



You
Are God's
Marvellous
Creation

Written by Andrea Musulin

Illustrated by Safy Tashkandy



This book is dedicated to all
children in the hope that knowledge,
when needed, may prevail.

Jeremiah 29:11 For surely I know the plans I have for
you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for
harm, to give you a future with hope.



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www.perthcatholic.org.au



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We are an organisation of Catholic laymen who operate with the support of the Australian Bishops. We are an autonomous branch of a national fraternal organisation that operates in each Australian state. The Order is guided by the Catholic faith and the cardinal and chivalrous virtues of prudence, faith, justice, fortitude and temperance in all our charitable works. We strive to serve the wider community and support those in need.

www.kscwa.org.au



Loving for Life

Loving For Life continues to promote and share the good news of healthy friendships and relationships, informed and guided by our Catholic faith. Our vision is to educate and inform students in order for them to understand that love, compassion and dignity are at the core of all human relationships. Our programs offer teaching to school students in order to develop a positive and healthy understanding of love and sexuality, inspired by the love of Christ.

www.LovingforLife.com.au



Archbishop's Forward

When I became the Archbishop of Perth in 2012, I made a commitment to myself and to the people of the Archdiocese that I would make the safety and well-being of our children and young people my first priority.

Central to the fulfilment of this commitment has been the establishment of the Safeguarding Program in the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth. At the very heart of this initiative is our shared commitment to the principle that all children and young people have an absolute right to physical, spiritual and psychological safety at all times, and that the Church should now, and into the future, be at the forefront of unceasing efforts to make this a reality.

'You Are God's Marvellous Creation' has been proactively developed to further increase the personal safety and resilience of our children and young people. Our parishes and Catholic schools rely on strong partnerships with parents and caregivers in order to provide our children and young people with the best possible faith formation and learning opportunities. It is only through our ongoing collaboration that we can enable all children and young people to flourish in safe and healthy parish communities.

My enduring hope is that this resource will serve as a valuable reference point for children, parents, carers and teachers. I invite you to join with me in further renewing our shared commitment and efforts in support of prioritising the ongoing safety of all children and young people. Together, let us continue to walk faithfully in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd.

Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB
Archbishop of Perth



Have you ever wondered how the
world came to be?

Who made the sky and the deep
blue sea?

God did.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning when God
created the heavens and the earth,



Have you ever wondered who
made the day and night?

What about the stars that
shine so bright?

God did.

Genesis 1:3-5 ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
⁴ And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the
darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night.



