

vidual gifts God has given them. Ask participants to pay particular attention to the gifts they have discovered about themselves and others have affirmed in them this week. Ask each to write a description of or tell about her or his collage and share it with your group.

Play it again

U I

Materials: Shoe boxes, rubber bands, metal pie plates, pebbles, masking tape, coffee cans with lids, juice cans with lids, sand, sticks, sandpaper, wood blocks, paper, scissors, glue, glitter, ribbon, markers.

Talk with campers about harmony and how different sounds work together to produce beautiful music. As we blend our gifts with those of others, we, too, create harmony.

Give campers a variety of supplies and challenge them to create musical instruments. For example:

- rubber bands around a box top for a banjo.
- pebbles sealed within two metal pie plates for a tambourine.
- coffee can drums decorated with family names.
- juice cans or cardboard tubes filled with sand and taped shut for shakers.
- sticks decorated with ribbon and tapped together for rhythm.
- sandpaper-covered blocks that are rubbed together.

Play the instruments as the group sings favorite camp songs. Invite campers to play their instruments at a worship event.

Making music

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Materials: Paper, pencils, hymnals, Bibles, piano or guitar (optional).

Ask campers to look through hymn books, noticing titles and lyrics for some of their favorite hymns. If possible, have someone available to play these hymns on piano or guitar.

Hymns point to the wonder of God's care for us. Invite campers to write hymns. Use scripture verses, or the camper's own words, to fit familiar hymn tunes.

Scripture passages that speak of the gifts God provides include: Ecclesiastes 3:13; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:27-31; 2 Corinthians 9:8-11; Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:10.

Encourage campers to sing their new hymns together.

Day 4: God Gives Community

Bible basis

Psalm 8 (A sustained exclamation: What a mighty God!)

Isaiah 22:15-21 (A question is answered: Who but the owner may act like an owner?)

Nature art

U J S A I

Materials: Cardboard, glue, tape, playdough or clay.

Give campers a few minutes to walk around and collect things from nature, such as fallen leaves, sticks, pinecones, acorns, and rocks. Remind them not to disturb anything that is alive or growing. After everyone returns, remind the campers that God trusts us to care for creation, giving us dominion over all that God creates. Using the items they collected, have the campers create a picture on cardboard or a sculpture of something God has trusted us to care for. Encourage creativity and consider having them work together to create larger pictures or sculptures as they combine their objects. If possible, display their creations so other campers may see what the group has done.



Creative Activities

In our hands

U I

Materials: Paper, pencils, newspapers, magazines, crayons, markers.

God trusts us to care for everything God has created. The care of creation is in our hands! Have campers trace around both of their hands on paper. Using newspapers, magazines, crayons, and markers, have campers fill in their hands with pictures of the many things God has trusted us to care for. Encourage creativity to find as many different things as possible. After everyone is finished, take time to share the pictures with one another. Display the pictures in your living area as a reminder of God's expectation that we care for all God has made.

Property of...

J S A

Materials: Markers, poster board.

Tell campers that people often label their belongings. We put tags on our luggage, write our names in our books, embroider initials on our backpacks, and sew labels in our shirts. We want to make sure others know what is ours. Some T-shirts even read "Property of..." as a form of advertisement. Remind campers that everything we have belongs not to us, but to God. Using the "Property of..." idea, have campers work in small groups to design posters that advertise the good news that everything, including us, belongs to God.

Stewardship skit

S A

Work together to write and act out a skit in which a family that rents a house forgets that it is really a steward and start acting like it owns the place (*such as totally remodeling the house*). Tell the story of what happens to the family as they live next door to a family of "model tenants" and what happens when the landlord finds out what is going on. Relate the skit to Isaiah 22:15-21 and our role as caretakers of God's creation. Present the skit as part of a worship event or campfire.

Nature puppet show

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Materials: Lunch-sized brown paper bags, cardboard tubes, old socks, glue, scissors, crayons, markers, cotton balls, glitter, felt scraps, yarn, ribbon, buttons, embroidery floss.

Have campers look at nature as you read Psalm 8. Then invite participants to make puppets that represent things from nature (*creatures, trees/shrubs, mountains, rivers/lakes*) using the supplies you provide. Have them personify their puppets with features that express emotion. They may also include natural items on their puppets, but tell campers not to gather or harm living things.

Plan a puppet show, having various puppets tell what is good and what is challenging about being a part of nature. (*For example: a tree may say, "I love being able to see for miles around, but I wish people wouldn't carve on me!" A river may say, "I love having people splash in my water, but I wish they wouldn't leave their garbage behind."*)

All God's critters bookmarks

U J S A I

Materials: Card stock, scissors, hole punch, yarn, embroidery floss, ribbon, ink pads, fine-tipped markers, colored pencils, clear self-adhesive paper.

Before campers arrive, cut card stock in 2" x 6" (5 cm x 15 cm) strips. Read Genesis 1:26. Have campers describe how they care for any animals or plants they have at home. Explain that to have dominion over something is to be responsible for its care and well-being.

Pass out the card stock strips and invite campers to make bookmarks that will remind them to care for God's creation. Show campers how to make thumbprints and fingerprints on the bookmarks and embellish the prints with features and other artwork. Suggest that campers include an image of themselves as a reminder that God cares for them and calls them to care for other people, critters, and things.



Creative Activities