
Program Resources

- The Goodness of Creation; The Gifts of the Earth (Big Book, pp. 25 and 26)
- Student Book, pages 58 – 59
- Family Connections (Gifts of the Earth)
- BLM #14 — Special Gifts

Curriculum Connection

This topic offers connections with the *Born of the Spirit* catechetical program (*We Belong to the Lord Jesus*, Theme 16, “We savour the gifts from the earth”).

We Experience

Display the Big Book page, “The Goodness of Creation,” read the text together, and invite the children’s responses. What is their favourite part of the illustration? Why?

Display the Big Book Page, “The Gifts of the Earth,” and read the text together. Ask the children to identify the gifts that are shown, then explore with them how we use these gifts. For example:

- milk from dairy cows — milk to drink, ice cream, cheese, yogurt
- corn growing in the field — corn to eat; popcorn; cornmeal to make muffins
- forest — wood for furniture and houses, paper
- apple trees — apples to eat, apple sauce, apple jelly, apple pie
- sheep — wool for sweaters
- waterfalls — drinking water, power for electricity in our homes

You might ask:

- Can you think of any other gifts like these? (for example, coal and oil, which we use to heat our homes and to drive our cars)
- Which of these gift do you like best? Why?

We Discover

Continue exploring these gifts with the children, and ask:

- Why did God give us all these things? (because we need them to live)
- How can we show that we appreciate these gifts? (we can thank God, care for the gifts, share them with others)
- What can we do to look after these gifts? (not waste them; protect them from harm, like forest fires)
- How do we use these gifts to help us grow and live? (eat healthy food; go outside for exercise)