

Discover Creation DVD Curriculum Teacher's Supplement

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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the **Teacher's Supplement** for the *Discover Creation DVD Series*! Thank you for choosing this series. We trust that you will find it helpful for yourself and those you teach.

According to author and evangelist, Mark Cahill, "Evolution is the number one reason students give for not responding to the gospel." In our more than 25 years of research and teaching on this topic, we have also found that evolution is a major stumbling block to Christian students and a frequent reason given for rejecting their childhood faith. This DVD Series has been prepared to help stem the tide, and provide students and adults with sound Biblical and scientific teaching on the topic of origins.

All of the speakers on this series have been educated in public schools and were heavily exposed to evolutionary teaching. In addition, they have spent many years studying both the scientific and Biblical aspects of the topic of origins. They know first hand the deception of evolutionary indoctrination, and care deeply about its impact on the lives of millions of people of all ages. They are well-qualified to speak to both students and adults on this important topic. (See bios in Student Study Guide.)

This Teacher's Supplement has been prepared to help you easily and effectively use the *Discover Creation DVD Series*. We pray for God's blessing on you and your students as you *Discover Creation* together. We also pray that this curriculum will help all of you to walk confidently in the truth of God's Word and to grow in your relationship with him.

Dave & Mary Jo Nutting

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INTRODUCTION TO *DISCOVER CREATION* DVD SERIES

This series consists of 12 lessons on 6 DVDs. Each lesson is 30-35 minutes long. They are fast-paced and abundantly illustrated to keep the attention of both students and adults. Presentations are short and to the point, but packed with information. All lessons are presented in a clear, understandable, and often entertaining, way. Even though the target group for this series is middle school through adult ages, we find that most upper elementary school students track well with the information.

The series covers a broad range of topics, providing an in-depth introduction to the study of origins. Topics include subjects which students and adults are likely to encounter in textbooks, museums, TV, movies, magazines, and other popular media. The twelve titles include:

1. Creation or Evolution: A Battle of Beliefs!
2. Fossils and Cavemen: Great Artwork! What's the Evidence?
3. So-Called Proofs of Evolution: Can You Trust the Textbooks?
4. Grand Design or Blind Chance? Amazing Evidence from Nature
5. A Flood of Evidence: Lots of Water or Lots of Time?
6. It's About Time! Dating Methods and the Age of the Earth
7. Evolution and John 3:16: How Darwinism Affects the Gospel of Christ
8. The Amazing Human Body: Astounding Evidence for a Loving Creator
9. Dinosaurs, Dragons, and Man: Solving the Great Dinosaur Mystery
10. Archaeology, Science, and Scripture: Affirming the Reliability of God's Word
11. The Bible, Science, and Earth History: God's Word and God's World Agree!
12. Stand Firm! No Need to Compromise

We suggest taking the DVDs in numerical order. However, each lesson can pretty much stand alone, so feel free to alter the order if you feel that some other arrangement would be more beneficial for your group.

OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY GUIDE

The Study Guide corresponds directly to the DVDs and has been prepared so that students can focus on viewing the DVDs without having to take extensive notes. The notes in the Study Guide are more complete and detailed than students would normally take. Thus, students using this guide will have an accurate and comprehensive set of notes for future reference or to use for school assignments, letters to the editor, personal sharing, etc. For those who wish to take extra notes, the paper is specially coated to allow easy writing.

You will note that we used color pictures throughout the Study Guide of the same images seen on the DVD. Even though it adds to our production costs, we believe “a picture is worth a thousand words,” and that color enhances the value and brings out many important details not achievable in black & white. We hope the color edition will be kept by the participants as a continuing study resource.

We recommend you review the entire DVD series and Study Guide carefully before the first class so you will be familiar with the contents. We also recommend giving students a brief “tour” of the Study Guide when you first hand it out.

