

# CALL to FAITH

## FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

GRADE  
**K**

Unit 1  
Chapter 1

### Materials Needed to Complete Session

Chapter One *Call to Faith* Parent Handout

Pencils

Crayons, scissors, glue

Blank piece of white paper (one per child)

Large craft stick (one per child)

Animal handout (one per child)

For the opening prayer:

- Bible (Psalm 104:24)
- Small table covered with a table cloth
- Crucifix on the small table

### Time Frame (60 minutes)

Welcome and Call to Prayer

10 mins.

Conversation One

15 mins.

Conversation Two

15 mins.

Conversation Three

15 mins.

Closing

5 mins.

## HOSPITALITY

Warmly welcome participants as they arrive and invite them to find a seat together at a table. Ask them not to do anything with the handouts until you are ready to begin the gathering prayer.

## WELCOME AND CALL TO PRAYER **10 mins.**

Welcome parents/guardians and the children. Thank them for being there and say that you hope they will enjoy some special time to talk about God's wonderful creation, and our need to thank God for all that he has given to us. Pray the opening prayer experience.

**Note:** The opening prayer experience for this chapter can be found in the supplementary materials at the end of the parent handout or in the lesson planner resources for this chapter on e-connect.

## Conversation One **15 mins.**

1. Direct participants back to their seats.
2. Ask them to open their *Call to Faith* book to page 26 and to place the parent handout beside it. Explain that the handout is self-directed and that you would like them to **complete steps 1-5.**

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## **Conversation Two**

**15 mins.**

1. Invite participants to turn to page 2 of their handout and take a piece of blank paper from the middle of their table to create their *Thank You* poster.
2. Ask participants to **complete steps 6 and 7.**

## **Conversation Three**

**15 mins.**

1. Tell participants to turn to pages 28 and 29 in *Call to Faith* and page 3 of their parent handout.
2. Invite them to **complete steps 8-11.** Distribute the supplies they need to create the animal stick puppets.

## **Closing**

**5 mins.**

1. Guide the parents to the **For Home** page (page 4 in handout). Thank the parents/guardians and children for their participation, and say that you look forward to seeing them on \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Conclude with the *Prayer of Thanks* on page 29 of *Call to Faith*.

# CALL to FAITH

## PARENT HANDOUT

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Begins on Page 26

### **Conversation One**

Thank you for coming to spend this time in conversation with your son/daughter! Talking about faith with your child at any age is important, but starting at this age enables the conversations to become part of your child's on-going faith journey.

Creation is an amazing gift from God. As Catholics, we need to help our children associate creation with the Creator. All that exists was made by God, and we are called to praise God and thank God for his incredible gifts.

1. Read to your child *God's World* on page 26 of *Call to Faith*.
2. Before reading the poem called *Animals*, which is based on Psalms 50:10-11, invite your child to find and name all of the animals in the picture.
3. Now, read the *Animals* poem and talk together about the question that follows it: What are some other things that God made? (*Rivers, mountains, people, etc.*) Talk with your child about the pets you've had and share some stories about them. If you did not have a pet, talk about your favorite animals and why you like them.
4. Read *Care for the World* on page 27, then work with your child to name all of the ways the people in the picture are taking care of the world.
5. Ask your child to identify ways they can care for God's earth, while sharing some examples of how you care for the environment.

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## **Conversation Two**

6. Share with your child that God has created a beautiful world for us and we should give thanks for it. Invite your child to name some of the gifts from God we experience in nature (*trees, flowers, people, oceans, etc.*).
7. Children can create a *Thank You* poster. On a blank piece of paper (found in the center of your table) write THANK YOU GOD in the middle, pointing to each word and telling children what it says. Then, invite children to draw and color pictures of everything they are thankful for. After they color each picture, be sure to label it (for example: “my mom”) before continuing to the next picture.

Display the poster in a prominent place in your home, such as the refrigerator, and invite your child to share it with visitors.

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## PARENT HANDOUT

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### **Conversation Three**

**8.** Turn to page 28 and read aloud *Thank God*.

**9.** Next, read through the *Activity* on the same page, stopping after each line to make the animal sounds with your child. Once you've read the whole poem, invite your child to name other animals that God has created and create a verse for each animal named.

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of animal) thank God by \_\_\_\_\_.

