Hymn Discovery

Teaching Steps

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) exemplified the best qualities of Christian servanthood. Cecil was gifted, compassionate, visionary, humble, and hardworking. She was passionate about ministry to the disabled and disadvantaged, especially children. She used her gifts as a hymn writer and poet to help teach Bible truths and stories to children. "All Things Bright and Beautiful" is a perfect example of one such hymn. We are thankful for Alexander's legacy of hymns and for her example of Christ-like ministry to others.

KIDPages

Use these pages:

- With children who arrive early
- In a small learning group
- As a take-home page. If a page is sent home, suggest that parents and children work on the KIDPage together.

Love in Action

Use this page to present information about Cecil Frances Alexander. Have children create a list of qualities from her life that they admire, and guide them to share their list with other children.

Picture Match

Provide copies of Picture Match for children to connect each hymn phrase with its matching image. Use this KIDPage as an opportunity for children to work on hymn memorization.

"All Things Bright and Beautiful" Harmony Map

Perform this chart with Boomwhackers®, bells, or handchimes.

"Maker of Heaven and Earth" Dramatic Reading

Enlist and rehearse three readers to present this dramatic reading, or reprint it as a responsive reading for the congregation. Option: To demonstrate how verses describing God's creative power are located throughout the Bible, have a child display visuals that show the Bible reference of each verse as it is being read.

Picture Match Answers:



Each little flow'r

that opens,

The purple-headed

mountain,



each little bird

that sings,

the river

running by,



glowing colors,



He made their tiny wings.



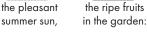
the morning



that brightens up the sky.



He made them every one.









He gave us eyes to see them,

and lips that we might tell

how great is God Almighty,



who has made all things well.

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

The cold wind in the winter,





Love in Action

Read the story about Cecil Frances Alexander below. Think about her character, values, and the events of her life. Choose five things about her life that made the greatest impression on you. Write a word or phrase about each of those things on the sticky note. Then, share your list with your friends, and tell them why you chose each item.



Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

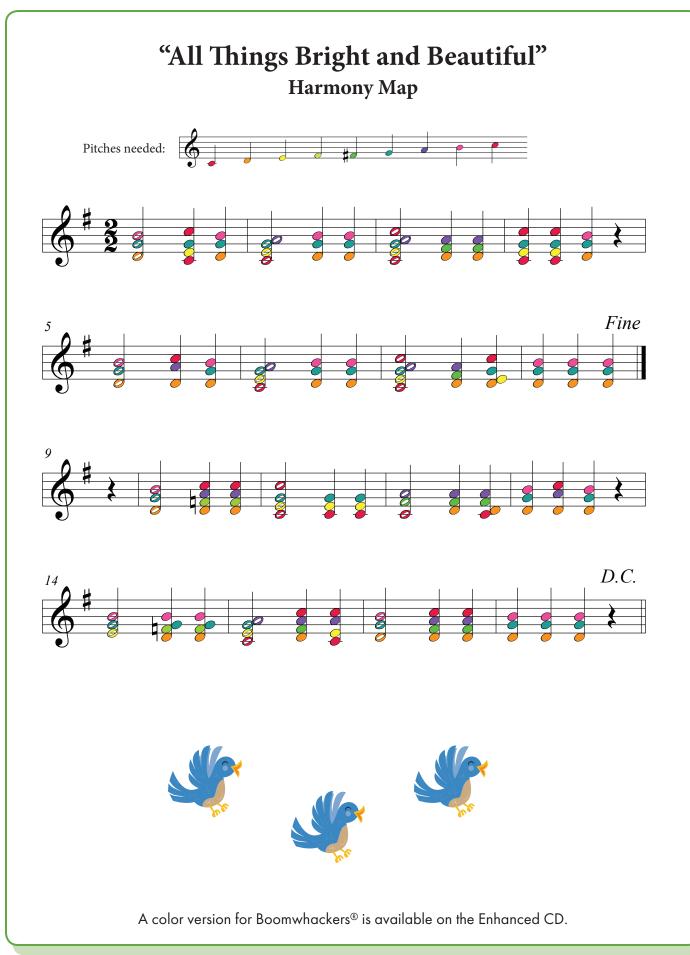
Cecil Frances Alexander was born in Ireland. When she was a child, her father noticed her poetic gift and encouraged her to develop her writing abilities. Cecil became a skillful poet who wrote nearly 400 hymns and poems. Her most enduring hymns were written to help children learn Bible truths and stories. She wrote "All Things Bright and Beautiful" to teach children about God's creative power. She composed a variety of hymns for many occasions, but her talent shines brightest in her hymns for children.

Cecil was a humble, compassionate person. She loved children and put her love into action! She established a school for disabled children and helped support it with profits from her writings. She was tireless in her efforts to help the poor and sick. Cecil Francis Alexander invested her life in teaching, loving, and caring for others.

Picture Match

Draw a line between the dots at the left of each line of Stanzas 1-4 and its matching picture. Then, see if you can memorize the Refrain and Stanza 1, and speak it from memory to a friend.





MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH PRAMATIC READING

Reader 1:	Praise be to God, the Maker of heaven and earth.
Reader 2:	"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)
Reader 3:	"By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible." (Hebrews 11:3)
Reader 1:	"Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?" (Psalm 106:2)
Reader 2:	"Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made." (John 1:3)
Reader 3:	"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." (Psalm 19:1)
Reader 1:	"The whole earth is full of his glory." (Isaiah 6:3)
Reader 2:	"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth." (Colossians 1:16)
Reader 3:	"How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures." (Psalm 104:24)
Reader 1:	"In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land." (Psalm 95:4-5)
Reader 2:	"In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind." (Job 12:10)
Reader 3:	"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." (Psalm 139:14)
ALL:	Praise be to God, the Maker of heaven and earth.
5	All scripture is taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION® NIV®
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