Each unit of the Study Guide contains:

- An Overview of the Unit (Cartoon and text)
- A Notes Section
 - Detailed notes on the DVD content (in an informal, bullet outline format)
 - Color illustrations corresponding to the main illustrations on the DVD
- A “Digging Deeper” page with the following sections:
 - Concepts to Remember (Main concepts and key questions)
 - Points to Review (Content-oriented questions)
 - Ideas to Discuss (Application-oriented questions)
 - Projects to Do (Suggested homework projects and assignments)

The Study Guide also contains:

- Introductory Materials:
 - Article: Running the Race – Dodging the Bombs
 - Speaker Bios (Information about the speakers on the DVDs)
- Concluding Challenges:
 - Short Article (at the end of Unit 12): “What Now? The Ball is in Your Court”
 - Ending Article: “An Important Message for You”
- Notes and Quotes Section (Quotations used in each unit with references and extra notes)
- Information about the Ministries of Alpha Omega Institute
 - Camps / “Creation Vacations”
 - Seminars
 - Resources (Books, Videos, and DVDs)
 - Training Opportunities

SUGGESTED SCHEDULES

This DVD series has been designed for use by all ages from middle school to adult, although upper elementary ages will also greatly profit from it. Some suggested venues include: Sunday school classes, youth groups, extracurricular science or Bible clubs, home study groups, Christian schools, homeschools, and individual or family use.

Schedule and format will vary, depending on ages of participants, type of group, and amount of time available. The following are some general suggestions based on time available. Feel free to alter the schedule to fit the needs of your specific group.

Sunday School classes, Youth Groups, Science or Bible Clubs, Home Study Groups

40-55 minute sessions:

- 5-10 minutes: Open with prayer, student reports (1 min each) on last week's lesson; introduce today's lesson.
- 30-35 minutes: Watch DVD (one session, all the way through)
- 5-10 minutes: Q&A, discussion, homework assignment, and closing prayer; announce next week's topic and encourage participants to invite others.

50-65 minute sessions: (better)

- 10-15 minutes: Open with prayer, review last lesson and homework assignments, introduce today's lesson
- 30-35 minutes: Watch DVD (one session, all the way through)
- 10-15 minutes: Wrap-up Q&A, discussion, and homework assignment; announce next week's topic and encourage participants to invite others.

75+ minute sessions: (best)

This timeframe is great for home study groups, church groups, small groups, etc. as it allows for flexibility and a more in-depth coverage of each topic. The following is a possible format. Feel free to individualize it to fit your group.

- 10-15 min: Open with prayer and worship if desired
- 10-15 min: Review last week's lesson and homework project; introduce today's lesson
- 30-35 min: Watch DVD (one session, all the way through)
- 15-30 min: Discussion; Q&A; assign homework project
- 10-15 min: Fellowship, snacks and continuing informal discussion

If you have more than 1 hour with youth or student groups, it is good to integrate skits, music, hands-on demonstrations, activities, or games that relate to the lesson.

Note: Some groups prefer to watch 2 DVD sessions per meeting. This will obviously limit time for discussion, but participants will get a good overview of the material in a shorter number of meetings.

Homeschool or Christian School Format

The DVDs can easily be used in a homeschool or Christian School environment. Taking one unit per week would require 12 weeks to complete the series. Here is one possible schedule:

- Monday: Briefly review the previous lesson and discuss homework projects. Introduce the new unit. (Use discussion to find out what students already know about new topic.)
- Tuesday: View the DVD. Ask if there are any questions. Discuss "Concepts to Remember."
- Wednesday: Review the "Concepts to Remember" and do "Points to Review" (orally or in writing)
- Thursday: Review again the "Concepts to Remember" and do "Ideas to Discuss"
- Friday: Do a project or hands-on activity relating to the unit. Assign homework project.

If you have more time, you can expand and enrich the lessons by doing one or more of the following for each unit:

- Show other DVDs relating to the topic (see our website for suggestions)
- Do science experiments, demonstrations or other hands-on activities
- Assign creative arts projects (e.g. writing and performing skits or songs, doing art projects (drawings, diagrams, paintings, dioramas, sculptures, etc.)
- Take field trips or excursions (e.g. museums, zoos, libraries, parks, geologic sites, botanical gardens, etc.)

