



CREATION for KIDS

CREATED

and

M A D E

by Gordon Howard

How good are you at drawing pictures? Some people are very good at it. No matter how good (or not so good) you are, each time you draw a picture, you are creating something completely new, even if it looks a bit like someone else's drawing. Your picture has never existed in the world before.

It is the same when someone makes up a new song, or tells a story. Even if you tell a story you have heard before, you will tell it a little bit differently from the way anyone told it

before. It is a new thing in the universe! You have created it. In other words, you have been creative.

People who produce space movies, cartoons and fantasies often design strange creatures that they imagine might exist somewhere. You can think up imaginary creatures, too, to live in an imaginary world. When you do this, you are being creative and producing something that is quite new. No one else would create something exactly like your creation, whether it is a story,

a song, a picture, a creature, or whatever.

If it never existed before, where did it come from? Did it appear out of nowhere, by itself? No! It came from your mind, your imagination, a place no one can find even if they look inside your brain.

Maybe you prefer to build or make things that other people have designed. You might follow the instructions and build a Lego® model, or make a paper plane, or help put a new piece of furniture together, or work out how



to make something from a picture you have seen. In this case, you have made it, but you didn't design it, because you just built something that someone else designed using their creative intelligence.

To create something totally new takes intelligence, imagination, and intention (that is, deciding to do it). On

Earth, only people have these abilities. No animals or plants can truly create anything new. Some creatures make or build things (such as birds' nests or spiders' webs), but they are only following their instincts, not using

imagination to produce anything completely new. Yes, in our world only people can create, but who created people? Could



So, next time you draw a picture, or make up a song, or imagine anything new, or even make something from existing parts, remember that you are showing that you are made in the image of God Himself.

How cool is that!

dirt do it? Does dirt have imagination, intelligence, and the ability to decide to do something?

Some people say that people came from dirt (chemicals in the earth and atmosphere) over a long period of time without anyone's intelligence or imagination, but this doesn't make sense, does it? It makes much more sense to believe that someone with intelligence and imagination created us, along with all the other wonderful things that exist on our beautiful planet.

The Bible tells us that God is the One with the intelligence and imagination to create us, and to think up all the other creatures, plus the stars and planets and even the stuff it is all made of: atoms and space and time. It says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." That is, He imagined it all, designed it all, and thought about how He could put it together and make it all work.

What a task that must have been! How much thinking would it take to make sure every different creature He created fitted in with all the other creatures, to keep the world's living things going with enough food.

How much intelligence! How much imagination! What an amazing mind God must

have! How brilliantly creative He is!

But that is not all. Once you have decided what you are going to draw or build or sing about, you need to set about making it. You need to put it together, build it, follow your plan.

For example, in Genesis 1:26 the Bible says that God decided to make man (that is, people: men, women, boys and girls). Then He made the first man, called Adam, out of the materials that He had already created (Genesis 2:7), just as He had done with all the other living things (Genesis 2:19).

Then He made a woman out of Adam's rib (Genesis 2:22). Only God could have such power! Then, when God rested, He rested from imagining, designing, planning, making, forming, building and creating (Genesis 2:3).

Now, the reason you can make and create things, even something totally new, is because God has made you "in His image" (Genesis 1:26). This means, you have some of His abilities—abilities like imagination and creative intelligence. He created you with these. He wanted you to have them so you would be like Him (Matthew 5:48) and able to be His friend (John 15:14; James 2:23).

