



## OVERVIEW

God gives children a profound sense of wonder about the world and how it works. They are discovering that words are all around them—in books, at the supermarket, and in their homes. They play with language, which is an important step in learning to read. They are beginning to use larger number sets and to understand longer and shorter periods of time. They are ready to expand their world beyond their immediate surroundings. God's Big WORLD exposes early readers to a range of new information, building their personal library of facts and concepts.

**NEW:** For gentle guidance on creating an environment for discussion as you discover God's world through the news, be sure to read the weekly News Coach columns in your Monday email newsletters, and follow our News Coach, Kelsey Reed, on her blog in the Teachers' Lounge at [gwnews.com](http://gwnews.com).

## EACH SECTION INCLUDES:

- Three stories
- Teaching tips offered below in this guide
- Easy-reading words and sentences
- Photo slide show online
- Puzzles and activities for building basic skills

## RECOMMENDED PACING:

- God's Big WORLD is organized into sets of eight weekly lessons that detach from the magazine as separate four-page lessons.
- Each lesson includes three short stories plus a skill-building activity.
- The stories have an easy-reading component for the student to practice reading, as well as an extended section to give background and context.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

### Lesson #1

1. [A new king is on the throne.](#) King Charles III is Britain's new monarch.
2. [This wreck has snacks from all over.](#) A shipwreck in the Holy Land gives insights into ancient trading.
3. [Mack beat his sister's record.](#) Mack Rutherford is the youngest person to fly solo around the world.

**WORK IT OUT!** Can you put the steps in order for making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich?

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *Kings and Kingdoms:* You'll remember Samuel warned the Israelites about appointing a king as ruler. God cautioned that a king would take the best of the Israelites' fields, vineyards, and orchards. A king would also take the young men for soldiers and the young women as house servants. (1 Samuel 8:1-18) Thankfully, the Bible teaches the heart of the king is ultimately in the hand of the Lord. (Proverbs 21:1) Take time to study the history of the world's monarchies. What kinds of patterns can you and your children identify? Highlight godly kings (like Hezekiah in 2 Kings 18-19 and Josiah of 2 Kings 22-23). How did their leadership shape their people? For supplemental resources (printables and book suggestions) focused mostly on medieval kings and queens in Great Britain, see this link: <https://livingmontessorinow.com/free-kings-and-queens-printables-and-montessori-inspired-kings-and-queens-activities/>.

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**Lesson #2**

1. [This was a surprise.](#) A rare Santa Marta sabrewing hummingbird was spotted.
2. [Small helpers can serve in big ways.](#) Oyster colonies can help to protect eroding shorelines.
3. [That is a fun wake-up call!](#) Eight-year-old Isabella Payne chatted with an astronaut on a ham radio.

**WORK IT OUT!** Find the letter shapes hidden in the photos.

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *Hummingbirds:* The Bible teaches God knows "all the birds of the hills." (Psalm 50:11) Get to know your local birds and their annual journeys with your family. If you feed hummingbirds, you've likely put your feeders away until spring. Discuss with your kids where the miniature birds go for winter. You can track migration patterns on Audubon's website: <https://explorer.audubon.org/explore/species?zoom=3>. For an additional supplement, watch this breathtaking documentary on hummingbirds narrated by David Attenborough: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2W9J2\\_XqwY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2W9J2_XqwY).

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**Lesson #3**

1. [Go love others well.](#) GLOW ministry serves widows and orphans in Ukraine.
2. [Help us out, baby flies.](#) Ugandan farmers use black soldier fly maggots to fertilize soil.
3. [Do not forget the green beans.](#) We remember Dorcas Reilly, the inventor of the green bean casserole.

**WORK IT OUT!** When you find all the answers in the crossword puzzle, note the letters not circled. What riddle and answer do you see?

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *GLOW Ministry:* We pray for an end to the war in Ukraine. And we give thanks that God will "judge between the nations and shall decide disputes for many peoples." (Isaiah 2:4) GLOW founder Dar Draper published a book in 2016 which you and your kids may enjoy. It is called Jasper. The story

is an allegory about God's pursuit of His people. In the story, Jasper calls Sandy out of the Wastelands and into relationship with Himself. All sales of Jasper support the GLOW Mission. To learn more, go to <https://dardraper.com/>. To support GLOW directly and to read updates about Ukraine, go to the website: <https://glowmission.org/projects/>. You can view recent footage of Dar and Andrew Draper's endeavors at their YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCm1y-XH8Yeggp2BEyE17PPw>.

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**Lesson #4**

1. [Do not disturb!](#) The first sea turtle nest in four years was found in Mississippi.
2. [He has big plans.](#) Saudi Arabia's leader envisions a skyscraper that's over 100 miles long!
3. [Set sail in a pumpkin.](#) Mr. Duane Hansen made the longest journey by pumpkin boat.

