



Creation Lens

Exploring the World, Discovering God

Grade Level: Grade 6

Title:

Humans As Stewards of Earth's Eco-System & Human's As Stewards of God's Creation

Denomination: Catholic

Lesson ID: LS-G6-03-CA

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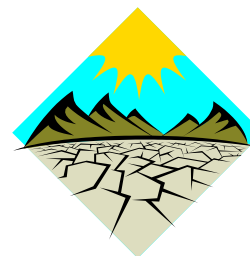
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Note: Web sites referenced in this lesson were valid at time of publication.

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LIFE SCIENCE – GRADE 6 – CATHOLIC

LESSON TITLE: Humans As Stewards of Earth's Eco-System & Humans As Stewards of God's Creation

GENERAL CONCEPT: Stewardship and impact.

SCIENCE LESSON CONCEPT

- Humans as stewards of earth's eco-system
- Altering the balance of the eco-system

GOAL OF SCIENCE LESSON

- Students will learn the consequences of their actions when the eco-system is disrupted.
- Students will learn how to work together to make their eco-system thrive.

OUTCOME EXPECTED

- Students will develop and record the consequences of over population of plants.

RELIGION LESSON CONCEPT

- Humans as stewards of God's creation
- Duty to protect and preserve creation

GOAL OF RELIGION LESSON

- Students will become more active stewards of God's creation.

OUTCOME EXPECTED

- Students will learn the importance of protecting and preserving God's on-going work of creation.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Science Journal page: Eco-System & Over-Population of Plants
- Pen or pencil
- Grass seed
- Potting soil
- Egg cartons
- Water
- Sunlight source
- Ruler
- Graph paper
- Root-bound plant

SCIENCE METHODOLOGY

- **IDENTIFY** the needs of plants. (water, sunlight, nutrients in soil, area for growth)
- **HAVE** students write these needs on the Science Journal page.
- **SAY:** Plants need water, sunlight, and fertile soil to grow. They also need enough room to spread their roots and

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Religion Notebook
- Pen or pencil
- Drawing paper
- Markers, colored pencils, crayons

RELIGION METHODOLOGY

- **IDENTIFY** the needs of all plants and animals to fulfill God's on-going work of creation. (oxygen, water, sun, space, shelter, food, and love)
- **SAY:** God created the plants and animals to be fertile and to flourish. (to have life and have it abundantly)
- **EXPLAIN** that without our protecting and preserving

enough nutrients to survive.

- **EXPLAIN** that plants need each one of these elements in the appropriate amount to sustain the growth of the plant.
- **SHOW** the root-bound plant.
- **EXPLAIN** that the plant no longer has room to grow. Its roots will soon exhaust all the nutrients in the soil.
- **HAVE** the students plant according to the directions on the carton of grass seed. Put grass seed in one slot of an egg carton.
- **HAVE** the students over seed (more seeds than directions say) in another slot of an egg carton.
- **HAVE** the students label each slot.
- **HAVE** the students place the egg carton where it can receive adequate sunlight.
- **HAVE** the students record and illustrate the experiment on the Science Journal page.
- **HAVE** the students water according to package directions.
- **HAVE** the students measure with a ruler the size of the sprouts/plants in each slot each day.
- **STUDENTS** should record the measurement on the Science Journal page.

life, God's creation could cease to exist. There are species of plants and animals that are now extinct (do not exist any longer) or are endangered (very hard to find). In the Garden of Eden, God gave human beings the responsibility to fulfill His will and care for all creation.

- **HAVE** the students write in their Journal or Religion notebook how their actions affect God's creation. Have them give at least 5 examples of how they personally interact with creation and what their interaction causes (better or worse) to that part of creation. For example: Ride bike over lawn repeatedly = killing of the grass and erosion of the lawn; Picking up the litter at the front of their house = no paper and trash going down the storm drain = no clogging and flooding.
- **HAVE** the students illustrate one of their examples in a drawing.
- **POST** the drawings in the room.
- **HAVE** students read their compositions to the class.
- **POSIT:** Each person has a duty to protect and preserve God's creation beginning in their own environment. Each person must be a good steward.

- **AFTER** 7 days, the students should graph the results of their experiment.
- **DISCUSS** why the grass seeds properly planted had better results than the over-seeded grass seeds.
- **POSIT:** Protection and preservation of an eco-system means giving plants what they need to flourish. It means being a good steward.

SCIENCE LINKS

www.ca.uky.edu/enri/align/6thscience.htm

[6th Grade Science](#) Study of different parts of the ecosystem: Earth, air, water, plants and animals. ... The program will center upon plant and fish life cycles, how the two ...

www.answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20061210113044AANkwyI

[Plant science fair projects for 6th grade?](#) Agricultural Ideas for Science Fair Projects...I hope they aren't too advanced; it's hard for me to think back to 6th Grade! Agriculture doesn't have its own category ... Scroll down to Botany section.

RELIGION LINKS

www.baylor.edu/christianethics/CreationarticleMoore.pdf

[Teaching Children the Story of Creation](#) Teaching Children. The Story of Creation by Andrea Harrel Moore. We can ... and we will be better stewards of God's word and God's world. ... Practical activities within the text.

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Newsletters/CU/ac1008.asp>

Why Catholics Care for Creation by Sister Joan Brown OSF traces care for creation throughout the ages in a short writing.

www.loyolapress.com/seeing-gods-creation-activity.htm

This creation activity helps children appreciate God's gifts in creation...Catholic Kids Activity Objective: to help the children appreciate the beauty of God's creation that is around them and respond with thanksgiving. Lesson outcome: By seeing the beauty and diversity in something as ordinary as a wild flower, the children will deepen their appreciation of God's gifts in creation – a necessary step in becoming good stewards of creation.

KEY WORDS

- ECO-SYSTEM
- NECESSITIES FOR LIFE
- OVER-POPULATION OF PLANTS

KEY WORDS

- CREATION
- EXTINCT
- ENDANGERED
- POSITIVE
- NEGATIVE
- EFFECT
- STEWARD