INTRODUCTION

Hello. We're Harry and Jess. We're the Bible Detectives and we're on a special case. We're on an investigation through the first book of the Bible – Genesis – and we've got Click, our computer mouse to help. Before we start, Click has downloaded data to get us started.

The Bible

This is God's book. He used people to do physical writing. Prophets, men of God, the disciples – all wrote down or told other people what it was that God said to them. There are two sections. The Old Testament happened before Jesus was born and the New Testament is about Jesus life, death, resurrection and what his followers did after he went back to heaven.

Genesis

Genesis is the first book in the Bible, and according to tradition, was written by Moses. It's a book about beginnings. It starts by showing how the world and everything in it was created. Then it moves on to Adam and Eve and the beginning of sin as they disobeyed God. The stories of Noah, then Abraham and his descendants – Isaac, Jacob and Joseph follow. Through their lives, Genesis reveals God's desire to have a people who would be set apart to worship him. It is important to realise that these words from God are the words that Jesus read. When he preached and taught people from God's word he often used the Old Testament. The Old Testament also told people that Jesus was going to come to this world - long before it actually happened. The book of Genesis has examples of prophecies like this.

More Data

The Old and New Testaments are divided up into different sections. The Old Testament is made up of 39 separate books. The New Testament is made up of 27 books. Each book is divided up into smaller sections called chapters. Each chapter is divided up into smaller parts called verses.

Old Testament:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.

New Testament:

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1,2 & 3 John, Jude, Revelation.

That's great, Click. Thanks for showing us that. So, come on everyone – pick up a pencil, and let's go.
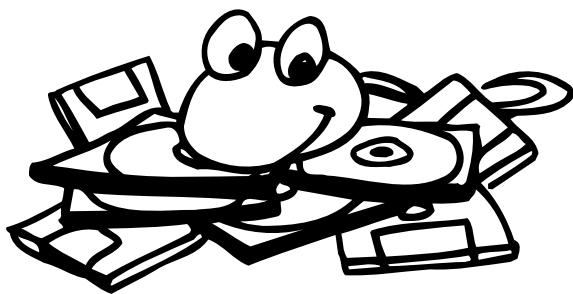
Study One: In the Beginning

Did you know that in the beginning, absolutely nothing existed except God? The earth was empty and didn't have any form. Can you imagine it? It was pitch black. There was nothing to see or to smell, and not a sound. Only God's Spirit was there, hovering over the surface.

But then, everything changed. God is so powerful that he just had to speak creation into being. Within an awesome six days he made the entire universe and he didn't mess up anything.

Click has printed out some calendars to show what God created each day. Follow the line from the number to the picture to discover the order in which everything was made. Then, write the number on the calendar.
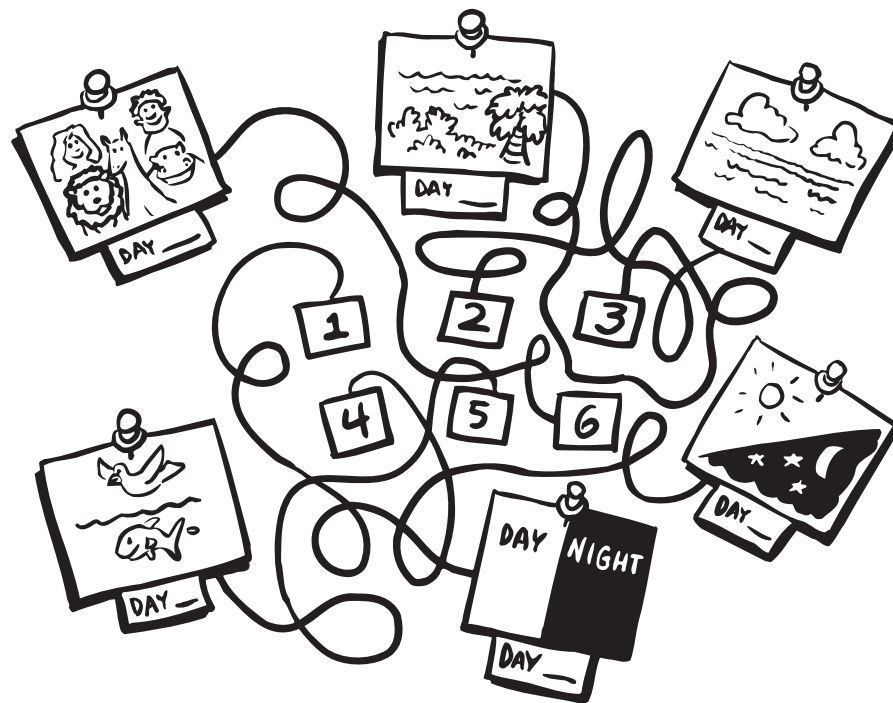
God was very pleased with all that he'd created. He blessed the man and the woman, and told them to eat the plants for food and to look after everything he'd made. And then what happened on the seventh day? To find out read the writing by placing this up against a mirror.

God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

JESUS FACT FILE: Jesus has always existed and always will. If you read Colossians 1:15-17 you will find out that he was there with God when the world was created, and that he played an improtant part in it.

Study Two: Adam and Eve

Did you know that God made man out of dust? It's pretty amazing isn't it? And he didn't just dump him anywhere and leave him to get on with life. He made a garden for him to live in, and it was beautiful. All kinds of leafy trees and lovely plants grew there, and a river ran through it. In the middle of the garden were two trees, and God told Adam that he could eat from any tree in the garden except for the second. If he disobeyed he would die.

Click has printed out two trees. Follow the arrows and find out their names. You can colour in the fruit too.

