







You are a beautiful, perfect, child of God, and you are loved so very much. In fact, God loves you so much that everything in this world is a gift from God o you!

God planned everything in Creation. Everything you see, hear, smell, taste, and feel was made by God.



Love

was also created
by God. One of
the first things
you experienced
when you were
born was the love
of your parents. By

experiencing love, you

learn to love too. We love and care for people and the things around us because God loved and cared for us first.



You can love and care for your family and friends, as well as everything on the Earth. Learning about science will help you do this.

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You probably know that you are alive. Your life was created by God. God also created a lot of different life besides

you. In fact, God created the Earth and everything that

lives on the Earth. But do you know

what it means to be alive?
Anything that is alive will grow and change. We say that anything that is alive is a living thing.

Do you still look like a baby? No, you are no longer a baby. People grow from

babies into children. Children grow into teenagers.

And teenagers become grown-up adults. People grow
and change. So, people are alive. You are a person, and
you are alive.



Do you think animals are alive? Dogs and cats were once puppies and kittens. Puppies and kittens change as they grow. They get bigger. Dogs and cats and all the animals on the Earth are alive.

What about bugs? Are bugs alive? Well, bugs are really animals, so you know the answer already. Butterflies start their lives as caterpillars. They certainly change as they grow. All bugs,

including butterflies, are alive.



Did you know that plants grow and change too? A baby plant is called a seedling or a sprout. Trees are plants and so are grass, flowers, and shrubs. Plants grow and change. Plants are alive.

Nonliving is a word that means not alive.

Nonliving things do not grow or change by themselves. Look around you. What do you see that is not alive? Chairs do not grow;

chairs are not alive. Walls do not grow; walls are not alive. Your couch may change if your mom puts new pillows on it, but it doesn't change by itself. Couches are not alive. There are many things that are not alive.

Even if something isn't alive, it is important too. Your house isn't alive, but your house is important for you. God knows what we need and so everything has a purpose. Dirt isn't alive, but it is needed if plants are going to grow. Plus, where would we live and play if the **ground** didn't exist?

Take a deep breath. You're breathing in air. Air isn't alive, but it is needed so that you and all living things can breathe.

The air also moves the weather around.

How would we get rain or snow or a nice cool breeze if air didn't exist?

What about water? Is it alive? Water moves around a lot, but it doesn't grow. So, water is not alive. However, water is important. All the animals that live in the water, like fish and whales, need it to survive.



We drink water to live. How many animals can you find enjoying the water in this picture? Do you notice anything else that needs the water? Plants need water to survive too.



What makes our world special is that God designed it with love for us. Everything has a purpose and if we look close enough, we can see and experience the living and nonliving beauty that God placed in our world.





Sometimes it isn't easy to tell if something is alive. What is the little girl in the photo holding? Is it alive? Hmm, I don't know. It can be hard to tell.



Some things change and grow slowly. And if you aren't there to watch them every day, you might not see them growing and changing. What can you do? You can do a test.

Scientists are people who do experiments to find out answers to science questions. As a scientist, you can test some things to see what is alive and what isn't.

Would you like to be a scientist? I hope so because you're going to be doing a lot of activities where you are the scientist. You will have to find answers to science questions.



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Science helps us learn all about our world. And there is so much to learn that scientists have to be organized. To be organized, they sort all the scientific information that they gather. Do you know what it means to sort things? It means to separate stuff based on

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things they have in common.

People sort things all the time. Can you think of anything that you sort? Maybe you keep your clothes sorted so that all your shirts are together in



your dresser drawer while all your pants are together in your closet. Or maybe you sort your toys into different boxes so that all your building blocks are in one place when you want to play with them.

Ask your parents to show you how some things are sorted around your home. Does your family recycle items? If so, you probably





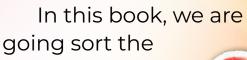
Let's think about why sorting is worth the effort. Do you ever have a messy room? Maybe when it's messy

you can't find your favorite

toy in the big mess.
Sorting makes things
organized. It's

easier to talk about something that is sorted rather than

messy.



science into

sections. Each section will be about a certain kind of science. When we are done, I wonder what your favorite section will be.



There is a lot more science than just living and nonliving and sorting. In fact, God's entire Creation is full of science. Go look out your window. What do you see? There is so much to talk about that we better get started. Are you ready? Together we'll learn about lots of things you see around you like why the wind blows all around you and how a tree grows. You will start to understand the science of the world you see. Let's go!