**10.** Talk with your child about the things that make you and your child happy. After you name something, explain why it makes you happy and then thank God for it. *For example: Thank you for Benjamin because he makes me laugh! Thank you God for Benjamin!*

**11.** Create an animal stick puppet by using one of the handouts on your table. Work with children to color the animal. Help them cut it out and paste it onto the craft stick. Take it home to remind you to thank God for all his creations.

# PARENT HANDOUT

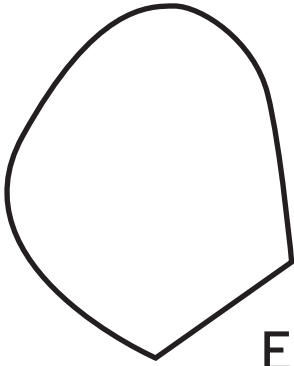
GRADE  
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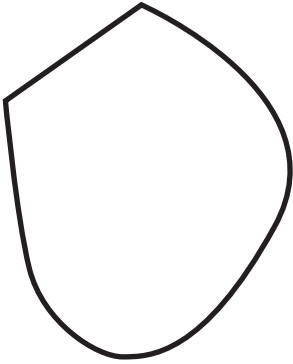
## ***For Home***

1. Read together Psalm 50:10-11.
2. Go for a walk around your neighborhood. Bring along a camera and take pictures of your family beside examples of God's creation.
3. Close your time together by reading *People of Faith* on page 30 and praying together the *Family Prayer*.