Genesis 2:8-25

_ _ _   _ _ _ _   _ _   _ _ _ _

The Tree Of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _   _ _   _ _ _ _ _   _ _ _

_ _ _ _

God saw that it wasn't good for Adam to live on his own, so he made animals and birds and gave them to Adam to name. But Adam couldn't find any of these to be his special helper, so God made him fall into a deep sleep. God then took out one of Adam's ribs. God used that rib to make a woman – Eve. God brought her to Adam. Let's find out what he said, Click. Two vowels are missing from this sentence. Work out what vowels these are and then insert them. Check your answer on the answer page.

_t l_st, h_r_ is on_ of my own kind. Bon_ t_k_n from my bon_ _nd fl_sh from my fl_sh. Wom_n is h_r n_m_ b_c_us_ sh_ w_s t_k_n out of m_n.

Study Three: The Fall and God's Punishment

But Adam and Eve didn't live happily ever after in the garden. There was a crafty animal who was living among them, and he had different plans. Can you spot six differences in the pictures below? Then read the conversation Eve had with the Snake. Colour the pictures in too if you like.

Genesis 3:1-13
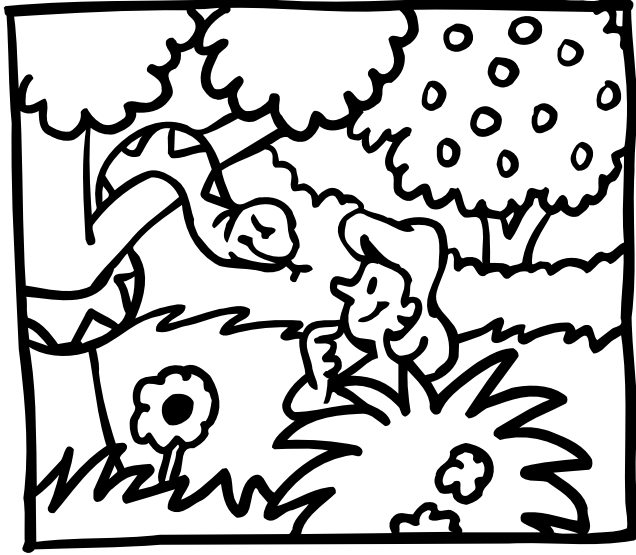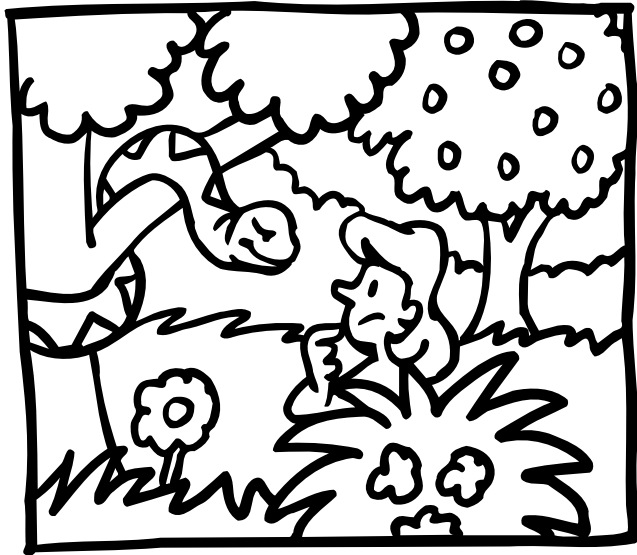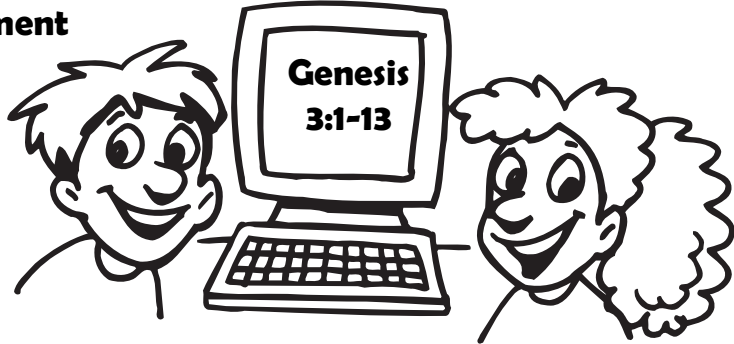
Did God really say, you must not eat from any tree in the garden?

We may eat from trees in the garden, but not from the tree in the middle of it. If we touch it we will die.
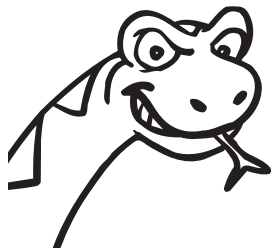
You won't die. God knows that your eyes will be opened when you eat it. Then you'll become like him, knowing good and evil.

Eve couldn't resist the delicious looking fruit. Besides, she liked the idea of becoming wise. She took a bite out of it, and then gave some to Adam.
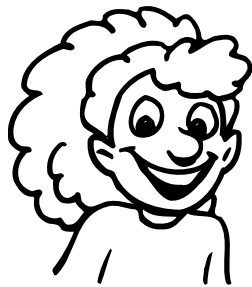
Suddenly they realised what was going on. They saw that they had no clothes, so they sewed fig leaves together and made aprons. Then that evening, God came walking in the garden. Adam and Eve took off and hid. But you can't hide anything from the Creator of the Universe. Soon, Adam and Eve were discovered and the whole sorry story came out. Adam and Eve acted just like we do sometimes – Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the snake. It was not looking good!

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