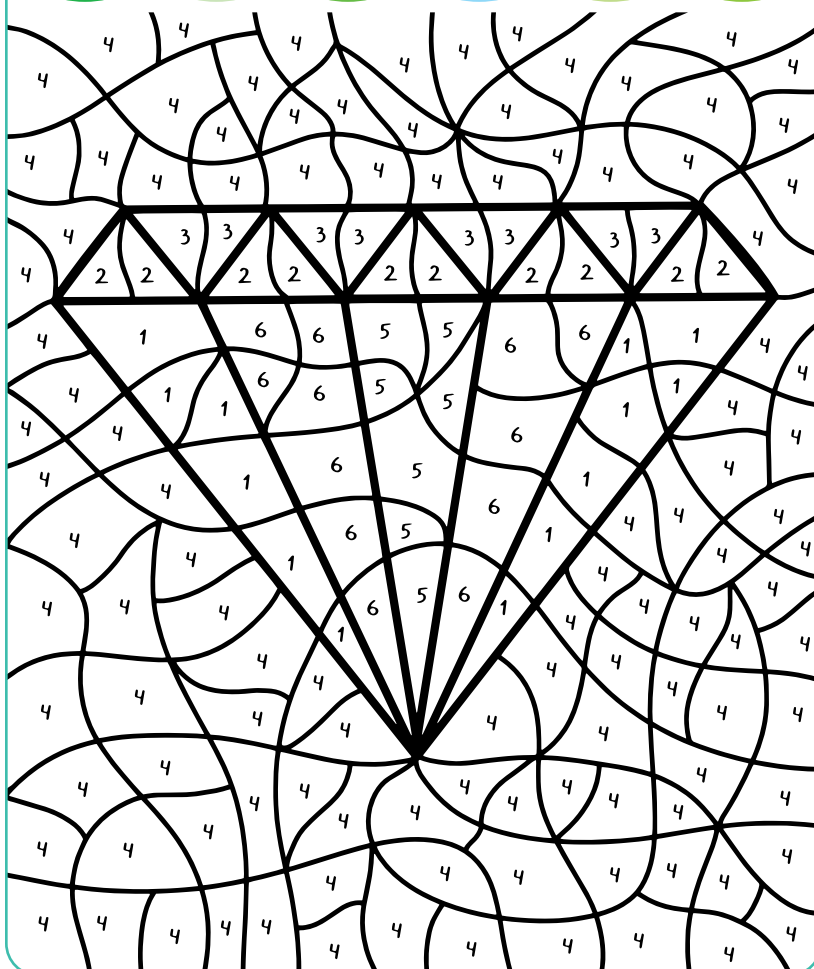
Enter the numbers these jewels represent.



What’s a jewel?

A jewel is a gemstone that’s been cut and polished, which makes it shiny.

Color by Number



Did you know?

Gemstones are evaluated on their hardness using the Mohs scale. This measures how difficult it is for them to be scratched. The softest gemstone is amber, while the hardest is diamond.



Diamond

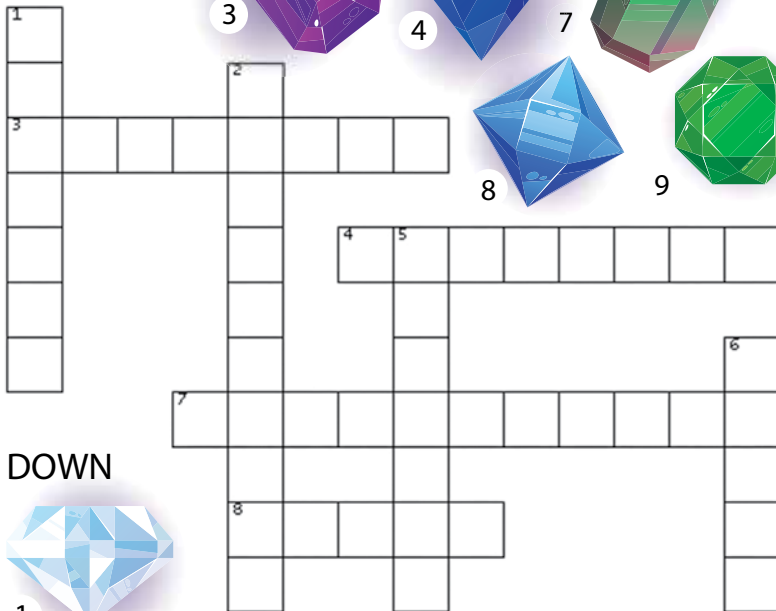
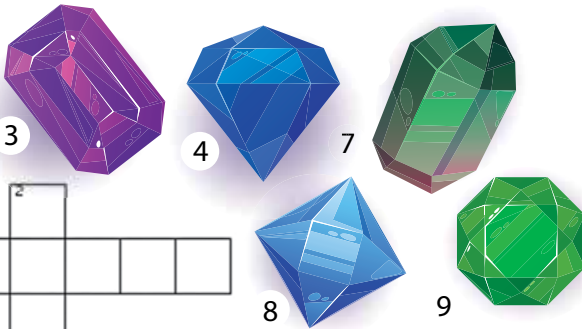