If you would like to help others, send us your ideas or write to us and tell us what has worked well for you. We hope to compile a list of suggestions and make it available in the future.

NOTES AND SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING YOUR CLASS

Be Prepared

- Study. Be prepared. Present yourself as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the Word of God (II Timothy 2:15). (Extend that to the creation material.)
- Bathe your ministry in prayer. Develop an intercessory prayer team.
- Develop Christ-like attitudes, words, and behavior.
- Be clean and neat; appropriately dressed for the time and place.
- Advertise the class in your church bulletin, newsletter, flyers, personal invitations, etc. Use AOI fliers where appropriate.

Conducting Your Class

- Make every effort to start on time so that you will be able to finish the DVD session and allow some time for questions, discussion, and interaction with the material.
- Show the entire DVD, without stopping for questions or discussion in the middle. Have participants jot down their questions for later discussion. We suggest this approach for the following reasons:
 - If you stop for discussion, you may not have time to complete the material.
 - It is very easy to get “side-tracked” into other discussions if you stop in the middle.
 - DVD presentations have been arranged in such a way that audience questions are often answered in the next slide or two.
 - If you use the Study Guide, participants will have a good set of notes and referenced quotes, so they should not need to stop the DVD to take many notes during the actual presentation.
- Following a DVD, you will often get questions that do not relate directly to the topic at hand. You may choose to answer them if you know the answer, or defer them until after the group views the DVD relating to that topic.
- In discussion groups, try to draw everyone in. Don't let one person monopolize the discussion. If your group is large, consider dividing into several small groups for better interaction. Find the natural leader to put in charge.
- Before dismissing, be sure to announce next week's topic and encourage participants to invite others.
- End the session at the agreed upon time, so that participants can plan their time. If you wish, you may end the “formal” session, but plan to stay awhile for informal discussion with those who choose to stay.

DEALING WITH TOUGH ISSUES

What To Do When You Don't Have the Answer

- You might really have an answer, so stop and take a deep breath. It might feel like a long time to you, but it's OK to take time to think (and send up a quick prayer).
- Try to discern if it is a genuine "want to know" kind of question, or if it's a "nail you to the wall" kind. This may affect the way you answer.
- Discover the main thrust of the question. If necessary, you might ask the questioner to repeat the question or restate it in a different way. That might give you some clues as to the real intent of the question.
- Don't fake an answer. A simple "I don't know" is OK. (You might tell the questioner you will try to find out and get back to them but don't say that unless you really can follow through.)
- Suggest a book or DVD that answers the question or direct them to a web-site:
 - www.discovercreation.org
 - www.ICR.org
 - www.answersingenesis.org
 - www.creationism.org
- Have somebody write down questions for you during Q&A time. Then try to find answers before your next presentation. (If you do this for a while, you will find that the same questions come up over and over again, and you will gradually increase your knowledge base of answers.)
- Ask if anybody in the audience has a good answer. (Be careful with this. It might not be a good strategy in a hostile audience.)
- If the question refers to certain research, ask to have documentation for you to go through and talk about in a later session. (Sometimes the information can add to the class. However, at times, the "facts" are remembered wrong, the comments are unsubstantiated, or the actual article is totally irrelevant or faulty.)
- Don't abandon your faith just because there are some unanswered questions. Use the S.T.O.P. method:
 - Stand firm.
 - Trust the Lord.
 - Observe options.
 - Pray with patience.

