

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains what it means to be made in God's image and how people have a special role in taking care of creation.

God's Word



Read **Genesis 1:27–31** to learn about how God asks us to take care of everyone and everything that was created.

Catholics Believe

- All creation is a gift from God. Humans are the most special part of creation.
- Everyone must help care for God's gifts.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #374–379 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Saint Albert the Great. Albert was one of the world's first scientists.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand Being Stewards of God's Creation

At the beginning of the school year, many children are still very much in what developmental theorists describe as the "egocentric" stage of development. They see the world as revolving around them and have difficulty seeing things from the perspective of others. Consequently, they have no difficulty grasping the idea that God made the world for them and that they have some responsibility in caring for what God has given them. Your child may need help, though, to discover practical ways in which he or she can be a good steward of God's creation.



CONSIDER THIS >>>

How do children distinguish between what they want and what they need?

This is a serious challenge when outside factors convince them that they need more than they really do. When Jesus proclaimed the eight Beatitudes he stated that "poverty of spirit would enable us to inherit the Kingdom of God. In other words, the first step on the road to joy begins with a healthy detachment from material goods" (*USCCA, p. 449*). If we want our children to know that joy, we must teach detachment to material goods through our own example.

LET'S TALK >>>

- Ask your child to name one thing people can do that the rest of God's creation cannot.
- Tell your child what makes him or her special to you.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Saint Albert, help us take care of all living things in the world, including the plants, the animals, and the people. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to aliveinchrist.osv.com.