**WORK IT OUT!** How many of each autumn object can you find?

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *Towers and Skyscrapers:* Jesus urged that we must count the cost when we invest everything in the kingdom of God. "For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?" (Luke 14:28) Believers are completely dependent upon Jesus to be enabled to love and serve Him with our whole lives. And how can we be wise stewards of the resources God has provided? Read the story of the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11. What prompted God to halt the building process? Investigate the Jeddah Tower in Saudi Arabia, which when completed is supposed to be the tallest building in the world. The construction is on hold: <https://constructionreviewonline.com/project-timelines/jeddah-tower-project-timeline-and-all-you-need-to-know/>. What do builders with dreams of grandeur need to consider?

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**Lesson #5**

1. [Follow that moth!](#) Scientists track death's-head hawk moths flying in straight lines.
2. [Share the light.](#) Community "lighthouses" share electricity by using solar power.
3. [They want to learn.](#) A women's rights group opened a library for Afghan women.

**WORK IT OUT!** Find and circle all the silly things in the picture!

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *Moths:* We are urged in scripture to lay up our treasure in heaven, where "neither moth nor rust destroys." (Matthew 6:20) Moths are famous for damaging clothes, but God has equipped them with other marvelous characteristics! Sloth moths live in sloth fur and have a symbiotic relationship with their hosts. Luna moths have long hindwing tails that confuse the echolocation of hunting bats. The Morgan's sphinx moth has an almost foot-long proboscis to obtain nectar from rare orchids in Madagascar. For more on some of the most

unique moths, see <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-of-natural-history/2021/07/20/seven-bizarre-moths-celebrate-national-moth-week/>. For a helpful short video on the differences between butterflies and moths, view <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iblveeTDkXQ>.

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**Lesson #6**

1. [Take up your sword!](#) The Romula Fest in Romania reenacts battles between Rome and Dacia.
2. [Climb on and ride.](#) The first official camel riding school is in Dubai.
3. [Leaders need their sweets.](#) White House pastry chef Roland Mesnier had a long, successful career.

**WORK IT OUT!** Circle the letter of one thing not like the others in each box. What does the Bible verse say?

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *Festivals and Holidays:* The scriptures mention a variety of festivals celebrated by the Israelites, such as the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Harvest (Exodus 23), and the Passover (Leviticus 23). The feasts were intended for worship, celebration, and replenishing rest. What international festivals occur each year for the purpose of celebration and rest? For a brief look at a few of the most famous, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzRHpJ6tXEI>. For the holidays, check out this book list filled with examples of how Christmas is celebrated around the world: <https://childhood101.com/books-celebrating-christmas-around-the-world/>.

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**Lesson #7**

1. [Have you ever asked, “Do spiders sleep?”](#) German scientists did. A spider sleep study reveals that even arachnids need their shut-eye.
2. [Pass the salt, please.](#) A drought in France means a large harvest for at least one kind of farmer: the salt farmer!
3. [This statue honors Elizabeth Freeman.](#) A statue honors Elizabeth Freeman, who won her freedom before the Emancipation Proclamation.

**WORK IT OUT!** Choose one letter stuck in each spider’s web to fill in the blanks.

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *Elizabeth Freeman:* The scriptures call to mind the heroes who have gone before us. Hebrews 11 is a celebration of faith, from Abel to Moses to the prophets who suffered persecution. Elizabeth Freeman is a hero of freedom. She ended slavery in Massachusetts when she won her court case in 1781. Her tombstone reads: “She could neither read nor write, yet in her own sphere she had no superior or equal.” For an informative article on Freeman, see: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/elizabeth-freeman-statue-enslaved-woman-took-her-freedom-to-court-180980651/>. For a book that highlights 10 godly black women of faith, including Elizabeth Freeman, see <https://www.christianbook.com/carved-readers-lessons-black-women-shape/jasmine-holmes/9780764238864/pd/238864?event=ESRCG#CBD-PD-Publisher-Description>.

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**Lesson #8**

1. [Show off those rings, Neptune.](#) The James Webb Space Telescope has captured the best images of Neptune in 30 years.
2. [Mom, can I fly my bike?](#) A company in Japan made a flying bike. It has no wheels. It is built like a drone.
3. [Learn on the move.](#) Leonard Gamaigue founded a mobile school that serves nomad children in Chad.

**WORK IT OUT!** Find a match for each of the five planets. What do the letters spell?

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** *School around the world:* The scriptures urge, “Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.” (Proverbs 4:13) Leonard Gamaigue recognizes that all children benefit from the gift of education. For a glimpse of schools around the world, read this book about a day in the life of children celebrating Earth Day in Australia, Japan, India, Ghana, England, Peru, and the U.S.: <https://www.christianbook.com/readers-level-3-school-around-world/9780756625481/pd/625481?event=ESRCG#CBD-PD-Description>. (If you do choose to share that book, be prepared to talk to your children about how Christians honor the God who created our world even more than we honor the Earth itself.) For more about school around the world, a brief video that provides footage from a variety of international classrooms can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=at2gAjtsgtk>.

**In addition to the print magazine,  
use the God’s Big WORLD website at:**

**GodsBigWorld.wng.org**