Dealing With Objections, Hostility, or Antagonism

- Send up a quick prayer: HELP, Lord!
- Memorize II Timothy 2:23-26. Make these verses part of the fabric of your life. Remember, you are not there to win an argument, but to represent the Lord Jesus with the hope of winning someone to Him.
- Speak the truth in love.
- Avoid getting pulled into arguments.
- Avoid "I believe" questions by guiding the asker back to what their evidence is, what research they have actually done, etc.
- Use the principle taught in Proverbs 15:1 "A gentle answer turns away wrath." (This will not always work, but it certainly can help to diffuse most situations.)
- Find out where you differ. Try to discern, is it a worldview difference, a difference in

- understanding of data, etc.
- Try to find common ground. Say, I used to think that too, but when I researched, this is what I found. (Only use this if you really used to think that way. Variation: Many people think that, but here's why I don't.)
- Ask, "What did I say that made you so angry? What part of the presentation are you reacting to?"
- Suggest resources if appropriate.

Dealing With Differing Doctrinal Issues

(Note: This section will mostly apply if you are teaching outside your home church, but you may be surprised or dismayed by the varying ideas even within your church.)

- If possible, get some background information on the doctrinal stance of the church you will be speaking in. Sometimes you can change the way you say things, so you can speak the truth, yet avoid offense. Use their vocabulary if possible.
- Ask the pastor how they handle altar calls, etc. Depending on the situation, sometimes it's best to do the teaching and then turn it over to the pastor to give an invitation or encourage some sort of response.
- Stick to the main topic. If you are there to talk about creation (and related issues), do so.
- During Q&A, try to determine if the question relates directly to creation. If not, say that you realize there are various views on that subject, and that it is a valid topic for discussion, but it is not the topic of discussion at this time. You might need to be firm about staying on target. Direct them to their church leaders or offer to discuss it individually later if appropriate.
- Determine if it is clearly a false doctrine or just a matter of personal convictions or an interpretation of difficult passages where true Christians do differ. If it is false doctrine, stick to clear Biblical teaching and state the truth in love, but don't get drawn into an argument. Offer to talk about it later if you feel up to it. Otherwise direct them to someone who can answer their questions.
- As is the section above, when doctrinal opposition arises, use the gentle, II Timothy 2:23-26 approach.

DEVELOPING YOUR CREATION MINISTRY

Some people desire to teach Creation as one segment of their on-going ministry with adults or youth. Others wish to “specialize” and focus on Creation Ministry with a variety of groups in various settings. Some of the suggestions that follow will apply to both groups of teachers. Others are aimed more at those desiring to “specialize” in Creation Ministry to some extent.

Start With Your Own Church, School, or Interest Group

- Talk with the pastor, elders, or appropriate leaders
- Offer to teach for any of the following groups:
 - Sunday School classes (all ages)
 - Vacation Bible School
 - Children's Groups (Awanas, Royal Rangers, Pioneer Clubs, etc.)
 - Middle School and High School Youth Groups
 - College/Career Group
 - Men's or Ladies' Bible Studies
 - All church creation event
- Put a notice in your church bulletin or newsletter that you are available to answer questions or help students prepare for speeches, term papers, etc.
- Help your church library build a good section on creation.
- Sponsor “Creation Nights” at your church where you show various creation DVD's

Become a Community Resource

- Write out a mission statement for your creation ministry
- Develop and distribute a simple flyer to present your ministry
- Lead a neighborhood Discover Creation Study in your home
- Lead a series for someone else's home study group
- Offer to speak or lead field trips for other groups and events
 - Christian schools and colleges
 - Homeschool support groups
 - Public schools (usually best to go through a student, teacher, or campus group)
 - Christian camps (summer kids' camps, weekend retreats, etc.)
 - Civic groups (Kiwanis, Lions, etc.) or kids' clubs (Scouts, Campfire, etc.)
 - Jails or juvenile detention centers
- Develop a personal creation lending library (Keep track of what you loan out!)
- Write an editorial for your local paper
- Run an informational booth at a local community fair or event
- Man a Q&A table in the student center of a local college / university

Using Local Resources

- Use local resources, even if evolutionary, to teach creation concepts (perhaps a local museum, etc.)
- Call ahead about group rates and reservations
- Teach participants ahead of time to be respectful and well-behaved (not sarcastic or confrontational)
- Teach participants to distinguish between facts and assumptions; between data and interpretations.

