

**DEEP ROOTS | NEW LEAVES**

FERNCLIFF  
CAMP-IN-A-BOX  
INFO PACKET



FERNCLIFF  
SUMMER CAMP

**BRING FERNCLIFF  
TO YOUR HOUSE  
THIS SUMMER WITH  
CAMP-IN-A-BOX**



# WELCOME TO FERNCLIFF CAMP-IN-A-BOX

The Ferncliff Camp-In-A-Box is designed with the elementary camper in mind (grades K-5ish). Each Camp-In-A-Box provides **5 days worth of activities that are screen-free, encourage outdoor activity, and minimize demands on parents.** Each day has a scripture and theme and all activities tie in to that day's theme.

The theme for this box is: **Deep Roots, New Leaves.** In this week-long experience, campers will discover that God is always doing a new thing. While God offers stability and safety, like a tree's deep roots, God is always working for good in each new moment, like a tree sprouting new leaves.

The Bible provides many stories that reveal God's ongoing creative presence in the world. Campers will look at God's creation of the world, how God shapes us like clay, how we can have new life as we are renewed, how God is still doing new things today, and how we are invited into God's continuing creation. Maybe something our campers really need to hear right now is that just as God made things new in the scriptures, God is still at work making new leaves today.

## WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

Each Camp-In-A-Box comes with 5 day bags. Each day will have a Guide, with a scripture, questions, a prayer, and a checklist of camp activities for the camper to complete throughout the day. Two of these activities will have additional instructions on Cards - the One Square Yard (where they will visit the same spot outdoors each day) and the Weeklong Project Card (a painting project they'll add to each day). In addition, each day will have an Optional Family Challenge Card, with theme-related activities for the whole family, Table Talk questions for a meal-time discussion, and a Family Prayer.

The box will include a focus object for each day, as well as supplies needed to complete the daily activities (for example, the painting canvas).

### EACH DAY INCLUDES

- Daily Guide - Scripture, Questions, Prayer, and Activities
- One Square Yard Card
- Week-long Project Card
- Optional Family Challenge - Activities, Table Talk, Family Prayer
- Focus Object
- Activity Supplies

# NEW CREATION

God created the whole earth - and is still creating today! For today, we'll explore just a small part of that good creation, and we'll think about how we too can be a part of God's new creation.

## IN YOUR BOX

Every day, you will have something in your box that has to do with the Bible passage that you will explore today. Take out your **magnifying glass**. Today we're going to be taking a magnified look at creation.

## TODAY'S QUESTIONS

- What do you think is the most beautiful thing in creation?
- What are things in creation that you think are not good?
- What does this scripture tell us about what God has made?
- Why do you think God made all of creation?

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Dear God, thank you for all the amazing things you have created. I know that you are still creating today! Help me to be a part of your new creation. Amen.



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## SCRIPTURE FOR TODAY

### From Psalm 104

God, you put gushing springs into dry riverbeds. They flow between the mountains, providing water for every wild animal- the wild donkeys quench their thirst. Overhead, the birds in the sky make their home, chirping loudly in the trees. From your lofty house, you water the mountains. The earth is filled full by the fruit of what you've done. You make grass grow for cattle; you make plants for human farming in order to get food from the ground,

Lord, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creations! And then there's the sea, wide and deep, with its countless creatures- living things both small and large. There go the ships on it, and Leviathan, which you made, plays in it! All your creations wait for you to give them their food on time. When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled completely full! But when you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to dust. When you let loose your breath, they are created, and you make the surface of the ground brand-new again.

*A Psalm is a kind of song written about God. I wonder if you know any songs about God.*

*The "Leviathan" was a big sea monster. Though scary to us, to God it was like a playful pet.*

*Read more: Open any Bible to the very first story and read about God creating the world!*

MONDAY

# MONDAY CAMP ACTIVITIES



**CHECK OFF THE ACTIVITIES AS YOU FINISH THEM!**



**Ants-Eye View** - Get on the ground and use your **magnifying glass** to see a whole new creation. What do you see close up that you can't see from far away?



**Soil Inspection** - Find 3 different kinds of dirt near you and dig up some of each. Take your dirt samples to a table or flat area and place on some white paper. Use your **magnifying glass** and look carefully at each sample. What do you notice about the different kinds of dirt? Are they all the same color? What do they have in them? How do they change when you add water to them? Even things as simple as two samples of dirt can be very different! God created different kinds of soil to accomplish different things.



**Creation Alphabet** - Write the alphabet on a piece of paper. Then, next to each letter write something that God created that starts with that letter! See if you can come up with something for every letter.



**Psalm 2020** - If you were going to make up a song praising God for God's good creation, what would you write? Would it be a fast song or a slow song? What words would you say? Make up your own psalm of praise and record yourself singing it!



