

# I PRAISE YOU BECAUSE I AM *fearfully & wonderfully made*

CHANGING  HEARTS

## Materials Needed

If you do not have time to make paper binoculars, have students make pretend binoculars with their hands.

- 2 empty toilet paper rolls or rolled up pieces of paper for each child, tape, hole punch, string, drawing utensils or stickers for decorating, Bible, a large box, ribbon, dolphin picture, ostrich picture
- Binoculars: *Tape rolls together, punch a hole at the top of each roll, add string for hanging around neck. Preset binoculars inside a large box. Add ribbon to decorate box.*

**Teacher's note:** *When using a Bible, we model the importance of reading God's Word; it helps young children see that the Bible verse is true.*

## Song Possibilities (Most found on YouTube.)

- I Am Fearfully and Wonderfully Made by Jim Bailey
- I'm So Wonderfully Made –Donut Man ( <https://youtu.be/QSScGePToQ0>)
- Wonderfully Made –Martina Sequeira e Souza ( <https://youtu.be/0xKBcL6vhGI>)
- I am Wonderfully Made (sign language) (<https://youtu.be/nUhbAwzmW6M>)

## Opening Prayer

Dear God, thank You for loving us and making us the way You wanted us to be made. Thank You for giving us gifts and talents. Thank You for loving us and forgiving our sins. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Introduction** (Show large box.) I have a gift here in front of me. You can tell it is a gift because I have decorated it to look very special. Inside the box are gifts for everyone in the class. (Unwrap bow and open box.) Here are your gifts.

**Hand out binoculars and have class decorate.**

## Read Psalm 139:13-14 Nlrv

You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. How You made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise You for that. What You have done is wonderful. I know that very well.

## Opening Activity

*This game is similar to the children's game "I Spy" and is to teach the children that we are all made by God exactly the way He wanted us to be made. God gives us all gifts and talents. God made us so we can show His love to others.*

Today we are going to talk about the gifts God gave us. Today we are going to see we are all wonderfully made by God. We are going to use our binoculars for a game. When I talk about a gift or talent someone has from God, let's all look at that person in our class.

The teacher says, "I spy with my loving eyes someone who..."

*Use the gifts and talents of those in class to finish the sentences, i.e. a good helper, is an artist, runs really fast, is kind, etc. As the teacher says the phrase, have teacher and students look at the child the teacher is describing through their binoculars.*

## Questions

- What gift or talent did I say [name] had? (discuss and repeat with other students)
- How does it feel to hear we all have a gift or talent?
- What is a gift or talent your mom or dad has?
- What is a gift or talent your brother or sister has?
- Did God give us all the same gifts and talents or are they sometimes different?
- Think about gifts and talents. How can we use our gifts and talents to show others God's love?

## Message

God created all things. God created the earth, the stars, plants, animals, and humans. God said everything He made was good. Let's look at some animals God has made.

(Show picture of a dolphin.)

What kind of animal is this? What do you know about dolphins? (Discuss with class.)

God made dolphins and He gave dolphins special gifts. Did you know each dolphin has its own whistle? No two dolphins sound exactly alike. God gave dolphins another special gift. When dolphins sleep, only half their brain falls asleep! God did this to protect dolphins from drowning. Unlike fish, dolphins need to come up for air or they can't live. So when dolphins sleep, half their brain stays awake and makes it come up for air. Wow! God is amazing! Even though dolphins can't do everything other fish can do, God made dolphins wonderful!

(Show picture of an ostrich.)

What kind of animal is this? What do you know about ostriches? (Discuss with class.)

God made ostriches and He gave ostriches special gifts. Even though ostriches have feathers, they cannot fly like other birds can. It is because they are so heavy! So God gave ostriches a different gift. Ostriches can run; they can run faster than horses! If ostriches need to get away from an enemy, they run. Guess what else they can do. Male ostriches can roar like a lion. I don't know about you, but if an ostrich roared at me I would probably be afraid and stay away. God is amazing! Again! Even though ostriches can't do everything other birds can do, God made ostriches wonderful!

Now let's talk about us. Use your binoculars to look at all of the people in this room. (Allow time for looking.) God loves dolphins and God loves ostriches, but God's favorite part of creation was making humans. God loves His people! God made us and He gave us all gifts and talents. Even though we do not have all the same gifts and talents, God made us wonderful! Let's listen to the Bible verse again.

## **Reread Psalm 139:13-14**

God made us all. He made us all wonderful. Whether we can run fast or only walk, whether we can read or are still learning, whether we can sing or draw or use our hands to talk to others, God made us wonderful.

## **Closing Prayer**

Dear God, thank You for making us so wonderful. Thank You for giving us gifts and talents. Thank You for loving us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## **Closing Activity**

I am Wonderfully Made coloring sheet