- Visit the site yourself ahead of time if possible
- Give participants some specific things to look and listen for. (Examples of evolutionary bias; evidences of design; evidence of worldview of tour leader; etc.)
- Ideas for places to visit
 - Zoos, reptile gardens, butterfly gardens, etc.
 - Botanical gardens
 - Museums (natural history, science, anthropology, etc.)
 - Parks of all types
 - Gravel pits; quarries, road cuts, fossil sites
 - Wildlife refuges, etc.
 - Lakes; rivers, ponds, beaches, estuaries, etc.
 - Various ecological zones (forest, grassland, desert, etc.)
 - Rock formations, geologic areas
 - Planetariums
 - IMAX theaters
 - University museums, labs, lectures, etc.
 - Public lectures, travelogues, etc.

Developing Your Own Programs

If after using our DVD's for a while, you choose to develop your own creation programs, here are some hints to make your teaching more effective. (If you choose to do this, we strongly recommend coming to one of our Training Weeks and/or viewing the DVDs often enough that you become thoroughly familiar with the material before attempting to teach it.)

- For most audiences, aim at a 5th grade level. Don't talk down to people, but be very clear.
- If you use technical terms, define them within your presentation.
- Illustrate your lectures with a lot of visuals that are easily seen from a distance.
- Use appropriate humor, but be careful. This can get you into trouble faster than almost anything else.
- Be personable. Connect with your audience. Use personal examples.
- Use stories or analogies to illustrate your points.
- Use object lessons, demonstrations, experiments, hands-on activities, pass-around items, or displays if appropriate.
- Organize your presentations in a clear way. Emphasize and re-emphasize main concepts, key questions, key phrases, etc.
- Be animated. Get excited! If you are enthusiastic or passionate about your subject, your audience will be drawn in. It will also keep them awake!
- Use good voice modulation.
- Use good eye contact. Finish a point with one person, then move on.
- Use your whole body. Use meaningful gestures. Move around purposefully. Move toward the audience to emphasize a point.
- Be careful of random, nervous movements. (Get someone to watch and critique you, or critique yourself on video.)
- Use facial expressions to connect with people.
- Use appropriate sound effects, especially if you have kids in the audience.
- Use audience participation. Get them involved.
- Structure the presentation for the time you have available. Covering too much material will cause you to hurry. This will detract from your presentation and likely lose some individuals.

RESOURCES FOR FURTHER TEACHING OR STUDY

Note: Numbers in () refer to the Unit(s) for which these resources are particularly useful. If there is no number, the book or DVD is helpful for general information or covers a variety of topics, relevant to more than one unit of our series. Refer to our website for descriptions and ordering.
(www.DiscoverCreation.org)

Books:

The New Answers Book (Ham et. al.) (All units)
Creation: The Facts of Life (Parker) (All units)
Body by Design (8)
Dinosaurs by Design (Gish) (9)
Discovery of Genesis (5)
Dragons of the Deep (9)
Footprints in the Ash (Austin) (5)
The Fossil Book (Parker) (2)
The Gap Theory (Hovind et. al.) (12)
Genesis Record (Morris) (All units + 11)
Genetic Entropy and the Mystery of the Genome (Sanford) (3)
The Geology Book (Morris) (5,6)
Grand Canyon: A Different View (Austin et. al.) (5,6)
Human Body: An Intelligent Design (8)
Icons of Evolution (3)
If Animals Could Talk (8)
Lie: Evolution (Ham) (7)
Noah's Ark Feasibility Study (Woodmorappe) (5)
Refuting Compromise (12)
Someone's Making a Monkey Out of You (Most units – middle school)
Starlight and Time (Humphreys) (6)
Thousands, Not Billions (6)
Troubled Waters of Evolution (Morris) (1, 7)
Unlocking the Mysteries of Creation (Peterson) (Most units - family book)