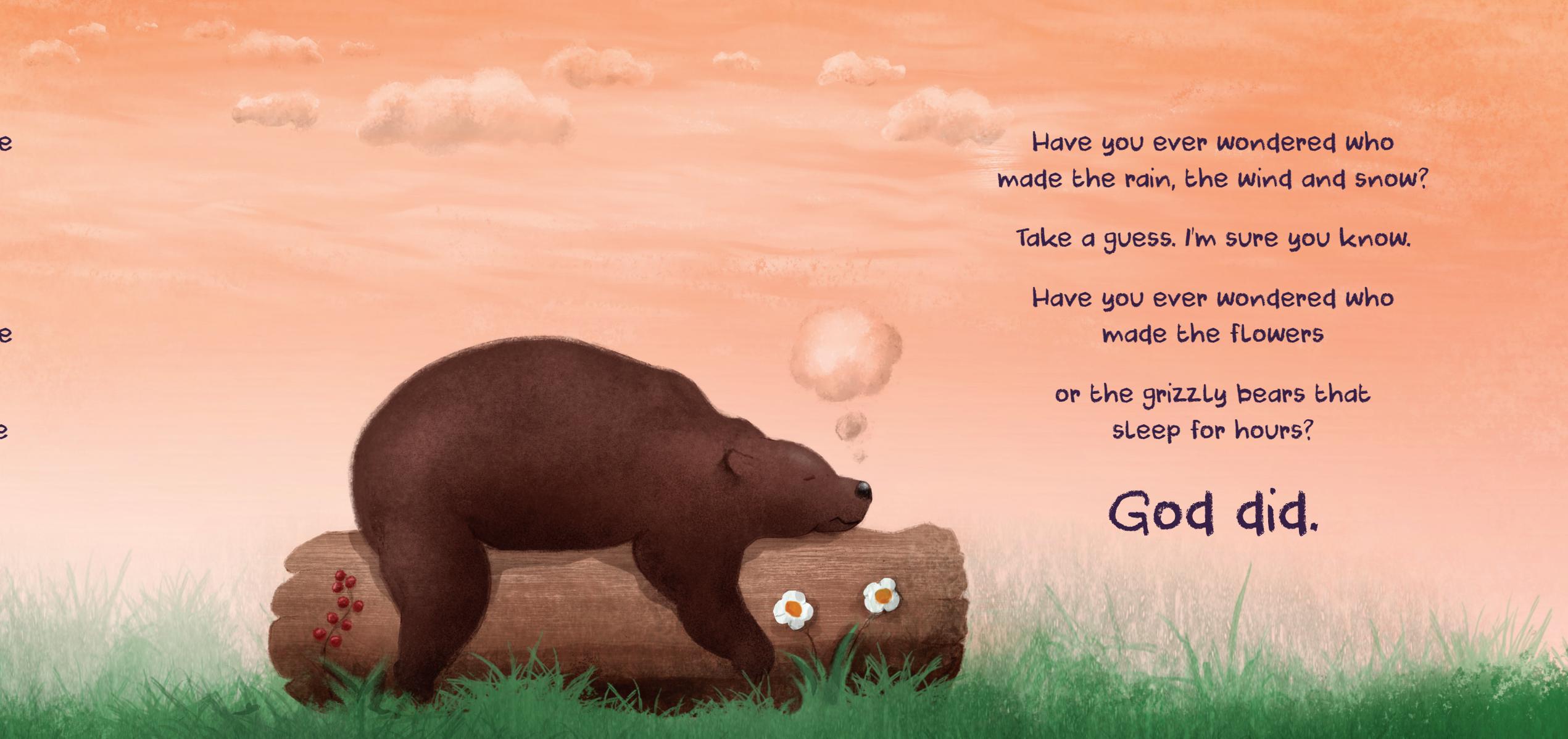
Have you ever wondered who made
the clouds up high?

What about the birds and the
butterflies?

Have you ever wondered who made
the trees?

What about the sunshine and the
summer breeze?

God did.



