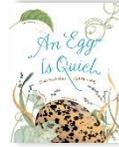


KINDERGARTEN SUGGESTIONS: WHEN TO TEACH THE THEMES



AN EGG IS QUIET
By Dianna Aston



Theme:	When to Teach:	Explanation of Theme:
<p>CREATION IS A GIFT</p>	<p>Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4th)</p> <p>Thanksgiving Holiday</p> <p>Spring</p> <p>Easter</p>	<p>All of creation is a gift from God to mankind. Through the lens of the <i>Theology of the Body</i>, we see God’s creation (animals, nature, each other, etc.) not as <i>scary</i>, but as <i>a loving gift from God</i>.</p> <p>One of the simplest prayers we can say to God is “Thank you.” There is a beautiful transformation that happens when we begin to view the world as a loving gift from God. Every raindrop, bird’s song, or rainbow is realized for what it is: <i>God’s burning desire to give good gifts to us because he loves us</i>.</p> <p>God not only gives us his beautiful creations as a gift, he gives us the ability to create. When we create artwork, poetry and music we mirror God’s creative nature. Moms and dads image God in a special way by having babies. Procreation is a special way that God allows us to participate in the continuation of his creation!</p>
<p>ORDER, DESIGN & MEANING</p>	<p>When reading about the days of creation in the 1st creation account (Genesis 1-2:3)</p> <p>Correspond with science lesson on life cycles, seasons, weather or the water cycle</p>	<p>There is a natural order and rhythm to God’s creation. We can see this order within nature. There are two ways to be a Robin (bird): A male way and a female way. When a male Robin and a female Robin work together, they can produce eggs and care for their young. The female Robin sits on the eggs to keep them warm while the male Robin brings her food.</p>

Theme:	When to Teach:	Explanation of Theme:
<p>ORDER, DESIGN & MEANING (Continued)</p>	<p>Spring Easter</p>	<p>In the first creation account, God creates in a step-by-step rhythm over seven days. John Paul II notes that God “seems to halt” before creating human beings. This shows that humans are the highest of God’s creation. Humans are set apart from the rest of creation as being created in the image and likeness of God.</p>
<p>GENEROSITY & FRUITFULNESS (Creative Love)</p>	<p>Fall harvest Spring</p>	<p>God is love.</p> <p>Love involves giving, receiving, and bearing new life. The Trinity’s beautiful exchange of giving, receiving, and bearing new life echoes throughout all of creation.</p> <p>All of God’s creation participates in a giving and receiving that is life-giving(or fruitful). Plants receive carbon dioxide from humans and give oxygen in return. Apple trees receive water and sunlight from God and give apples in return. Chickens give us eggs. Moms and dads give their lives to one another in marriage. This union often brings new life into the world(babies).</p>
<p>BEAUTY</p>	<p>Lent Easter season Spring</p>	<p>When mom bakes cookies, we are drawn into the kitchen by the sweet smell. In like manner, God fills the world with beauty as a sweet enticement. He desires to draw us to himself by his beautiful creation. Authentic beauty should draw us closer to God, who is the fullness of Beauty.</p> <p>Children often seek to obtain autographs of their heroes. Because God’s signature is on his creation, every rock or leaf collection a young child gathers is in effect, an autograph collection of God the Creator.</p>

Theme:	When to Teach:	Explanation of Theme:
<p style="text-align: center;">ORIGINAL SOLITUDE</p>	<p>National Pet Day (April 11th)</p> <p>National Love Your Pet Day (Feb. 20th)</p> <p>Spring</p> <p>Fall</p>	<p>Adam was alone in the garden with God before original sin. His experience of being alone or “solitude” is called ORIGINAL SOLITUDE.</p> <p>Through ORIGINAL SOLITUDE, Man learns he is created for a unique relationship with God:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam is given the task of tilling and keeping the garden. This is very bodily work and is made possible by the fact that Adam has a body different from the animals. • By naming the animals Adam learns he is different from the rest of creation. • God commands man to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Only man is given the ability to choose between good and evil. <p>Adam learns he is set apart from the rest of creation because he is a person created in the image and likeness of God. He is not made to be alone. He is created for a relationship with God and other humans.</p> <p>Children can discover that they are different from the rest of creation by naming their pets. Naming our pets also shows that humans have been given a special task by God to care for creation.</p>