Videos and DVDs

Incredible Creatures Volumes 1, 2, 3 (DVD) (4)
Mount St. Helens (DVD) (5, 6)
Question of Origins (DVD)
Thousands, Not Billions (DVD) (6)
Unlocking the Mystery of Life (DVD)

Special Offer from AOI:

The **On-Line Bible** is a self contained CD Rom Bible and Creation software package. It contains about 70 versions of the Bible (including many foreign languages), 12 Creation books, and many complete commentaries including the complete Mathew Henry. It also has the Strong's Concordance numbers keyed to Greek and Hebrew Lexicons for definitions, tenses, etc., a powerful search function, maps/charts, hundreds of other valuable reference books, and much more! Please tell your class about this valuable resource!

All for only \$25.

MINISTRIES OF ALPHA OMEGA INSTITUTE (See Color Back Pages in the Study Guide)

Creation Mountain Adventures

AOI's popular "Vacations with a Purpose" in the beautiful mountains of Colorado offer fun, fellowship, and learning for all ages. They include informative, entertaining Creation programs with AOI speakers, exciting recreational activities, delicious meals, and times of praise and worship in music. Enjoyable for kids, teens, and adults – families, single adults, or small youth groups welcome.

"Discover Creation" Seminars and Other Events

AOI speakers conduct programs for churches, schools, universities, homeschool events, youth groups, Children's ministry including Vacation Bible Schools, etc. Programs for seminars, field trips, camps, or retreats can also be customized to fit the needs of your group.

Creation Training

Are you interested in receiving training in Creation ministry? We offer *Intensive Training Weeks* to help you increase your knowledge of Creation topics, and learn how to present the material effectively. Based on staff availability, we also take a limited number of *Interns* for more in-depth training in Creation ministry.

Resources

A wide selection of books, videos, and DVDs relating to origins are available online. We also carry a good supply of creation resources as well as a lending library at our Grand Junction, CO, headquarters.

Think & Believe Newsletter

Our newsletter, *Think & Believe* (Includes *Kids Think & Believe Too!*) is available upon request. It contains articles of interest relating to Creation topics, plus updates on AOI's ministry.

Discover Creation Curriculum

Our goal has been to produce materials that are understandable and user friendly. This curriculum is based on over 25 years of creation teaching experience in a wide variety of settings. The following curriculum is available:

Discover Creation DVD Curriculum (for Middle School – Adult)

- 12 Sessions on 6 DVD's – fast-paced, understandable, abundantly illustrated
- Full color, 80-page Study Guide with notes, illustrations, review questions, projects, references, and more.
- Great for Sunday School, youth groups, home study groups, Christian schools, homeschools, and individual or family use

Discover Creation Children's Adventure (For Elementary School-Aged Children)

- Use for VBS, Sunday School, homeschools, Bible clubs, after school science clubs, etc.
- 5 sessions on 2 DVD's – exciting, entertaining, packed with valuable information
- Teachers Manual with lesson transcripts, crafts, recreation, and snack ideas
- Music CD, fossil molds, and craft instruction video
- CD with PowerPoint visuals, materials for publicity, name tags, etc.
- Colorful daily hand-out sheets for each lesson (available separately)

OUR MISSION

Alpha Omega Institute was founded in 1984 by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting to teach the Biblical and scientific evidence and importance of Creation. Over the years, AOI speakers have ministered across the USA and internationally in a variety of settings.

AOI helps people of all ages:

- Answer the challenges of evolutionary teaching
- Discover the evidence for Creation
- Stand firmly on the Word of God
- Grow in their relationship with God.



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AOI has been classified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. AOI is also a member in good standing with the ECFA. This Discover Creation Curriculum Project and the other ministries of AOI are funded primarily by donations from interested individuals and churches. All proceeds from the sale of books and DVDs are used for project development and/or support of the on-going Creation ministry of AOI. Your tax-deductible donations are very much needed and certainly appreciated.

