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When you see a construction cone, what comes to mind? Spring is closing in, and in many places, that means that road construction is also more common as we drive from here to there. When we see those traffic cones out on the road, we use caution because we recognize that there is some work in progress that is not yet completed.

Did you know that you also are a work in progress? God is using each day and circumstance to help shape you into who He has created you to be, a reflection of His image. This process can involve some uncomfortable learning on our part, especially as parents, as we are put in situations we've never been in before. Your kids are also in a growth process too, in many areas of their development, including their understanding of the God who made them, loves them, and saves them.

In Scripture, we read: *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them"* (Ephesians 2:10, ESV). This verse helps us see that not only has God made us as His workmanship, but He also continues to form us through the way we respond to doing the work He gives us to do.

And just like the progress of a construction project depends a lot on the person overseeing it, our process (and our kids' process) depends on God, His grace (undeserved favor), and our willingness to grow. That is part of what makes the Bible so extremely important — it is the way that we can keep ourselves mindful of the plans of God, who uses it to show us areas we can grow. As we read His Word, and our kids hear it, we are all drawn deeper under His authority. This allows the construction process of our lives to follow the design of the God who made us, saves us, and loves us!



PRESCHOOLERS: A WORK IN PROGRESS

Here are some areas in which your child experiences rapid growth during the preschool years. As your child reaches various milestones, continue to point him or her to God and His Word!

Social/Emotional Development

At age 2, many children play by themselves or alongside other kids. By age 5, children can often play cooperatively in more elaborate ways with other children.

Language Development

When they are 2 years old, children typically can use several words together in a sentence. By the time they are age 5, they are sometimes able to tell a simple story in complete sentences.

Cognitive Development

A 2-year-old child is often beginning to recognize shapes and colors. When a child turns 5, they usually can name and sort items by color and shape, and can often count to 10.

Physical Development

At the age of 2, children are often still getting comfortable running, climbing, and throwing a ball. By age 5, they typically are learning to balance or hop on one foot, as well as other more complex physical activities.



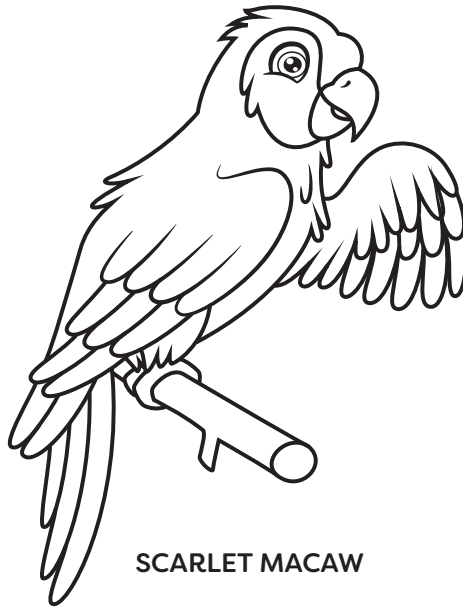
CUBBIE BEAR GOES TO SOUTH AMERICA

Challenge: Work with your child coloring the pictures below and try to match each animal to its shadow. Talk about how these animals live in tropical rainforests found in some parts of South America.

Bonus Challenge: Pray for the children who hear about Jesus through Awana clubs in South America. Awana is active in 32 Latin American and Caribbean countries, working to reach kids, equip leaders, and change the world. Want to learn more, go to awana.org/where-we-serve/latin-america.



JAGUAR



SCARLET MACAW



SQUIRREL MONKEY



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