

# Eve and Adam and their Very First Day

By Leslie Kimmelman | Illustrated by Irina Avgustinovich

# READING and ACTIVITY GUIDE

## About the Book

In this unusual retelling, the biblical story of creation is told from Eve's perspective and explores what it might have been like emotionally for the world's first two people to experience everything for the very first time:

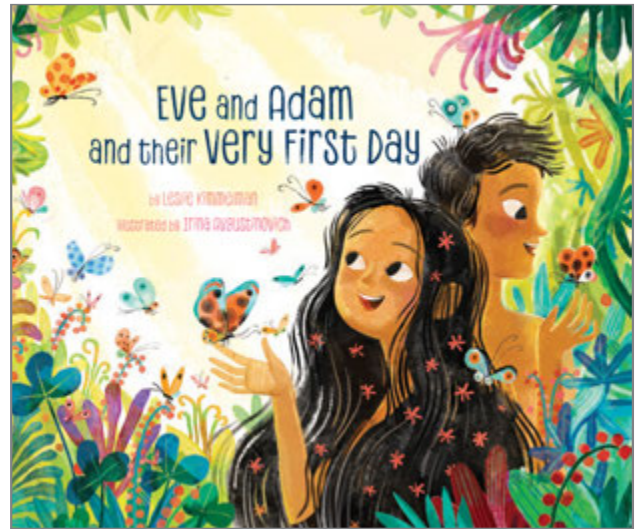
- seeing and naming the animals
- feeling the rain
- fearing the night
- becoming excited by the stars
- having faith that they are not alone

Eve is gently assertive and shows herself to be a natural leader. She affirms Adam's fears, and her confidence soothes him.

The story stops well before the infamous apple-eating scene, focusing instead on themes of curiosity, discovery, new experiences, handling fear, and having faith.

Lush illustrations bring the wonder of the new world to life, while children will enjoy looking for the recurring cat and dog characters throughout the story.

An author's note further explores the nature of faith for young children.



## Key Themes:

curiosity; exploration; faith; friendship; new experiences; resilience

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Ages 4-7 years

Use these questions to preface and conclude a reading of this book with children.

Encourage them to share their observations as you read the book together.

Take time to linger on pages or spreads that generate more discussion.

## Before Reading

- Have you ever heard of Adam and Eve? If so, what do you know?
- Looking at the cover of this book, what do you notice about the characters and environment around them?
- What does the cover of the book suggest the story will be about?

## After Reading

- If you were able to name an animal, plant or food, what name would you give it and why?
- Is it hard to choose a name? Do you know why your parents named you the way they did? Is there a story behind your name?
- What can you do to help others when they are afraid? What can you do to help yourself when you are afraid?
- Faith means believing in something you may not be able to see or know for sure will happen. What do you have faith in?
- The last page of the story calls the second day “ordinary and miraculous.” Describe a miracle you have seen.
- Eve and Adam name a lot of things on their first day, but not everything. What are some you recognize that don’t get named? What do you call them?

## Optional: Extension Activity

Create a plant or animal out of craft materials and give them names that you feel best describe them. If there are many of you, create your own Garden of Eden full of plants and animals.

Material Suggestions: Feel free to choose any or all of the items below to complete the activity!

- Paper and crayons/markers
- Molding clay/playdough
- Pipe cleaners
- Various recycled objects and/or art materials that can be combined together, by glue or other creative ways.

Find character cut-outs and coloring pages online!



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# Character Cut Outs

