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Chipmunks

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty." Proverbs 21:5

Can you tell the name of the animal you see in these pictures? This animal is called a chipmunk. Chipmunks live in many places. You may have seen one in the forest, at a park, near the beach, or even in a desert.

Chipmunks are not very big animals. But they are very busy. If you watch one for a while, you will see that it always seems to be doing something—and doing it quickly. Chipmunks have lots of things to do, and maybe that is why they work so quickly.

Do you like to have pockets for carrying things? God gave the chipmunk something

like pockets. Its two big cheeks are like two pockets, and the chipmunk uses them to help in just about everything it does.

One thing a chipmunk needs is a safe place to live. The safest place for a chipmunk is under the ground. So the chipmunk digs a burrow, or hole, for its house. While it is digging, it puts the extra dirt in its cheek pockets. Then it climbs out of its hole, runs away, and puts the dirt in another place. Then it hurries back to its hole and keeps digging. Again, it carries the extra dirt away in its cheek pockets. Finally, after a lot of hard work, the chipmunk has a nice home with several rooms in it.

What does a busy little chipmunk put in its rooms? In its bedroom, the chipmunk puts things like leaves and grass to make a cozy nest. And how does it carry those

things into its burrow? In its cheek pockets. When it finds leaves that it likes, it stuffs lots of them in its cheeks, runs into its burrow, and puts them in its nest.

Chipmunks also stay busy looking for food. Some food they eat right away, but the rest they carry away in their cheeks to put in a special room in their burrow. Chipmunks are always careful to save lots of food for later, when it will be hard for them to find something they like to eat.

Are you a busy little worker, too? Do you try to be a helper all day long? Are you careful to save things that you will need later? How can you be more like the busy little chipmunk?



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Autumn

"Be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." Luke 12:40

In the summertime, what color are the leaves on the trees? They are a pretty green. When it is hot, do you like to play in the shade under a big, green tree?

Now let's think about wintertime. It can be very

cold in the winter. In some places, lots of snow falls down from the clouds.

Sometimes the snow covers everything like a big, white blanket.

Most trees do not need their leaves during the cold winter. So before winter comes, these trees drop their leaves onto the ground. That's one way they get ready for winter to come.

Do you know what we call the time of year when the trees are getting ready

for winter? We call it fall, or autumn. During that time the leaves on many trees change from green to bright, pretty colors.

What colors do the leaves become during autumn? Some leaves are red. Some are orange. Others are bright yellow. And others are brown. Aren't you glad that God made so many pretty colors for us to see?

The trees have to get ready for winter. Now let's think of something we get ready for:

When do we get ready for Sabbath? All week we remember Sabbath is coming. On Friday we make sure all our work is done so we will be ready for Sabbath before the sun goes

down in the evening.

What do you do to get ready for bed? Do you take a bath and put on your pajamas? And then do Mommy and Daddy read a Bible story and have a goodnight prayer with you?

We get ready for many things, but the most exciting thing we want to get ready for is Jesus' coming. Is Jesus coming soon? Yes! How can you get ready? You can get ready by listening to Bible stories and by learning to pray. You can get ready by learning to obey Mommy and Daddy.

Are you glad you're getting ready for Jesus to come? Jesus loves us and is happy we want to be ready when He comes.

