God Made Me a Boy or a Girl

PRO TIP

Download other grades for alternate activities!

CONNECTIONS TO THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CCC 301, 356

MATERIALS

- ► Teacher Resource:
 Instrument Pictures
 Video of The Swan, by
 Camille Saint-Saëns, at
 SophiaOnline.org/TheSwan
- Cut-outs from Teacher
 Resource: God Made Us
 Boys and Girls
- Scissors, crayons, markers, and/or colored pencils

CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY STANDARDS

K.1.1 TOB Express that creation is a gift from God who is loving. (TOB 13:2-3; CCC 301, 356)

SUGGESTED TIME

20 minutes

Teacher Background

From the beginning of creation, God made human beings male or female. Our sexuality is a gift from God, who is loving. The differences between men and women allow them to complement each other as husband and wife and reflect God's selfless, faithful, and life-giving love in marriage.



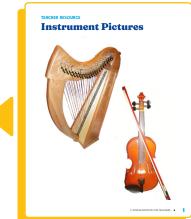
HOW DOES THIS LESSON HELP INOCULATE STUDENTS AGAINST GENDER IDEOLOGY?

Gender ideology often teaches us to see human relationships through the lens of power struggles: everyone is either an oppressor or being oppressed in some way. This dynamic even applies to our bodies: the constraints our male or female bodies impose on us may be oppressive, and therefore we should be able to manipulate our bodies to free us from those limits. But the truth is that our bodies are gifts from our loving God, and He created men and women to work together, to give of themselves to each other, and to share in His love.

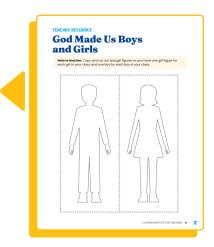
Activity

Note to teacher. before class, make enough copies of **cut-outs from Teacher's Resource: God Made Us Boys and Girls** and cut out the figures so you have one girl for each female student and one boy for each male student.

- A. Begin by explaining the following to your students: God loves His creation so much! He created boys and girls to work together, to help each other. Boys and girls are different in many ways, and their differences are very good and part of God's plan.
- **B.** Distribute or hold up a copy of the **Teacher Resource:**<u>Instrument Pictures</u> and ask if any of your students know what the instruments pictured are. A harp and a cello.
- **C.** Then, ask the following questions:
 - How is the harp like the cello? They are both musical instruments, they both are made of wood, they both have strings, and so forth.
 - How is the harp different from the cello? They are different shapes, the harp has more strings than the cello, the harp is bigger than the cello, and so forth.
- D. Then, explain that you will now show a video of the harp and cello being played together to make beautiful music. Before beginning, ask your students to pay attention to how each instrument is played in the video: how are they the same? How are they different?



- E. Show your students the video of The Swan, by Camille Saint-Saëns, available at **SophiaOnline.org/TheSwan.** When the video is over, ask your students the following questions:
 - Did the instruments sound the same? No.
 - Were the instruments played in exactly the same way? No.
 - Did they work together to make the music? Yes.
- F. Wrap up the discussion by explaining that the harp and the cello are both musical instruments. They have some things in common, but they also have many differences. The harp and cello work together to make beautiful music. In fact, the music is beautiful because the instruments are different! The example of these instruments helps us see how God made boys and girls to work together and help each other. Boys and girls have some things in common, but they also have many differences. The differences between boys and girls are part of God's beautiful plan. Every boy is a gift given by God and every girl is a gift given by God.
- **G.** Finally, announce that we are going to celebrate the fact that some of us are boys and some of us are girls by coloring pictures of ourselves.
- H. Distribute the appropriate cut-outs from <u>Teacher Resource</u>: God Made Us Boys and Girls to each student, and have them color and decorate their cut-outs as pictures of themselves. Have them sign their names to the best of their ability at the bottom of their pictures.
- When they are finished, put the pictures on display in the classroom or hallway under the title: "God made us boys and girls!"



Z.

TEACHER RESOURCE

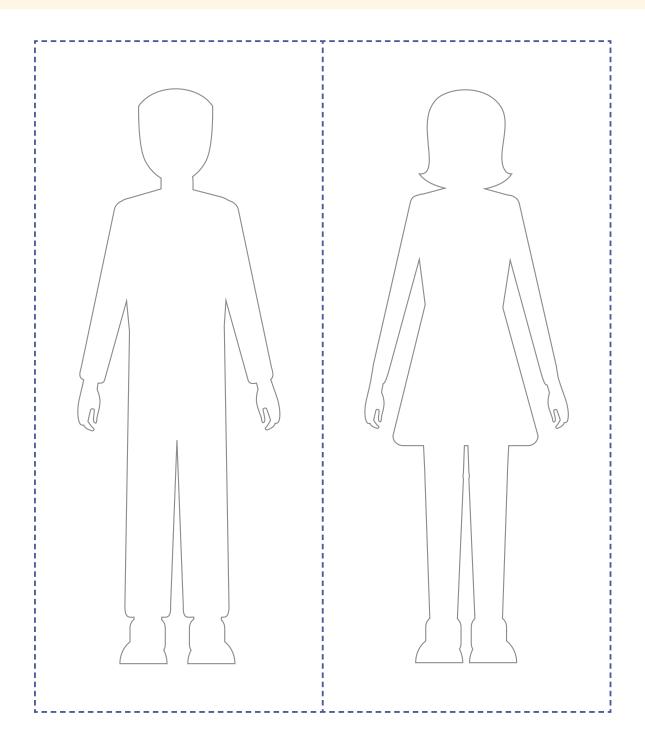
Instrument Pictures



TEACHER RESOURCE

God Made Us Boys and Girls

Note to teacher: Copy and cut out enough figures so you have one girl figure for each girl in your class, and one boy for each boy in your class.



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