

SHEEP

Brainstorm everything you already know about sheep, including their physical characteristics, behaviors, and interactions with their shepherd.

Can you think of any fictional stories with sheep? How are they usually portrayed?

List as many Bible stories as you can recall that feature sheep and/or shepherd. Read these verses:

Genesis 29:1-3
Exodus 12:1-13
Psalm 23
Ezekiel 34
Matthew 25:32-40
Luke 2:8-20, 15:2-7
John 10
1 Peter 5:2-4
Revelation 7:15-17

Explore this Hebrew word & picture:

Ra'ah (H7462)



How do you think a shepherd's personality would affect a sheep's personality?

Read the following verses and brainstorm all the connections you find:

Ezekiel 34:11-16
Psalm 23
Matthew 14:13-21

Take some time to reflect on all you've learned. How do sheep/shepherds illustrate God's living story? Have you made any new discoveries?

ENGAGE IN WONDER

How do sheep illustrate God's living story? Reflect on all you've learned.

Here are some additional questions to ignite your curiosity and imagination:

- Why do you think God made an animal that is entirely dependent on a shepherd?
- How do you think a shepherd's personality would affect a sheep's personality?
- Do you think a shepherd would be attentive to the unique characteristics of each individual sheep?
- When Jesus was born the first person God announced his birth to was to shepherds on the hill. Why do you think this is who he chose to reveal this life-changing moment?
- God's whole story is about Jesus! He is the lamb that was slain, the shepherd of His sheep, and even the bread (grain) that feeds them. As one of His sheep, how do we follow our Shepherd?
- List as many prominent men as you can in the Old Testament that were shepherds at one point or another in their lifetime. Why do you think God often chose shepherds to play a pivotal part in his story?