Lesson 44: I Can Show Love for Animals

To encourage you to show respect and kindness to all living creatures.
OUR OPENING PRAYER WILL BE GIVEN BY

(Enter name here)
Let’s play a game of match the animals.
Take turns turning over two squares, one at a time, and placing them picture side up.
If the two animals match, put them together in an “animal parade” to the side of the grid.
If the two animals do not match, turn the cards back over in the same places.

We will continue until all the animals have been matched and placed in the animal parade.
Now, put the animals in pairs of animals, just like they were in one of the bible stories.
Do you know what story I’m talking about?
The Lord told someone to build something.
The animals came in pairs.
It rained for forty days and forty nights, flooding the earth.
Did you know that it was the story of Noah and the ark?
Let’s listen to the story of Noah and the Ark
Let’s listen to the story of Noah and the Ark
Jesus Christ wanted the animals to be saved from the Flood.
He told Noah to put the animals on the ark and helped Noah know how to take care of so many different animals.
What animals do you see in this picture?
What do you like about these animals?
Who created these animals?
Remember, under Heavenly Father’s direction, Jesus Christ created all the animals.
It’s like they say in the refrain of the song “All Things Bright and Beautiful”
It’s like they say in the refrain of the song “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

* All things bright and beautiful,
* All creatures great and small,
* All things wise and wonderful,
* The Lord God made them all.
Remember what we learned about animals in last week's lesson.
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* When Jesus comes again, the animals will all be friendly and peaceful.
Let’s read together, Isaiah 11:6-7 which describe how the animals will get along when the Savior lives on the earth again.
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6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ want each creature, even the smallest ones, to be happy.
They consider every living creature to be important.
Let’s read together, Luke 12:6 which tells us that even though sparrows are very small birds, Heavenly Father and Jesus still care for them.
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Have you ever watched general conference on television or on a satellite broadcast at a church building?
General conference use to be broadcast from this building, called a tabernacle.
This tabernacle, in Salt Lake City, Utah, was built by Latter-day Saint pioneers.
The Tabernacle has a high roof and many doors.
Listen to the follow story that happened here.
One spring evening the doors of the Tabernacle were left open to cool the building. A small bird flew inside without anyone noticing. The bird was still inside when the doors were closed and locked.

When workers arrived the next morning to set up for a concert, they found the bird and spent several hours trying to remove it. They called specially trained people to try to capture the bird with long-handled nets.
When the manager, Brother John, arrived, he found people chasing the bird with the nets. Each time the people ran to one end of the building with the nets, the bird flew to the other end. All the doors of the Tabernacle were open for the bird to escape, but it was too terrified to notice.
The specially trained people had brought pellet guns, and they suggested using the guns to shoot the bird. Brother John did not like that idea. The gun could damage the building or the equipment inside it. More important, he did not think they should kill the bird. He remembered a talk given by President Spencer W. Kimball, the twelfth President of the Church, about not shooting little birds.
The specially trained people also suggested putting out poisoned food for the bird to eat. Brother John did not want to do that either. But he knew the bird must be removed quickly, because there was an important performance that evening.

Brother John turned away and said a short prayer: “Heavenly Father, if this sparrow is important to you, could you please let us know how to safely remove it?”
As Brother John finished his prayer, he knew what to do. He told the workers to turn off the lights in the building and close all the doors but one.

The bird had been sitting on top of the organ, but when they turned off the lights and shut the doors, the bird flew off the organ and straight out the one open door.

How did Brother John show he cared for the little bird?
How do you know Heavenly Father cared about the bird?
* Heavenly Father and Jesus want each of us to care for the animals as they do.
What kind of pets do you have in your families?
What kind of pets would you like to have?
How do you take care of your pets?
The Prophet Joseph Smith and some other men were camping on the bank of a small river. As the Prophet pitched his tent, he found three prairie rattlesnakes. The other men wanted to kill the snakes, but the Prophet stopped them and told them not to hurt the snakes.
The men picked the snakes up with sticks and carefully carried them to the other side of the river.
The Prophet told the other men that they should not kill any snakes, birds, or other animals while they were on their journey unless they needed them for food.

(See History of the Church, 2:71–72; see also Spencer W. Kimball, Ensign, Nov. 1978, p. 45.)
Jesus Christ created all the animals and all creatures on the earth are part of Heavenly Father’s plan.
Let’s try to say the words and do the actions to these following verses
* Jesus loves all creatures (hold arms outstretched)
* Elephants, big and tall (stretch up tall with arms above head),
* The fishes in the ocean (clasp hands and move them like a fish swimming),
* The little mouse so small (crouch down).
* He loves the creeping insects (make fingers of one hand “crawl” on other hand),
* The birds that fly above (flap arms like wings).
* Gentle deer in the forest (place thumbs to head with fingers spread like antlers),
* All feel the Savior’s love (place hands over heart).
I want to testify to you that heavenly Father and Jesus Christ love all creatures here on the earth and want us to be kind to those creatures.
OUR CLOSING PRAYER WILL BE GIVEN BY

(Enter Name Here)
THE END
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Teachers should refer to the manual, scriptures and other resources when preparing and conducting the lesson.
Many years passed. Most of the people on earth were wicked. But Noah and his three sons were righteous. They obeyed God’s commandments. Noah had the priesthood.
God was very sad because the people were wicked.

Genesis 6:6
God told Noah to tell the people to repent. He would send a flood to the earth.
Noah told the people to repent. He told them to believe in Jesus Christ. He told them to be baptized. Then the Holy Ghost would help them.

The wicked people did not listen to Noah. They did not repent. They tried to kill Noah.

Moses 8:20, 23-24, 26
God said all the wicked people on earth would die in the flood. Most of the animals would die. But Noah and his family would not die.
God told Noah to build a big ship. It was called an ark. Noah and his sons obeyed God. They built the ark. The ark had many rooms. It had a window and a door on the side.
Noah and his sons put food in the ark. Two animals of every kind came to Noah. God told Noah to put them in the ark.
Noah and his family went into the ark. Rain began to fall. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. The water covered the earth. The wicked people died in the flood.

Genesis 7:12-23
Noah’s family was safe on the ark. God blessed them.

Genesis 7:23; 8:1
At last the rain stopped. The water stayed on the earth for a long time. Then the water went down. The ark landed on a high mountain. The land became dry again.

Genesis 8:2-5, 14
Noah took his family and the animals out of the ark.

Genesis 8:18-19
Noah thanked God for saving their lives. He built an altar. He burned sacrifices. God promised Noah he would never again send a flood to cover the earth. God put a rainbow in the sky. The rainbow helps people remember God’s promise to Noah.

Genesis 8:20-22; 9:8-17