Activity tie-in: Study of Nature

Object - Bird's Nest and/or small potted plant

Bible Verse - Matthew 6:26-30 "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"

Lesson - God takes care of the earth and all its creatures. God takes care of us in this life and the next.

Introduction Ideas

- You could bring in a bird's nest and show the students all of the materials God provides for them. Explain that birds use twigs, grass, string and even spare yarn if they can find it to make their nest. They don't use anything fancy, yet they build a safe home for their young.
- If you use the plant as your object, ask the students what the plant needs to grow (i.e. explain how the plant needs sunlight and water to grow.)

Lesson Suggestions

- After showing examples of God taking care of all the different creatures in nature, move to giving examples or asking for examples of how God takes care of us.
- Focus on the Bible verses: Matthew 6:26 "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"
- As you look at nature and study it, remember that God takes care of you too and God took care of your eternal life in heaven through Jesus.

Questions for Interactive Lesson

- After reading the Bible verses, ask the students for more examples:
    - "What other creatures and parts of nature does God take care of and can you give examples?"
        - God gives the trees sun and water, etc.
    - "How does God take care of us?"
        - Kids may talk about how God gives us clothes, food, and homes. But don't forget that he takes care of our eternal life as well!

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for taking care of us each day. Thank you for the stars in the sky and the grass on the ground. Thank you for providing for our daily lives and thank you for giving us eternal life in heaven with you. Amen.