**My Unique Home** - What animals can you think of that are specific to one part of the creation but not to another? For example, you don't find polar bears in Arkansas, but you would find lots of deer. What animals live in the desert, the forest, the rainforest, the mountains, the Arctic? Draw a picture of one animal for each area: desert, forest, rainforest, mountains, Arctic.



**One Square Yard** - See the One Square Yard Card for your directions for today!



**Week-long Project** - Check the Week-long Project Card for today's instructions!



**Optional Family Challenge** - Invite your family to do the activities on the Family Challenge Card for today!

DO THESE ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE!



## ONE SQUARE YARD

Find an area near you with nature - maybe a grassy area, or somewhere with trees. Pick a spot where you could come back every day this week. Take this card, **the string, and stakes** with you!

1. Mark the corners of a square on the ground with the string and stakes. See the back of this card for a diagram!
2. Give your piece of land a name.
3. What do you see in this square that shows God's creation?
4. Sit near your square and be really quiet - what sounds do you hear?

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## WEEK-LONG PROJECT GOOD CREATION MURAL

Find the **painting canvas** from your box. Each day this week, you'll add something, until the canvas shows something from God's good creation. What could your painting be of?

Today, add only a solid color background - maybe blue if you want to do sea creatures, or green for a field, or black for space if you want to paint the whole globe. Pull out **the paint set** and paint only that one color.

# FAMILY CHALLENGE CARD

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**Play “In God’s Hands”** -- Have your camper select a number of items from nature that can be held in one hand and place them all in Monday’s paper bag. Ask for a volunteer from your family members to select one object from the bag and hold it in their clenched hand. Invite the other family members to ask questions about the object to guess what it is.

For an extra challenge, have the other family members ask if the object begins with a certain letter, such as, “Does it begin with an ‘s’?” The person holding the object could respond, “No it is not a seed.” If the object holder cannot come up with a response beginning with the letter, then they must reveal the first letter of the object.

**Creation Charades** - Play a game of creation charades. Let each family member take a turn and act out one of God’s creations as the others try to guess the creature or thing.

## FAMILY PRAYER

O God, creator of our land, our earth, the trees, the animals and humans, all is for your honor. The drums beat it out, and people sing about it, and they dance with noisy joy that you are the Lord.

- *Ashanti prayer of West Africa*

# FAMILY CHALLENGE CARD

## TABLE TALK

- How do we praise God for all of God’s good works?
- What are some parts of creation you are most thankful that God created?
- What do you think is our purpose as a family God created? Why do you think God put us together?
- How could we, as a family, live together in ways that show that we are thankful for God’s gifts of creation, or how can we live as if we are not taking creation for granted?
- What are some things we are already doing that show we care for our environment? What else could we be doing?

Consider making a plan as a family to change or add to your family practices a way to honor the earth. Even praying weekly for our planet is a great start! Take some paper and write down your ‘new’ plan to hang on the refrigerator. Give one person or two the role of reminding the family to do this new thing!



# FERNCLIFF CAMP-IN-A-BOX

We hope that in this difficult time, this Camp-In-A-Box can provide churches and families with a little bit of help and some fun and meaningful activities for kids. Recognizing the limitations of this platform, Camp-in-a-Box is not meant to be seen as a full Camp-2-You, VBS, or Summer Camp experience, but rather an option during a time in which people cannot come together physically for programs.

## DOES IT REQUIRE THE INTERNET?

We know that not all campers have consistent access to the Internet, and that time away from screens is more important than ever. **The contents of the Camp-In-A-Box stand alone, and do not require internet access.** However, we are working on the best way to offer additional virtual/online content in ways that could enhance the Camp-In-A-Box experience and provide for person-to-person connection.

## HOW DO I GET A BOX?

Churches can apply to order boxes by filling out a simple form on Ferncliff's UltraCamp website. The form will provide the Ferncliff staff with your church's information, how many boxes you need, when you want to receive your boxes, and other logistical information. When we receive your form, we will invoice your church for the boxes you want to order. No payment is required when you fill out the form. After we receive your payment, we will be in touch regarding the shipment of your boxes.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Recognizing that organizations have varying financial resources, Ferncliff has instituted a voluntary three-tier fee program. Your organization may choose the tier that is most suitable for you. **All Camp-in-a-Box kits will include the same contents no matter what tier you choose** and the \$7 cost of shipping and handling will remain the same regardless of the chosen tier.

Tier I is a subsidized rate that does not reflect the full cost of the Camp-In-A-Box.

Tier II is a partially subsidized rate for those who can choose to pay a little more.

Tier III more closely reflects the actual cost of the Camp-In-A-Box, including staffing and production.

<b>TIER I</b>	<b>TIER II</b>	<b>TIER III</b>
<b>\$39</b>	<b>\$46</b>	<b>\$59</b>



*The cost of this program helps sustain the ministries of Ferncliff, including our 2020 Summer Jubilee staff community.*