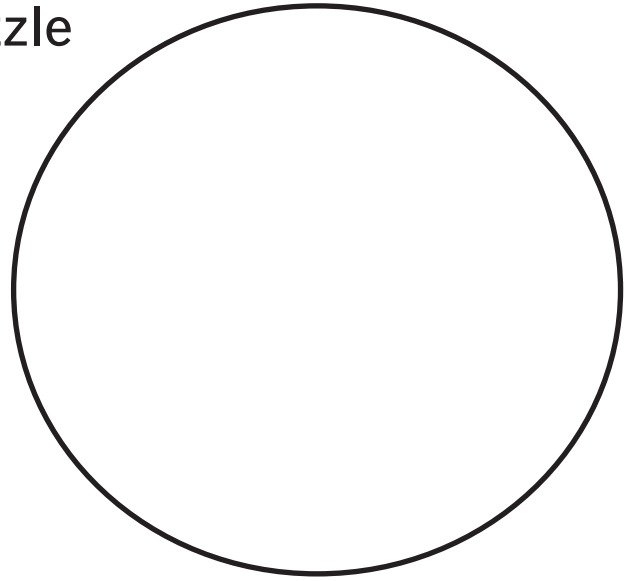
# ***Bear Stick Puppet***



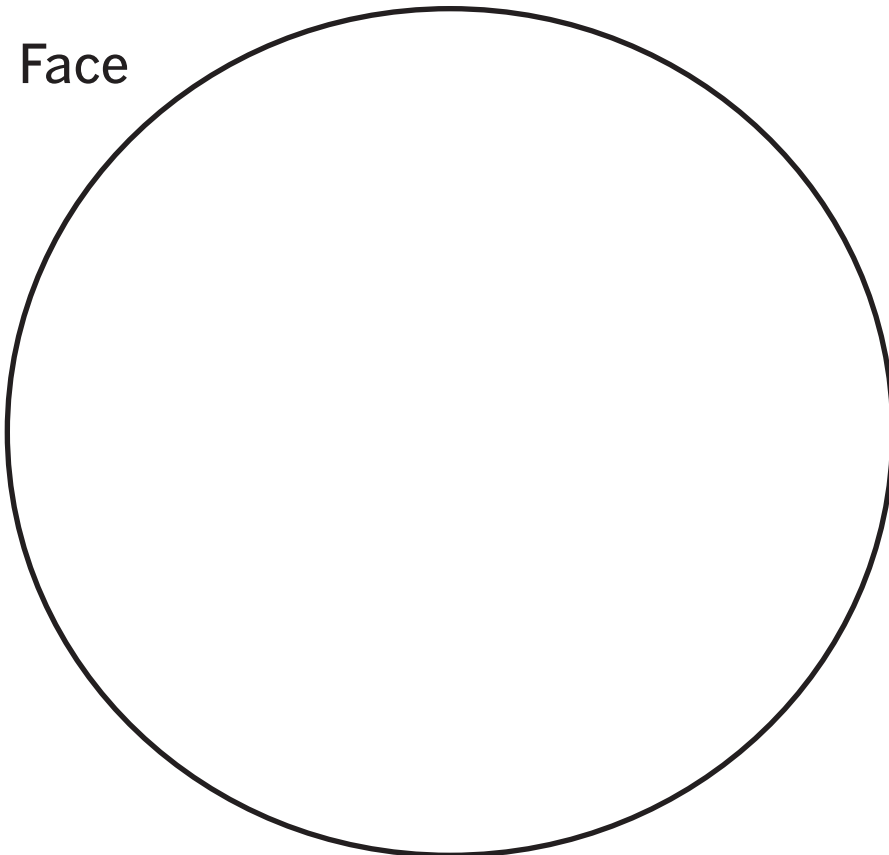
Ears



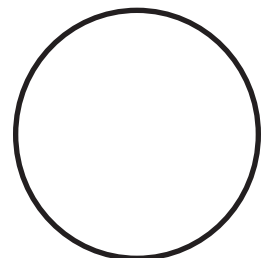
Muzzle



Face

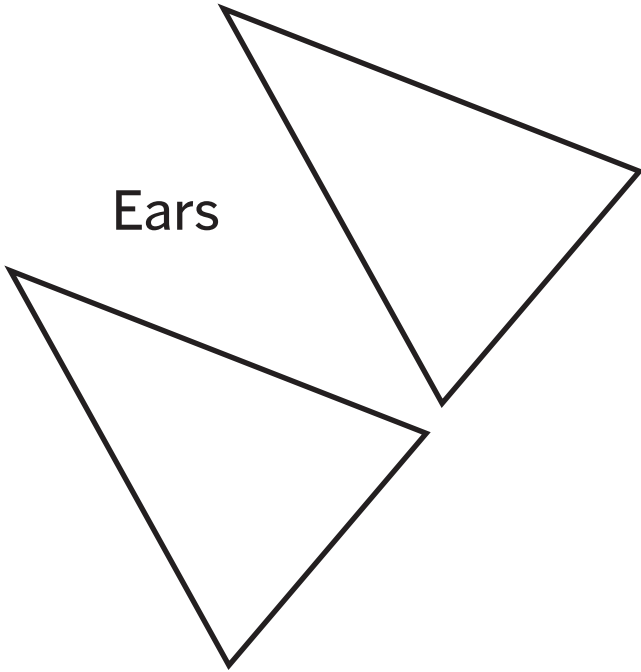


