

# Bible adventures

for young readers

6



God  
loves me  
28 ways



## GOD'S WORD FOR ME

"In the beginning God created the sky and the earth." *Genesis 1:1*

## STORY TIME

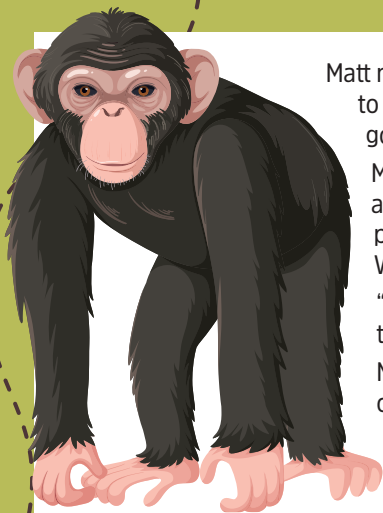
Matt sat down beside his mother and pulled the warm blanket up around his chin. Being sick with a cold wasn't fun. He'd been sneezing and coughing and sweating for two days straight and finally felt good enough to do something other than sneeze, cough, and sweat.

Mom opened the large family photo album and laid it across their laps. "Are you sure you feel well enough to look at these pictures?" she asked.

"Yes," Matt responded with a sniff. "I want to do something fun. I'm tired of being sick."

"OK," Mom said with a smile. "I know how much you enjoy this old album, so here goes."

Matt snuggled in close to his mother as she began pointing to images taken long before he was born. "There's your great-grandfather on his farm in the country. And that little boy standing beside him? He would someday grow up, get married, and be the daddy of your daddy! Kinda looks like Daddy, wouldn't you say?"



Matt nodded. "And that's my cousin Sandra," he said pointing to another photograph, "and my uncle Ray—the one who got shot in the foot during the war, right?"

Mother smiled, then hesitated. "I'm about to show you a new picture that I placed in the album last week. It's a photograph taken of a family member you've never met. Would you like to see it?"

"Sure!" Matt said enthusiastically. "I love looking at pictures of my relatives."

Mom turned the page and there, mounted right in the center of the album was a big, beautiful picture of a monkey.

Matt blinked, unsure of what to say. "That's one of my relatives?" he gasped.

Mother shrugged. "There are a lot of people who would say it is. They believe that a few billion years ago, a little sea creature crawled out of the ocean and began to live on land. Over the centuries, its offspring grew legs, tails, and finally fur. Then it continued to change until it became a human being. So this could very well be a picture of a family member—according to them."

"Wait a minute," Matt responded. "That's not what the Bible says. The Bible says that God created everything, including me and that monkey. He made the trees and flowers and birds, too. I don't care what anybody says. I know the truth. A monkey can be my friend, or a pet, or something I see in a zoo, but it has never, ever been my relative." He smiled. "So, Mom, you can take that monkey out of our family album. He doesn't belong there. But, I would like to hang it on my wall. It's a great picture of one of God's creatures."

Mother hugged Matt so tightly it made him cough. "You're one smart kid," she said. "I tried to trick you, but you didn't fall for it. I wanted to see if you were listening in church last week." Matt's grin spread from ear to ear. "Hey," he said, "no one is going to make a monkey out of me."



## FUN FACTS

### MONKEYS:

- Monkeys are most easily distinguished from apes by their tails. Apes have no tails.
- A group of monkeys is called a "troop."\*

