



Our Creation Walk

*We will go out with hearts full of Wonder and Awe and
with our eyes, ears, and minds open to the glories of Your Creation*

Creation reveals God's abundance and power. **Every one** of us has a part to play in caring for our world. When we are aware of the beauty of Creation we can find diversity, order, beauty, interdependence and express gratitude for it. By becoming Creation "Detectives", we can look carefully, listen intently, and ask questions, considering what Creation can tell us about the Creator. We can distinguish between what occurs naturally and man-made items, while appreciating the God-given talents, abilities and creativity of people. We are Creation stewards and can help to protect our world for ourselves and for future generations.

During this Creation Walk, we will look up, stop and notice, listen carefully, think about water, recognise human creativity, explore how all living things are connected, and finish with prayerful reflection. At each stop, we will pause to notice, pray, wonder, and think of one small way to care for Creation.



Look UP!!!

The Milky Way Galaxy is a giant spinning city of stars, dust and planets. There are over a 100 billion stars in it and it would take 100,000 years to get from one side to the other. Our Sun is only a tiny part of this, and we are just a very, very tiny part of the Solar System. The Milky Way formed 300 million years after the Big Bang which was 13.8 billion years ago when time and space burst into existence. *"In the beginning there was nothing" Genesis 1:1*

We Pray: Heavenly Father, You spoke into the quiet nothingness and created the Universe. In wonder and awe, we thank You as we start this Creation Walk. We can care for this beautiful but fragile Earth, our common home which is an extraordinary gift from You.

We wonder at how small we are in the Universe and thank God for His care and protection for each of us. Have you ever spun around and around until you felt dizzy? The Earth rotates on its Axis giving us night and day. It revolves constantly around the Sun which gives Light and Life, creating the seasons and the calendar year. Can you see the stars on a clear night? Do you ever wonder at the vastness of our skies? What other questions can you think of?

An “I WONDER” STOP!



When we go outside, we often walk aimlessly, missing so much of what is around us. **STOP** for a few minutes, choose something to really look at closely. *Example: something smaller than your fingernail/different textures/different patterns/something growing/something that changes/different colours/ something always there that you never NOTICED before.*

We Pray: Thank You Father for the unlimited variety of nature around us. May we use our senses to really appreciate the beauty of each item we see. We pray that we will never take our world for granted.

We wonder how many creatures and plants are living in one little patch. How many dandelions will grow when you blow a “dandelion clock”? Why do we stop noticing things? What did you notice that you had never noticed before? Think of some questions to ask each other that might open our eyes to our surroundings.

Éist [Listen]



We hear sound around us everywhere we go but do we really LISTEN? In the quiet outdoors what natural sounds can you hear? Listening to natural sounds is important because it helps your brain and body slow down. When you hear birds singing, leaves rustling, rain falling, or water flowing, those sounds can make you feel calmer and less stressed. Natural sounds are often gentle and regular, helping us to relax, focus better, and feel more peaceful.

We Pray: Father, help us to relax, pay attention and to connect and appreciate nature by listening to the sounds around us.

We wonder which birds are singing? Can you identify any? How do bees buzz? How does silence contain so many sounds? Is there any other question you can ask yourself about the sound of the natural world?

Ní chrónaítear an t-uisce go dtríomaítear an tobair

[The water isn't missed until the well runs dry]



Water is vital to Creation because it gives life to plants, animals, and people. It helps the earth stay green, healthy, and full of living things. Without water, Creation could not flourish. Plants need water to grow, animals need water to drink, and people need water every day to stay alive and healthy. Without water, there would be no forests, no flowers, no crops, and no living creatures. Water is also important because it connects everything in nature. Rain falls from the sky, rivers carry water across the land, and oceans help shape weather and climate. This means water is part of the way the natural world works together.

We pray Thank you for water, for rain, rivers, lakes, and seas. Thank you that water gives life to plants, animals, and people. Help us to use water wisely, to share it fairly, and to care for your world. Help us to realise that water is one of the most precious things on Earth.

We wonder how water connects all living things; what the world would be like without water; how can we protect rivers, lakes, and oceans; why clean water is not available to everyone; why caring for water is part of caring for Creation. Think about something you can do to protect this resource.

The Creator and the Creative



From where you are standing can you see both natural and human made objects? God created the world, and we create within it. We have been gifted with free will, creativity and imagination. When we make good things in a caring and thoughtful way, we show something of the Creator in us. We can use our creative gifts to care for Creation, enjoy it, and add goodness within it. In being creative we depend on materials from the natural world.

We pray that when people paint, build, write, compose music, design, cook, invent, or solve problems we are reflecting something of God's image in us.

We wonder how so many people have so many different abilities and talents. How can you use your special gifts to be a gift for the betterment of Creation?

Connected, Connected. We are all connected



All living things are interdependent. Creation is not merely a collection of separate objects, we can see many relationships and systems all operating together. We are connected to Creation because we are all part of the same world, and everything we do has consequences because our choices send ripples out into that world, even small choices matter a lot. You are connected: to nature, the air you breathe, the water you drink, the food you eat; to other people - your family, friends, teachers, neighbours, even people you've never met; to animals and plants which help keep the world healthy by providing us with food; to the world around you - because what happens in one place can affect another place.

We Pray: Dear God, Help me to see that I am part of your Creation. Thank you for the earth, the sky, the water, the plants, the animals, and all people. Teach me to care for the world with love and respect. Help me to remember that what I say and do matters. May my choices bring kindness, peace, and goodness to others. Help me to protect what you have made and to honour the connection between all living things.

We wonder what connections can we find? Can we draw a connection chain? [e.g. Insects finding food and shelter in the ivy on a tree] How do our choices affect others? How can we make a difference?

“And God looked at His Creation and He saw that it was good.” Genesis 1:31

Reflecting on Creation

Sitting quietly gather around some objects you may have been permitted to bring back in or some drawings you have done;

Response: Creator God, we thank You.

- ❖ For the beauty and variety of Creation.
- ❖ For the sky above us, the earth beneath our feet, the plants and trees, the birds, animals, and tiny creatures, and for every person here today.
- ❖ For the wisdom to understand that we are part of your beautiful world and that even small acts of kindness can help it flourish.
- ❖ Help us to notice your creation with wonder and awe, to care for it with gentle hands, and to share its gifts fairly with others. Keep our hearts full of gratitude and joy. Amen

Resources, including this and all previous resources compiled by Mairin Jackson, Primary DA Ferns are available on Ferns Diocesan Website