Nose

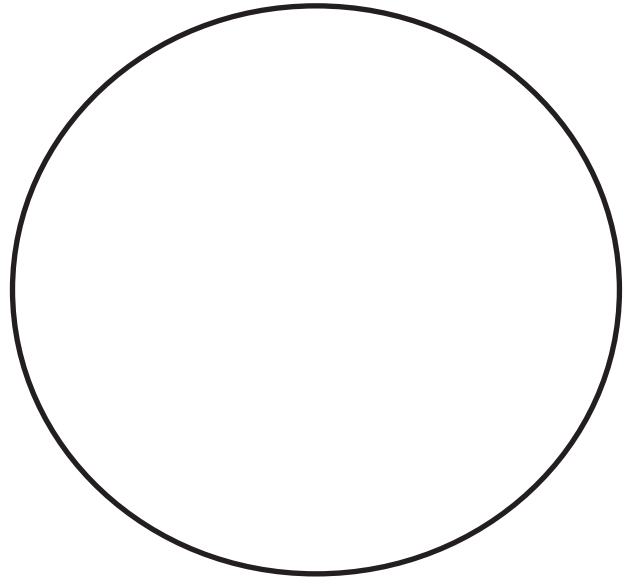


# Cat Stick Puppet

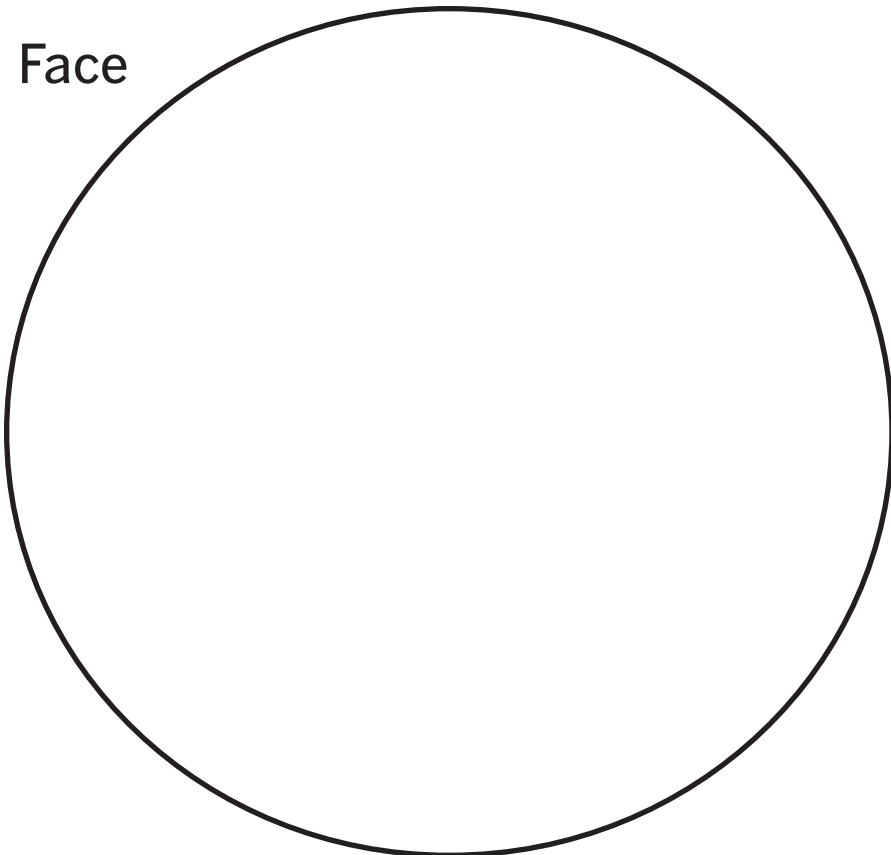
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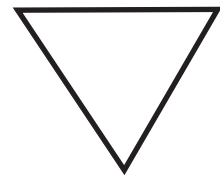
