

BIBLE ADVENTURE 7:
CREATION - Animals. . .Do They Talk?
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Genesis 1:24-25

God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

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Discovery Treasures:

How special is this? When it comes to the creation of the living creatures, did you notice that God didn't just *spea*k them into existence, but rather He spoke to the land, and used the land to create them. He said, “Let the *land* produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” Did you ever think about the first living creatures (livestock and creatures that move along the ground) of being made from the physical land of the earth?

There are so many kinds of creatures. In fact, there are an estimated 8.7 million species on the world. That's 8,700,000 species, which is way too many to list on this page!

SPECIES: a class of individuals having common attributes and designated by a common name

Now let's break it down even farther to focus on this part of creation. Out of that 8.7 million species, only 1-2 million of those species are classified as animals. But still...1-2 million different kinds of animals? That's a big WOW-factor!

Try to imagine what it must have looked like when God's living creatures came bursting out of the land and into existence. Now imagine the sounds that the very first animals started making when they were created. Do you think, before sin, that maybe all of the animals could talk? In the Bible, in the book of Numbers 22:27-31, there is an account of a donkey talking. The story leading up to these scriptures tells us that the donkey Balaam is riding on “acts up” multiple times because it sees an angel of the LORD. Balaam is quick to beat the

donkey each time it “acts up.” Finally, the donkey sees the angel again, and lays down.

NUMBERS 22:27-31 *27 When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it lay down under Balaam, and he was angry and beat it with his staff. 28 Then the Lord opened the donkey’s mouth, and it said to Balaam, “What have I done to you to make you beat me these three times?” 29 Balaam answered the donkey, “You have made a fool of me! If only I had a sword in my hand, I would kill you right now.” 30 The donkey said to Balaam, “Am I not your own donkey, which you have always ridden, to this day? Have I been in the habit of doing this to you?” “No,” he said. 31 Then the Lord opened Balaam’s eyes, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with his sword drawn. So he bowed low and fell facedown.*

What would you do if God allowed your pets to start talking to you?

We know that animals are a part of creation, and we know from the Bible as well that God loves animals. We know this from the story of Noah's Ark, though the story of Noah's Ark is about far more than the animals. God destroyed everything on the original earth, but also planned on replenishing everything, including animals. We know this because God had two of every kind of animal aboard the Ark. This was so the animals could re-create and multiply after the flood.

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CREATION ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES:

- 1.) Memorize Genesis 1:24-25

- 2.) On a separate sheet of paper, name 10 of the biggest animals you can think of, then choose one and draw it

- 3.) On a separate sheet of paper, name 10 of the smallest animals you can think of, then choose one and draw it

- 4.) On a separate sheet of paper, name 10 of the most unique animals you can think of, then choose one and draw it

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TIME TO TALK TO GOD:

Say the following prayer out loud to God. He will listen...I guarantee!

PRAYER: Dear God, Thank You for creating the living creatures. I want to notice more of your living creatures. Please help me to be aware of all living creatures, great and small, and help me to remember to thank You for creating them when I see them. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.