Emeralds

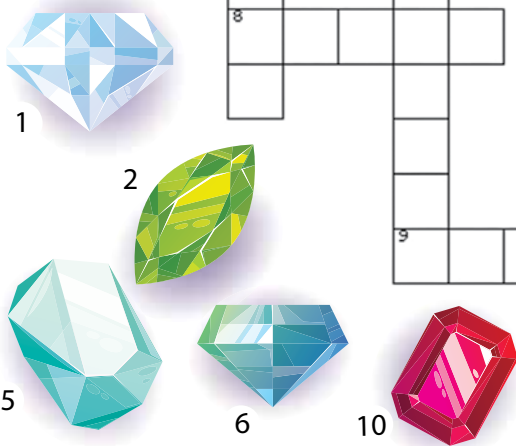
Name the gemstones below to complete the crossword puzzle.

- beryl
- sapphire
- emerald
- amethyst
- chrysolite
- ruby
- diamond
- topaz
- alexandrite
- aquamarine

ACROSS



DOWN



“For wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her.”
(Proverbs 8:11)



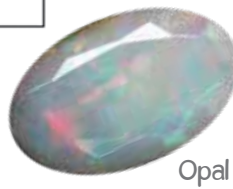
Onyx



Turquoise



Amber comes from hardened tree resin. It often contains preserved insects because it formed quickly before the insects could decay.



Opal

Answers to the Math Game: diamond = 1, ruby = 2, emerald = 3; Answers to the Crossword Puzzle: Across = 3; amethyst, 4; sapphire, 7 alexandrite, 5; aquamarine, 6; beryl, 10; ruby, 9 emerald, 8; topaz, 9; topaz, 9; emerald, 7; Down: 1; diamond, 2; chrysolite, 5; alexandrite, 6; beryl, 10; ruby, 9

Rainbows



Rainbows are incredible arcs of color across the sky. They're created when raindrops bend, or refract, sunlight and separate the colors so you can see them. Genesis 9 says God put a rainbow in the cloud after the global Flood as a sign of His promise to never flood the whole earth again. These beautiful sights remind us that God's faithfulness endures forever.

- ✓ Rainbows have seven basic colors—red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.
- ✓ These colors form the visible spectrum of light. There are other types of light in rainbows, like ultraviolet and infrared, that human eyes can't see.
- ✓ Since rainbows are light refractions, they look different based on where you're standing.
- ✓ For you to see a rainbow, the sun needs to be shining from behind you.



The brilliant scientist Isaac Newton believed God created the universe. He was one of the first to discover how rainbows are formed. He established that white light is actually a combination of seven colors.