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Face



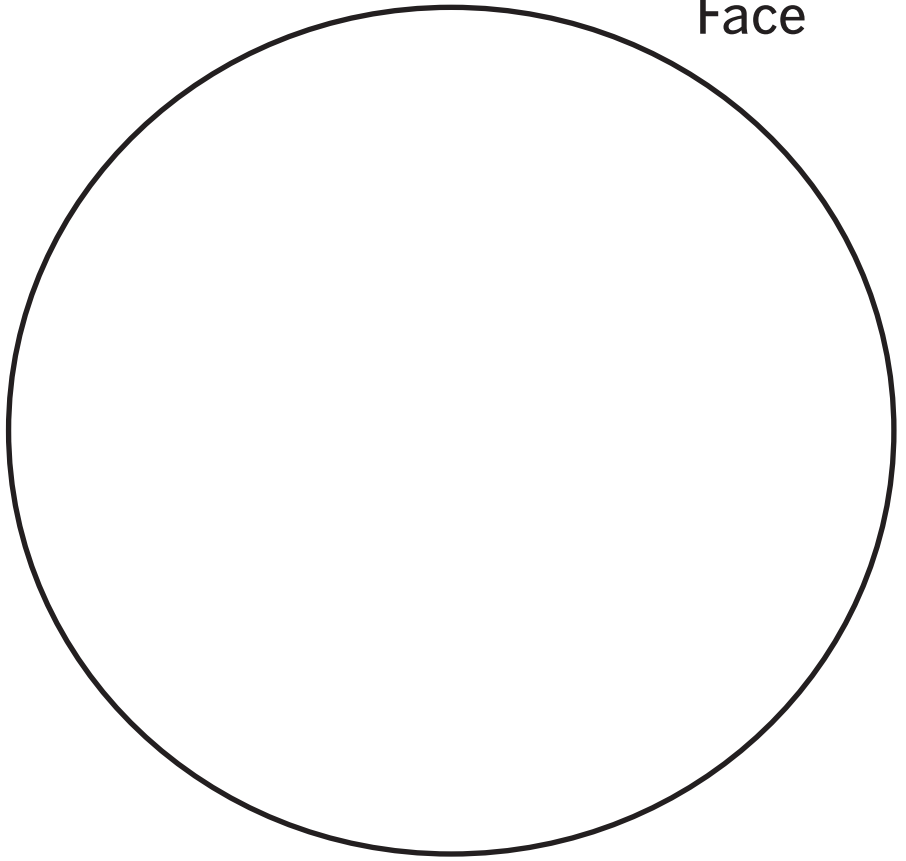
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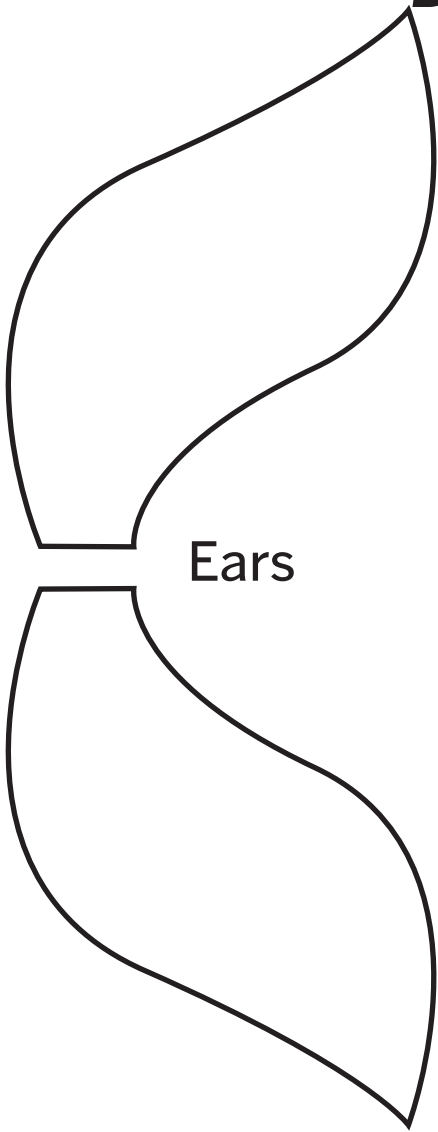