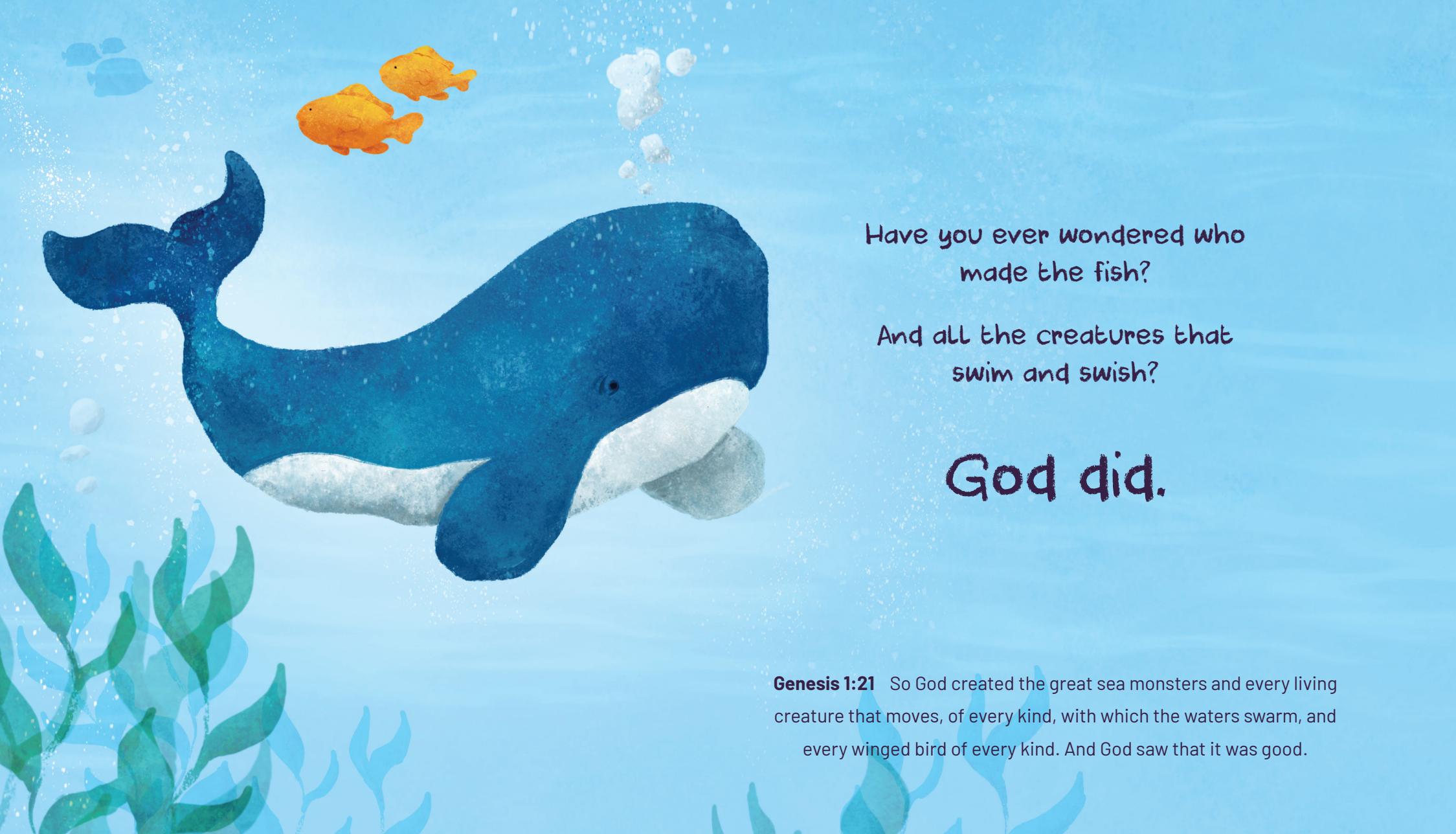
Have you ever wondered who
made the rain, the wind and snow?

Take a guess. I'm sure you know.

Have you ever wondered who
made the flowers

or the grizzly bears that
sleep for hours?

God did.

