

Lesson 7

Starting Steps



Faith Activities for Families with Toddlers

Starting Steps is for families to use at home. It encourages you in your faith-journey and parenting. Use the ideas here and on the *Starting Steps* calendar throughout the week to extend and reinforce what your child learned.

At This Age

Springtime is a wonderful time for two year olds to discover creation. As they see trees budding, flowers blooming, and baby animals, they will begin to understand the world God made. Let your child use most of his or her senses when you are outside. Here are a few tips as your child discovers God's world.

- Take family walks. Point out flowers in bloom and new buds on trees.
- Try planting and taking care of a garden or a plant with your child to experience growing things. Let your child feel the dirt.
- If you find a baby bird or animal, have your child observe how it grows.

Time with God

Being the parent of a two year old requires a lot of understanding. We work to understand our children's needs, wants, and abilities to know what is best for them.

At the same time, we may have our own struggles and fears. We need someone to understand us! Philippians 4:6-7 tells us,

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

God knows us better than we know ourselves. Tell God your struggles and fears. He understands.

Toddler Tickler

Shoo, Bite!

My two-and-a-half-year-old son, Jeffrey, had a bug bite that was bothering him. When he continued to complain about it, I offered to get him some medicine and headed to the cupboard for calamine lotion. But apparently, Jeffrey thought he could take care of himself since he'd seen me deal with bugs in the past. A few minutes later, I found him using the fly swatter to scratch himself.



Holly Miles, Marysville, Wash.
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Time with Your Toddler



God Made Birds based on Genesis 1:20-23

This week's Bible story is "God Made Birds." Read the story from here and Bible storybooks many times—toddlers like and need repetition to learn.

The Bible tells us that God made birds.

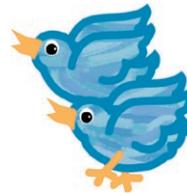
(Flap arms like a bird.)

God made big birds and small birds.

(Use arms and hands to show big and small.)

God made birds. Birds like to chirp.

(Chirp like a bird.)



God made birds. Birds like to fly.

(Flap arms like a bird.)

God made them all.

(Point up.)

Only God could make the birds. God made birds.

These questions can be used to help your child review the Bible story.

1. What did God make? (Birds)
2. Who made birds? (God)

Look what I made!



During craft time your child created a masterpiece by coloring with a cluster of crayons. Ask your child, "How did you make the picture?"