### HOLD ON!

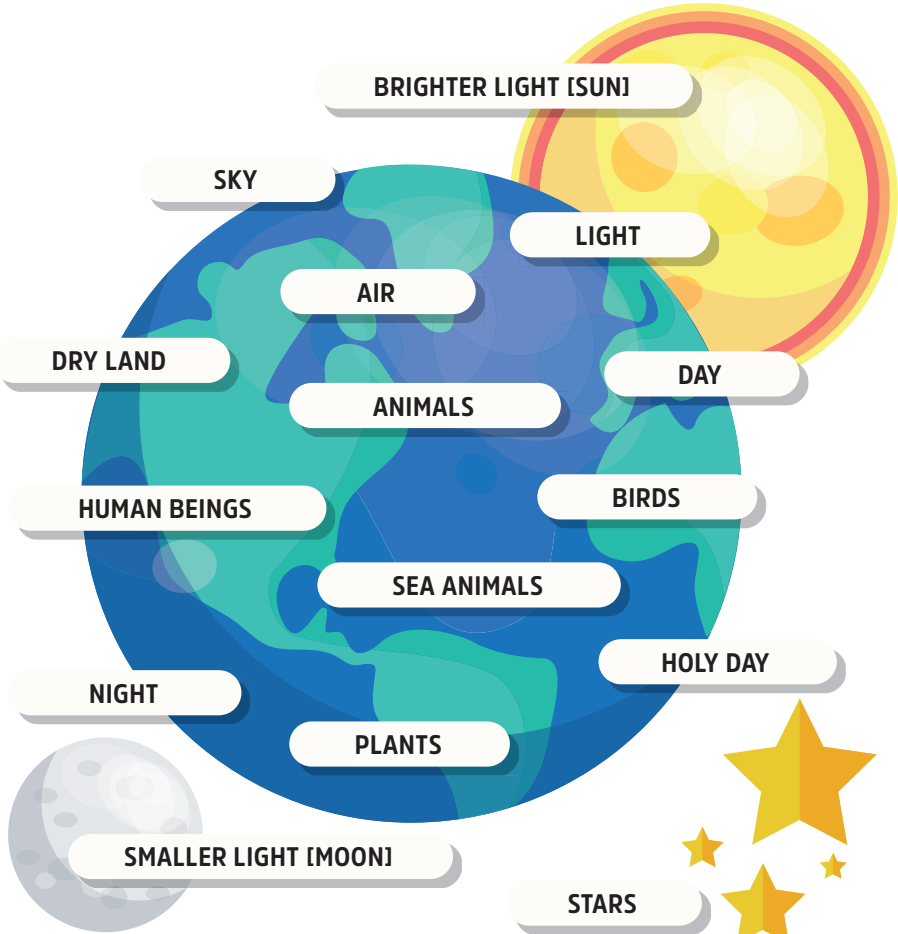
- Monkeys can grasp with both their fingers and their toes.





## MY BIBLE ADVENTURE

Look up the Bible texts in the “Library” section and then draw a line from the day of Creation to what God created on that day. Remember, some days may have more than one creation. God began with an ugly mixture of water, air, and darkness. He ended up with our beautiful world.



DAY 1 - GENESIS 1:3-5

DAY 2 - GENESIS 1:6-8

DAY 3 - GENESIS 1:9-13

DAY 4 - GENESIS 1:14-19

DAY 5 - GENESIS 1:20-23

DAY 6 - GENESIS 1:24-31

DAY 7 - GENESIS 2:1-3



## MY PRAYER

Thank You, God, for making such a beautiful world for me to live in.  
Thank You for making me, too. Amen.



## LIBRARY

- “Then God said, ‘Let there be LIGHT!’ And there was LIGHT. ... God named the light ‘DAY’ and the darkness ‘NIGHT’” (Genesis 1:3–5).
- “Then God said, ‘Let there be something to divide the water in two!’ So God made the AIR to divide the water in two.... God named the air ‘SKY’” (Genesis 1:6–8).
- “Then God said, ‘Let the water under the sky be gathered together so the DRY LAND will appear.... Let the earth produce PLANTS’” (Genesis 1:9–11).
- “Then God said, ‘Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night.’... So God made the two large lights. He made the BRIGHTER LIGHT [SUN] to rule the day. He made the SMALLER LIGHT [MOON] to rule the night. He also made the STARS” (Genesis 1:14–16).
- “Then God said, ‘Let the water be filled with living things. And let BIRDS fly in the air above the earth.’ So God created the large SEA ANIMALS” (Genesis 1:20, 21).
- “Then God said, ‘Let the earth be filled with ANIMALS.’... Then God said, ‘Let us make HUMAN BEINGS in our image and likeness’” (Genesis 1:24–26).
- “By the seventh day God finished the work he had been doing. So on the seventh day he rested from all his work. God blessed the seventh day and made it a HOLY DAY” (Genesis 2:2, 3).



## MY FRIEND ELLEN WROTE

“The weekly cycle of seven literal days, six for labor, and the seventh for rest, which has been preserved and brought down through Bible history, originated in the great facts of the first seven days” (*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 3, p. 90).

The word literal means “actual.” God made the earth in six actual days and then rested for one actual day. We’re supposed to do the same: work six, rest one. This Sabbath, when you head for church, you’re following in God’s footsteps. That’s exciting!

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