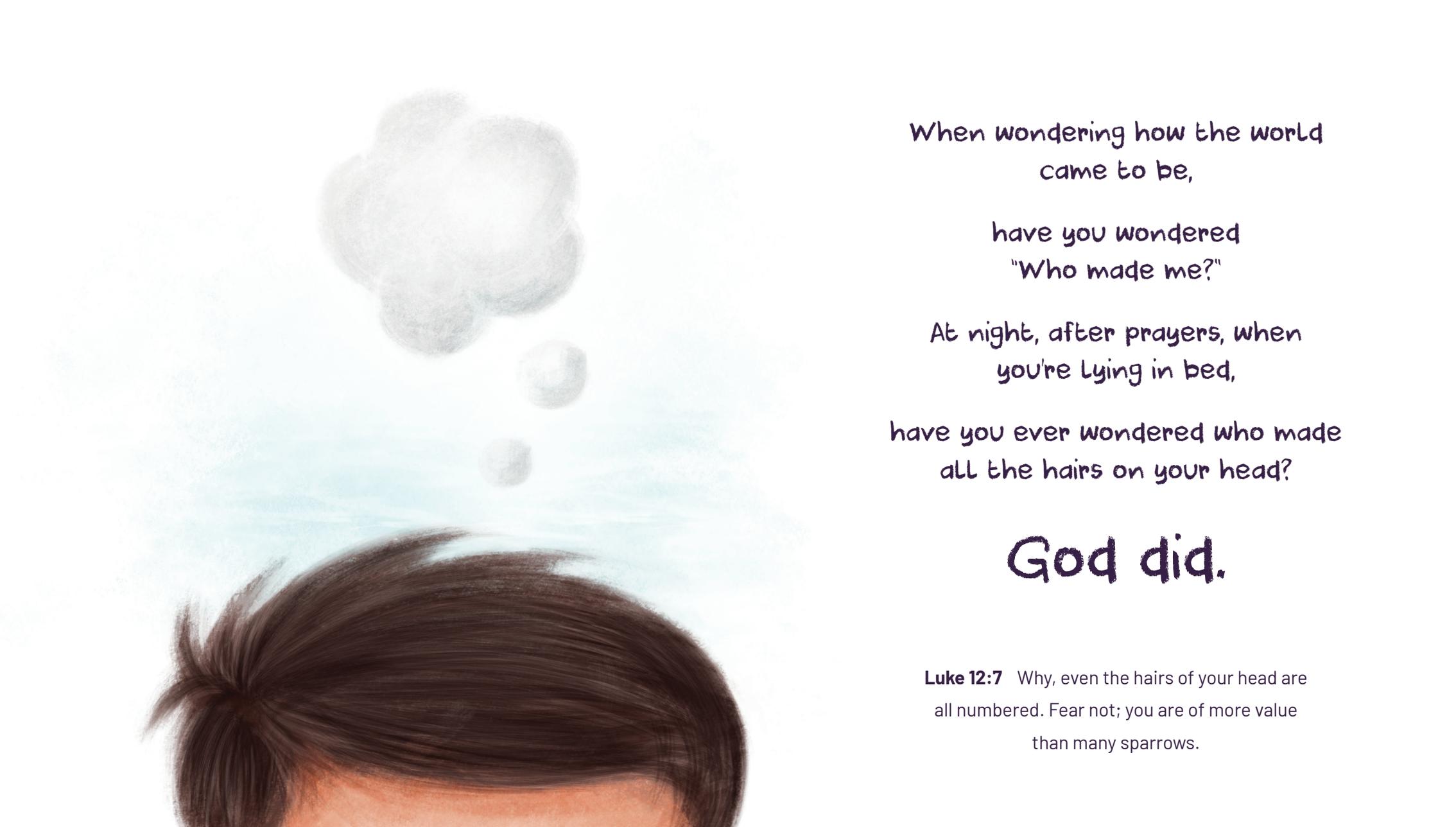


Have you ever wondered who
made the fish?

And all the creatures that
swim and swish?

God did.

Genesis 1:21 So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.



When wondering how the world
came to be,

have you wondered
"Who made me?"

At night, after prayers, when
you're lying in bed,

have you ever wondered who made
all the hairs on your head?

God did.

Luke 12:7 Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.



Have you ever wondered who made your legs and arms, your personality and all your charms?

Have you ever wondered who made your smile and what about your belly?

Who do you think made your feet, that can sometimes be smelly?

Have you ever wondered who made your eyes and what about your nose?

Have you ever wondered who made your ears and all ten of your toes?

God did.



**You are
God's
Marvellous
Creation**

Genesis 1:27 So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.





God made every part of you, the
Bible tells you so.

God is happy with what He made
and this you need to know.

Everything that God has
made is good

and it's important that this is
understood.

Psalm 139:13-14 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.



There is no one like you, you were
made one of a kind.

You have been perfectly made, you
are God's perfect design.

