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Here's a few tips and things you should know:

1. **I wrote this for my kids.** We did it together at the beach and they really enjoyed it. We also had some really good conversation about God and His creation. But that also means I didn't have it edited, fact-checked or double-checked by my pastor or local Theology professor. Just so you know.
2. **My kids are 7 and 10.** This may be a little old for preschoolers but if you use it in small pieces it will be a springboard for other fun ideas.
3. **This is a doodling, think-about-it kinda devotion.** Don't try to get all the "right" answers. Allow your kids to talk and think about the verses. Don't rush. The process is more important. Feel free to do it in more than one sitting.
4. **I read this aloud to the kids and had them write it in a journal.** You could do the same. Or older kids could print this off and do it by themselves.
5. **I used the New International Reader's Version.** It is on a 3rd grade reading level. Your translation may be different which may alter the questions and answers I've written. You can see the NIRV on BibleGateway.com or the YouVersion app.
6. **Additional Scriptures and resources are listed at the end.** They are not comprehensive nor do I know every bit about every link.
7. **This prints best via the latest version of Adobe Reader.** If you want to view it again, save it to your computer now.
8. If you'd like to print this devotion for 100 people at your church, that's fine--**just keep the ohAmanda.com footer on the pages.**
9. If you'd like to forward this electronically to a friend, or link to it online (on Facebook or Pinterest, etc.), **please use the following link instead of the direct link to this PDF:** <http://ohamanda.com/ocean-devotion/>
10. If you'd like to post this devotion in it's entirety on a website or blog, **please don't.**
11. **If you have any questions,** email me at amanda@ohamanda.com.
12. **For more fun family devotions visit** ohAmanda.com. :)

Ready to find out some cool stuff about God? Do you like to doodle and draw? Do you like to imagine and think up fun stuff?

Well, let's do it! Grab your Bible and some crayons or colored pencils and let's get started!

Read the first sentence of Psalm 148:1.

What is praise?

The dictionary definition is, "express warm approval or admiration of".

If you like synonyms to help you understand a meaning, here's some good ones:

- Applaud
- Speak highly of
- Compliment
- Sing the praises of
- Rave about
- Heap praise on
- Pat on the back
- Admire

Which of these synonyms can you see yourself doing? **Draw a picture of yourself praising God in one of these ways.**

Now. Who should praise the Lord? Let's find out! **Read the second part of verse 1.**

So, basically, everyone in the heavens should praise God. But who is that? **Read verses 2-4 and then write or draw who/what is in the heavens.**

Read verses 5-6. There are three reasons the heavens should praise God. Circle them below.

God commanded them to be created
He made them shiny and beautiful
HE MADE THEM WAY BETTER THAN ANYTHING ON EARTH
 He set them in place forever and ever
 He gave them rules and laws to obey
HE GAVE THEM BEAUTIFUL VOICES

Think about THIS: Where did God set the sun, moon and stars? Are they there forever? Or do they change places? Could you move them? How do you think God gave them laws about where they are allowed to be? Wow! Pretty cool to think about, huh?

There is another group that should praise the Lord. **Read the first part of verse 7. Fill in the blank below:**

Praise the Lord from the _____.

Read the rest of verse 7 all the way through verse 12 and make a list with words or pictures of the people (or things) who should praise God.

Look at the end of verse 7 again. If you haven't already, draw a picture of a sea creature you've seen at the beach.

Now, next to it, draw the person in verse 12 who is most like you. (Hint: it's the last word!)

Wow! **God wants the whole world to praise Him!** From the starfish, to the beluga whale to me and you!

When we look at all God has made in the heavens and the earth, it's easy to want to applaud Him and pat Him on the back and sing to Him, don't you think?

There is more to praise God for than just the heavens and the earth. Let's keep reading, ok?

Read verse 13. God's name is to be praised and honored because His glory (or awesomeness) is even bigger and better than all the creatures on the earth and in the heavens!

Below, write God's name really big. Under it, draw one thing from the heavens and one thing from the earth--but draw it teeny tiny so you can remember how much higher, bigger and awesome God is!

Now, read verse 14. We can praise God for all He's made, but even better than oceans and sea creatures, God gave us a king and promises to keep his people close to his heart.

Can you think of a king God gave to his people? Write his name below:

Who did you write? King Solomon? King David? King Hezekiah? God did give all those kings to his people. Some of those kings were really great.

God also sent the greatest King of all to the whole world. Do you know who it is? (Read John 12:12-15 if you're not sure.)

Below, write this king's name really big and draw a little crown on it (or decorate it as royally as you can).

Now. Last thing! **Write the very last sentence of verse 14 below:**

That sentence seems a lot bigger and more important than the first time you read it, doesn't it? God is awesome! Praise the Lord!!!

DON'T STOP:

If you get to go to the beach today and you play in the sand, see a fish or shell join them in praising God. If you're in the woods or your neighborhood today, look at the tallest tree, the sun, moon and stars and give God some applause or a song of praise straight from your mouth.

Tonight, before you go to bed, **write a one sentence prayer of praise to God** for what you've seen in creation today!

Here's one to help you get started:

God, I praise you -----

Love, ----- <---your name goes there!

Additional Scriptures:

Psalm 19:1-6 *the heavens declare the glory of God*

Luke 19:40 *rocks cry out*

Revelation 5:13 *every creature praises God*

Psalm 66:1-4 *the whole earth shouts to God*

Additional Resources:

Wild Worship: <http://ohamanda.com/2013/06/20/wild-worship/>

Creation Praises God: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaAiCdRHV4k>

Praise the Lord from Seeds Family Worship: (aff link) <http://amzn.to/24AbDvS>