IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED . .

The Hebrew word for "create" is "bara". In Genesis 1, it is found in conjunction with the "creation" of heaven and earth (v. 1), the "creation" of animal life (v. 21), and the "creation" of man (v. 27).

The Hebrew word for "made" in verses 7, 16, etc. is "asah" which means to "fashion". "Bara" means to initiate, "asah" to fashion that which is already created.

Man, as you know, cannot "create" anything. He can only "fashion" something from what God has created. The works of God are more beautiful the more closely they are examined. A snowflake, for example, is beautiful on the mountain top, but even more so under the microscope. The works of man, by contrast, are just the opposite. The picture, for example, that seems to be beautiful from across the room, reveals many brush marks and imperfections when examined closely.

Here are some interesting facts about the beauty of creation that I found many years ago in the paper "Does God Exist" (718 E. Donmoyer Ave., S. Bend, IN 46614-1999). These "quickies" came originally from a column by I. M. Boyd, Crown Syndicate, Inc. Publisher.

1. When a beaver builds the entrance to his lodge, he always take into account how thick the ice will be the next winter. Even though ice thickness varies, the beaver never misses. How does he know?

2. Honey ants store food by several workers gorging their abdomens to the size of cherries and attaching themselves to the roof of their burrows. They hand there motionless for the rest of their lives unless the colony needs the food. They are the emergency rations of the colony. How do they know?

3. Butterflies never try to fly uintil their bodies reach 81 degrees F. If they did, the material on their wings would come off, making them unable to move through the air. How do they know?

4. By your seventh birthday, your brain has reached 98% of its full size.

5. Houseflies hum in the key of F, bu their wings beat at 20,700 beats per minute (345 Hz.) The wing beat is ultrasonic while the hum is audio.

Butterflies see wing marks on their mates by sensing ultraviolet light coming from those wings.

7. The are is 21 % oxygen. If it were 16%, you couldn't build a fire because there would not be enough oxygen combining with that matter to give off heat and light.

8. A fish called a Mudskipper will see a piece of food on land. It then jumps out of the water, grabs a bite, and then goes back to the water.

9. Of the 4,500 species of mammals on the earth, only 16 have been domesticated.

10. When a female whale gives birth, she emits a certain "whistle". Another female will rush to the scene and cut the umbilical cord. The two females will stay together for several weeks until the baby is secure, with the second whale acting as a midwife.

11. The common sunfish is the most prolific egg layer, producing 300 million eggs per spawning.

12. When bloodhounds track their quarry, they do so to get affection. They are trained by reward and thus lick the criminals that they track down.

13. The "scales" on birds' legs are as distinctive as finger prints on humans.

Does it sound to you like these amazing details happened by accident? If you came across 50 small pebbles in the parking lot spelling the word "love", would it be logical to assume that such an arrangement came from a random occurrence in nature? Truly, the fool has said in his heart that there is no God!