God made you and there is no copy,

but

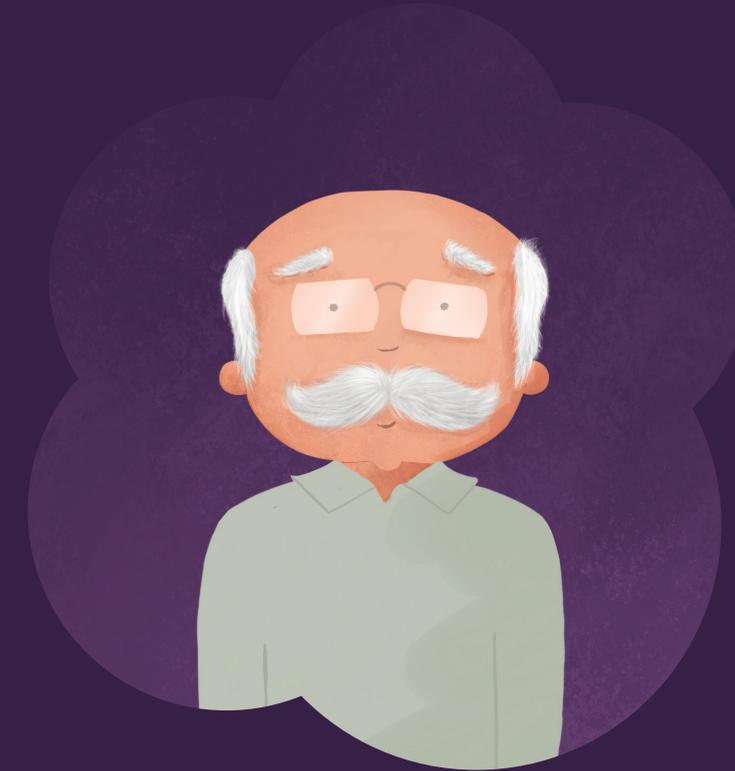
have you ever wondered, who owns
your body?



Does your Mum or Dad
own your body?



Does your teacher own
your body?



Do any of your relatives
own your body?



What about the kind lady
next door?



NO

You own your body.

From the top of your head to
the tip of your toes, you're
allowed to say what goes!