# Dog Stick Puppet

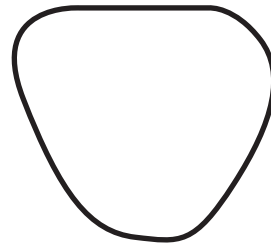
Face



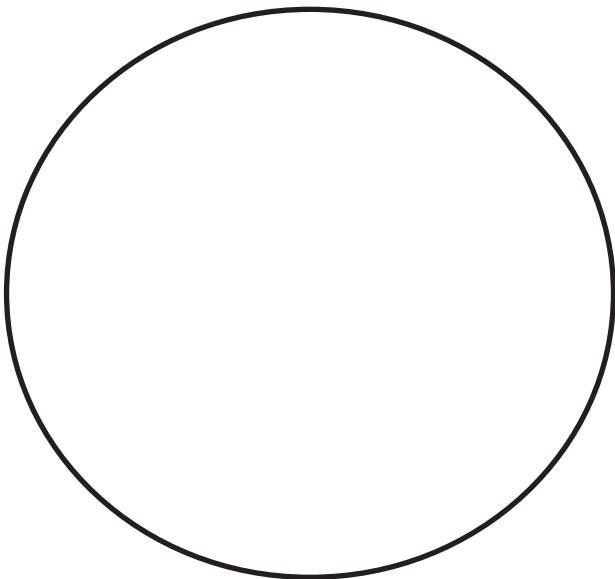
Ears



Nose

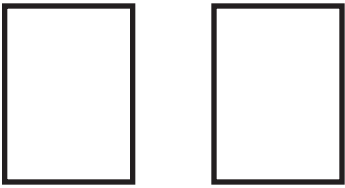


Muzzle

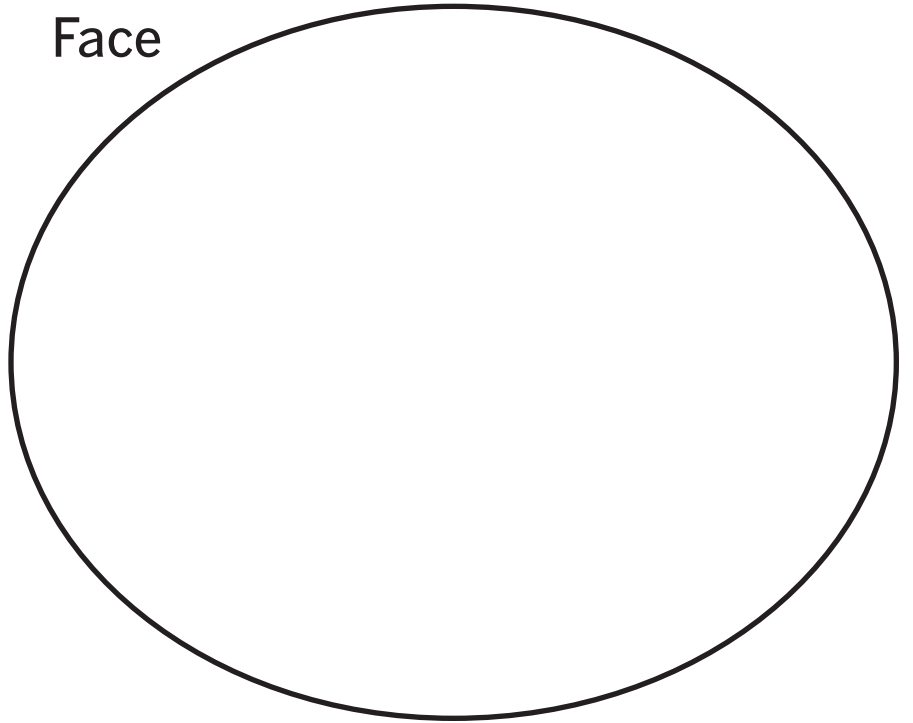


# Hippo Stick Puppet

Teeth



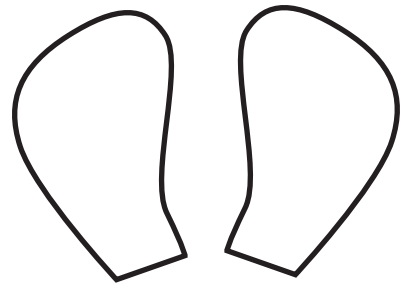
Face



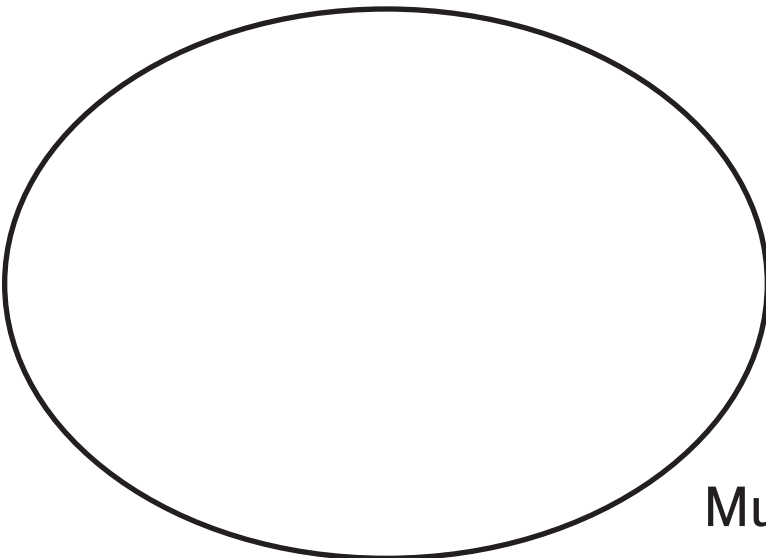
Nose



Ears



Muzzle



# ALTERNATE PRAYER EXPERIENCE

*Grade K, Unit 1: Revelation, Chapter 1: God Made the World*

## **Prayer**

In place of the Prayer of Thanks in the Student Edition, use the following prayer:

Gather children in the prayer space.

Ask children to make the Sign of the Cross with you.

Facing the children, make the Sign of the Cross slowly with your left hand.

Have the children sit quietly and listen to the song “We Praise You God.” Play the song once. Pause and then ask children: **What will we praise God for today?** (Have them name things). When they are finished, pray aloud:

*God, we praise you for all these things... (mention them).  
We thank you for all of creation.*

Play “We Praise You God” again.

## **Supplies**

- CD player
- CD: John Burland, *God Loves Me*, “We Praise You God” (Track 2), Ovation Music