

By Lynda Greene, Education Director

## Jesus Shows Me

Children demonstrate their understanding of the parent/child relationship at a very young age. They snuggle a favorite stuffed animal or rock their baby dolls, as they emulate the love and nurture they feel from the adults in their lives. This book extends that concept to God's great love for us all. Using the three-level construct of Bible verse, explanatory text, and illustrative photograph, God's love is revealed through examples of young being nurtured in the animal kingdom. Each two-page spread is rich with details of loving and nurturing, which parents can explore as they read and reread the book many times.

### Building on the Book:

- Explain to your child how you manifest your love for him just as animals care for their young. For example, the penguin father keeps his chick warm, while you provide clothing, soft blankets, and a cozy home.
- Connect the guidance and good example that you provide to your child to the life and words of Jesus. Use the book as a springboard for explaining that parents teach children, just as Jesus teaches us all. Even if you think this is beyond her comprehension, lay the seeds for later understanding.
- Capitalize on the message of play as a manifestation of love. Our ability to feel joy and happiness is one of God's greatest gifts! Help your child rejoice and cherish happy times that you spend together – building on the example of the dolphins frolicking in the sea.

**We would love to hear about your experiences with this book!**  
Please send ideas and comments to [hello@grahamblanchard.com](mailto:hello@grahamblanchard.com).