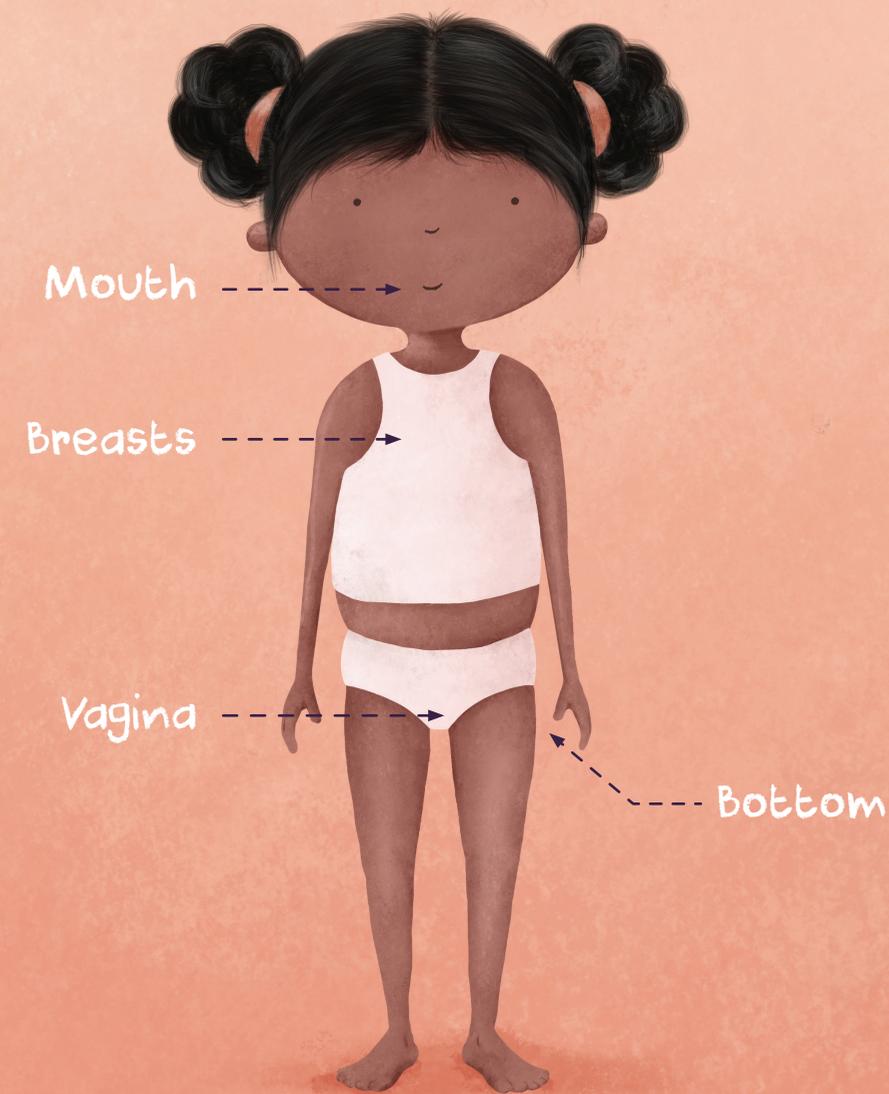
God will love you all the time

and

THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO

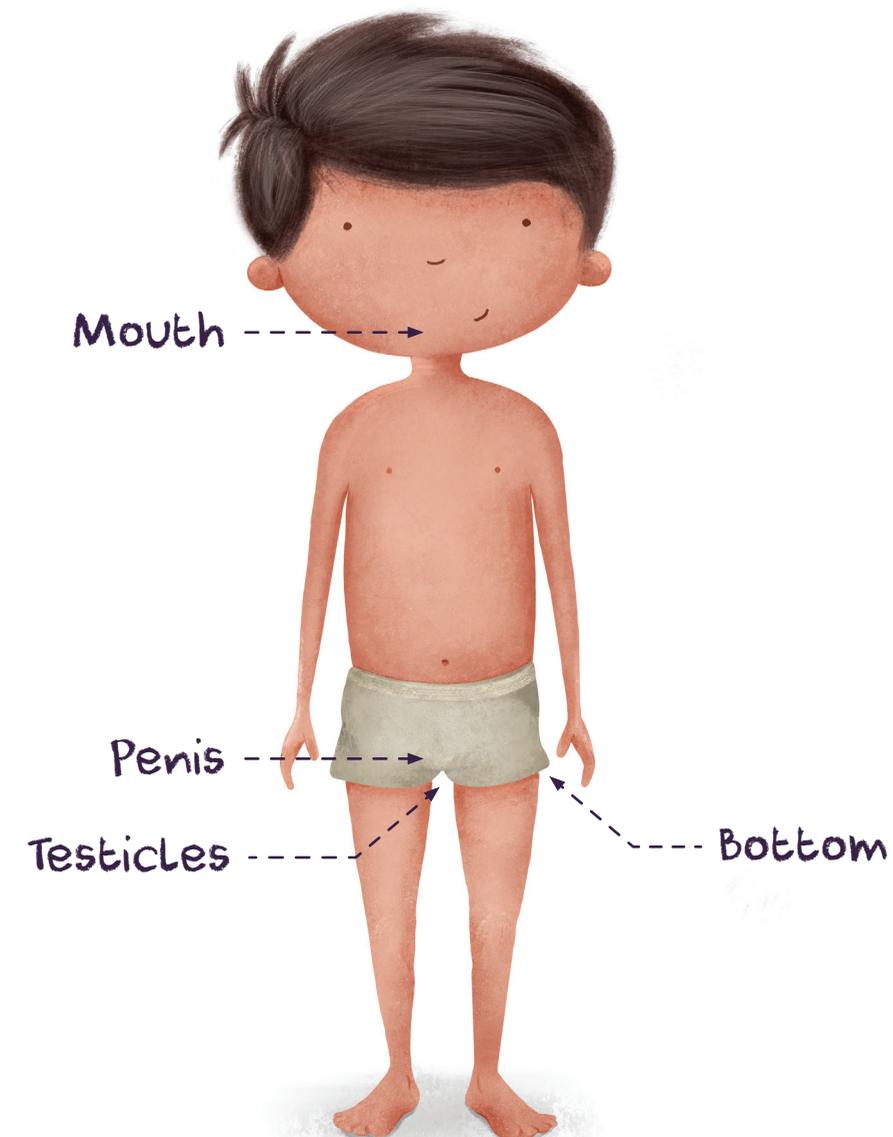
that would ever stop God
from loving you.

