

Lesson from a Book: *I Wanted to Know All about God*

by Virginia L. Kroll, illustrated by Debra Reid Jenkins, *Eerdman's Books for Young Readers*, 1994

Synopsis of story:

A young girl tells how she experiences God in the natural world. She also discovers what God is like through the goodness (the love, comfort and sharing) of wonderful people.

Lesson plan age level:

3–8 years old.

Lesson focus:

Developing an understanding and appreciation of God.

SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN

Opening:

Introductions of teacher and children, with each person relating something good they experienced during the previous week.

Scripture reading:

“... those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”
John 3:21 (NRSV)

Wonderings and discussion questions:

1. I wonder what you like best about this story. Elicit responses.
2. I wonder what part of this story is most important for you right now.
3. I wonder where or how you find God.
4. Do you ever have trouble finding God?
5. I wonder if there is any place where God never is.
6. I wonder what or who helps you to know God.

Activity suggestions:

1. Go for a nature walk, stopping to look, listen, touch, smell, and perhaps taste.
2. Look through a microscope or telescope (but NOT at the sun!).
3. Provide an opportunity for children to share any things they learn about God through their experience of either #1 or #2 above.

Song:

“All God’s Critters Have a Place in the Choir,” in *Worship in Song: A Friends Hymnal*, #306 (Quaker Press of FGC, 1996)

Closing:

Everyone enters silence as you play a tape of nature sounds such as bird songs, surf or a mountain stream.

Lesson plan by David Wood (modified) for the Religious Education Committee of Friends General Conference.