Isaac Newton holding an apple and a prism

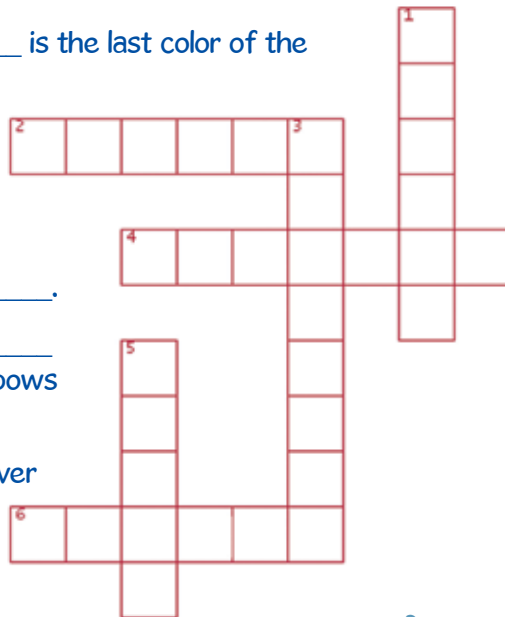
Rainbow Crossword Puzzle

Across

2. Rainbows have seven _____.
4. A _____ is a beautiful arc of color.
6. _____ is the last color of the rainbow.

Down

1. The third color of the rainbow is _____.
3. _____ and rain create rainbows in the sky.
5. God promised to never _____ the earth again.



Answers Across: 2. colors, 4. rainbow, 6. violet; Answers Down: 1. yellow, 3. sunlight, 5. flood

Isaac Newton used a prism to separate light into its colors. A prism is a see-through object with flat faces that bend, or refract, light.

Acronym Arc

Think of a silly phrase that helps you remember the colors of the rainbow. Example: "Really original yaks go breakdancing in Venice."

R _____

O _____

Y _____

G _____

B _____

I _____

V _____

“I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.” (Genesis 9:13)



Cup O' Rainbow

Supplies: one box each of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple gelatin mix; 9 x 13 casserole dish; whipped cream; rainbow sprinkles; and water

1. Ask an adult to make the first color of gelatin (purple) on the stove, following the box instructions.
2. Pour the liquid into the 9 x 13 dish. Place the dish into the refrigerator and leave it until the gelatin is completely set.
3. Repeat with the other colors in rainbow order, letting them set between layers.
4. Once all the colors are in place, serve and top with a giant “cloud” of whipped cream!



Add the colors to the rainbow below.



Good Stewards



Our Creator, the Lord Jesus, is the ultimate Giver. He provides the most amazing gifts! From our beautiful planet to the cuddliest animals, sweetest friends, and so much more, there's a whole lot to thank Him for. When we take care of the things God has given us, it honors Him. What are some ways that you can be a good steward today?

- ✓ Stewardship means looking after something that's placed in your care.
- ✓ In the beginning, God told humans to rule over His creation. He gave us an important job to steward the nature that fills our planet.
- ✓ We need to be active (or work hard) to keep our air, water, and soil clean.
- ✓ We're called to be good stewards of other things, too, like our bodies, possessions, and money.
- ✓ By learning about how Jesus takes care of us, we can become better stewards ourselves.

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10)