Psalm 103:17 But the steadfast love of the Lord is from
everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His
righteousness to children's children,



Now God made all of you, and he
will always care,
**BUT THERE ARE PARTS HE
MADE THAT YOU SHOULD
NEVER SHARE.**

God Loves you very much
but some parts of you are not for touch.
They are called your
PRIVATE PARTS!



God made some body
parts for everyone to
see

but some are private,
that's how God meant
it to be.



Private parts can be different and might
have funny names

but, remember, these parts are not for
playing games.

If someone touches you on your private
parts or maybe shows you theirs,

this is wrong and not OK.

Say NO,

then try and get away.

Don't whisper – you need to yell,

then find a trusted grown-up that you can tell.



When something or someone
makes you feel sad,

Like keeping a secret that makes
you feel bad,

Remember

God made the grown-ups too,
to help you talk things through,

especially the things that
are worrying you.

Psalm 34:19 The righteous person may have many
troubles, but the Lord delivers them from them all.



Some problems may be

big

and some problems maybe

small

but, remember, you can talk to a grown-up you trust to help you solve them all.

The End

Who are the
grown-ups you
can tell

Let's create a Helping Hand of
trusted grown-ups you can talk with
if you're worried or if someone asks
you to keep an unsafe secret.

Keep telling these grown-ups
on your helping hand until you
feel safe again.





About the Author

Andrea Musulin is the Director of the Catholic Archdiocese Perth's Safeguarding Program. She took up this position in 2014 after a 30-year career with the Western Australia Police Force as a sworn police officer.

Her vast experience in responding proactively and reactively to the increasing crime of child sexual abuse has shown her there is no 100% fool-proof system for protecting children. During her time as a police officer, she learnt that a good defence is a great offense and education is the best defence we can give to children.

In 2011, Andrea was inducted into the WA International Women's Hall of Fame as a pioneer and leader in the Child Protection Industry and, in 2012, was a finalist in the Police Officer of the Year Awards for her dedication above and beyond the call of duty in responding to women and children who had been abused.

Andrea was involved with Protective Behaviours WA Inc for 19 years and has written and co-written a number of prevention education materials for parents and children, including resources for the WA Police Force, Department of Education, WA Country Hostels Authority, Aboriginal Hostels Limited and the Department for Communities.

Andrea is the author of the Catholic Archdiocese Perth Protecting God's Children resource for parents and the Love Sex and Relationships Resource for Catholic teens. In addition to these two publications, she is co-author of God Gave Elizabeth Grace the Right to Feel Safe, a Catholic story book for children aged five to 11.



Catholic Archdiocese Perth's Safeguarding Office

Provides training in all aspects of safeguarding and child protection within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth. This office also oversees the daily proactive and reactive operations of over 260 parish-based Safeguarding Officers and 23 Catholic agencies.

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Check out

'You Are God's Marvellous Creation' Song



You Are God's Marvellous Creation

All children need to be taught prevention education from a young age. Child sexual abuse is a sad reality and far too many children suffer in silence. Christian parents, teachers and carers have a responsibility to equip children with protective behaviours and keeping safe education which includes a clear sense of their personal boundaries.

As detailed in the Perth Catholic Archdiocese Protecting God's Children Program, this should also be supported with age-appropriate knowledge on how to respond if and when a child's personal boundaries have been compromised or violated, or if they are asked to keep an unsafe secret.

This rhyming story book has been written to reflect the book of Genesis and, in doing so, create an age-appropriate tool to educate children from three to eight years of age in the home, in churches or in the classroom. It teaches children that, when it comes to their bodies, God created boundaries and assures them that it is OK to tell a trusted adult if someone touches them inappropriately. This book provides simple but powerful messages every child needs to know about their bodies.



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