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By Lanny and Marilyn Johnson

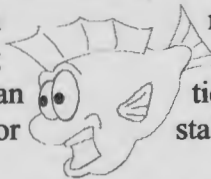
And God saw every thing that he had made and behold, *it was very good*. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Genesis 1:31

THE "AMAZING PLANET"

Do you ever complain, "Man, it's so hot!," or, "I'm about to freeze to death!"? Well, in some parts of the world you could die of the heat, and in other parts of the world you could die from the cold. But that is not how God originally created the world to be like. When He was done creating, the world was perfect! **It was very good**—but not for long, because along came Adam and Eve, and along came sin. Because of their disobedience to God, the world was changed. God still left the world in such a way that man could live. Even after the Flood, **God provided a way for life to continue here on earth.**

There are many things about the Earth that are just right for life. If the earth was any closer to the sun, it would be too hot. If we were any farther away from the sun, it would be too cold and all the water would be frozen solid like an ice cube.

If the earth did not have a large moon revolving around it, there would be no ocean tides. The seas might grow stagnant or stale and all the fish would die.

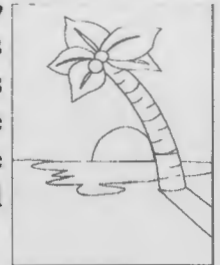


The size of the earth is just right too! If the earth were too small, it's gravity would be weak, and all the air and water would float off into space. If the earth were twice as big as it is now, gravity would be eight (8) times as much. We'd be squashed!

The earth spins as it circles the sun and this gives us our day and night. The earth is also tipped 23 degrees from upright. This tilt and spin give us our four seasons. If the earth wasn't tipped, the North and South poles would be a lot colder and the equator would be much hotter. Only half the land we use today would be able to be lived on, and lots of types of plants and animals would die.

The earth contains 21% oxygen, which we need to live. There is no free oxygen on any other planet. Also, Earth is the only place in all of the Solar System where water in liquid form exists. Without water there can be no life!

The earth truly is amazing! It is the only planet in all of the Solar System where life can exist. The Bible tells us in Psalms 24:1; ***The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.*** The earth belongs to God! Yet God created the world as a home for you and me and all the other living creatures. We are important to the Lord, and we should praise Him for His love!



DID YOU KNOW?

There are 9 planets in our Solar System and they all circle the sun, zipping through space at terrific speeds. Mercury, the closest planet to the sun, is moving at 110,000 miles an hour, and circles all the way around the sun in just 88 days. Here on Earth, we are racing around the sun at 67,000 miles an hour. Pretty fast, huh? It takes us 365 days to circle the sun (1 year). Pluto, the farthest planet from the sun, is really slow, traveling only 10,000 miles an hour. It takes Pluto 248 years to circle the sun!

OTHER STUFF

On Mercury it takes 176 Earth days to make one rotation. That's slow! Venus (about the same size as the earth) Takes 243 days to turn and it turns *backwards!* Jupiter is the largest planet. It can hold 1,000 Earths inside it. Jupiter spins around in just 9 hours and 55 minutes. That's fast!

ASK EUGENE

Wow, what a very busy and wonderful summer I've had. And it's not even over yet. We still have 3 more family camps to do, but by the time you get this newsletter those will be over too. Boy, oh boy, has God been working overtime! Record numbers of kids have been coming to Vacation Bible Schools, and to kid's camps. God really wants kid's to know that he created this earth and everything on it, including kid's! We've seen lots of kid's saved this summer by asking Jesus to forgive them of their sin's and inviting Him into their hearts. And guess what? If you truly believe in Him, Jesus never says no! Now that is love!

♪ *Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world
three or four, five, six or seven
Only Jesus can get you to heaven
Jesus loves ALL the little children
of the world*



Love ya all, Eugene!

JUST FOR FUN

At the last kid's camp we were at for third and fourth graders (Camp Shetek in Minnesota), some of the kids came up with this song.

♪ *Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world
Red and yellow, green and pink
Eugene's jokes sure do stink!
Jesus loves the little children
of the world*

Well, I'll tell you, my jokes might be a little stale but they sure don't stink! Try this. You kid's send me some jokes to use in our puppet plays and in this newsletter. Some new fresh jokes might make it smell a little better around here.

You can write to Eugene!

Eugene's Address Is:

EUGENE
C/O ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE
P.O. BOX 4343
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81502

UNSCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters below to make words (in bold print) used in this newsletter. Then take the bold letters and unscramble to make the mystery words below.



- V -----
1. TAPLEN
 2. PRUJTEI
 3. UPOLT
 4. CEMRU YR
 5. SRLAO STMYSE



ANSWERS TO UNSCRAMBLE

1. PLANET 2. JUPITER 3. PLUTO
4. MERCURY 5. SOLAR SYSTEM

JOKE BOX

1. How do they put milk in the Milky Way?
2. Where will you find the center of gravity?
3. What kind of cow goes "beeeep, beeeep"?
4. How do you arrange for a trip to Mars?
5. Why was the goofy scientist puzzled every 24 hours?

ANSWERS

1. With the big dipper. 2. At the letter V. 3. a longhorn. 4. You plan it (planet). 5. He couldn't understand why day breaks and night falls.

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