a
b
c

Secret Number Code Puzzle

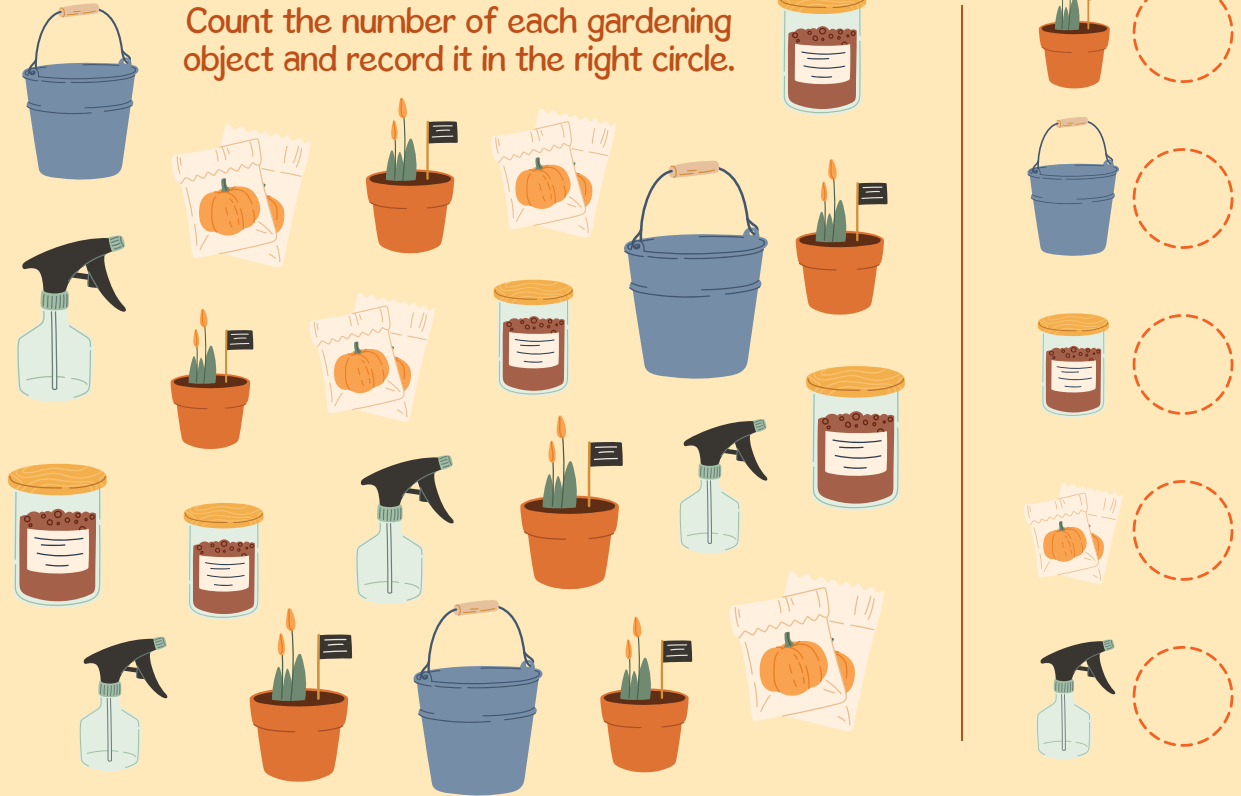
Code: 1 = a 2 = b 3 = d 4 = e 5 = f 6 = g
 7 = h 8 = i 9 = l 10 = n 11 = o 12 = p
 13 = r 14 = s 15 = t 16 = u 17 = w

6	11	11	3		14	15	4	17	1	13	3	14	7	8	12
2	4	6	8	10	14		17	8	15	7		1			
6	13	1	15	4	5	16	9		7	4	1	13	15		

1
2
3

I SPY

Count the number of each gardening object and record it in the right circle.



Did you know?
 God created you with all sorts of incredible talents! Maybe you like to write, draw, or play a musical instrument. Whatever your gifts are, you can practice and use them to help others. It's how we can be good stewards of the abilities God has given us.

Recycled Planter

You can be a good steward by recycling or reusing things. Supplies: empty bottle, can, or cup; acrylic paint; a paintbrush; pebbles; soil; and plants or seeds

1. Remove any labels.
2. Ask an adult to help cut the bottle down to about four inches.
3. Apply your favorite paint color on the outside.
4. Once it's dry, add a layer of pebbles to the bottom of the bottle.
5. Put in soil and add the plant or seeds.
6. Water your plant and watch it grow!



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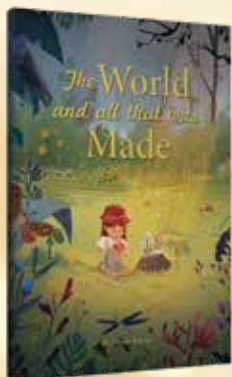
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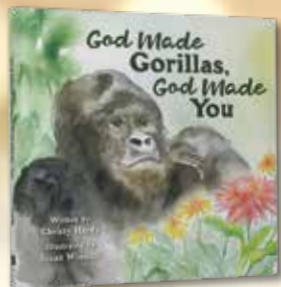
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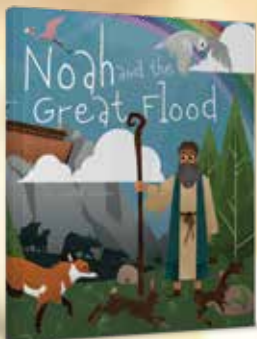
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