

What Pioneer Clubs Is All About

Today's rapidly changing society can make children feel insecure. God uses their family and friends to help them develop a sense of belonging, and club is a place to make friends. Club also provides opportunities for girls and boys to develop skills, experience successes and failures in a supportive environment, make choices based on biblical principles, and have fun.

Pioneer Clubs materials are designed to be flexible, fun, and easy to use. The preparation tasks are easy to share among co-leaders to shorten the preparation time.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF PIONEER CLUBS?

The mission of Pioneer Clubs is training up children and youth to follow Christ in every aspect of life by providing biblically based and educationally sound resources.

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF PIONEER CLUBS?

Invite children into a personal relationship with Jesus and teach them to be students of God's Word.

- Faithfully share who Jesus is so that children may learn what it means to follow Jesus, ask Him to be their Savior, and grow spiritually.
- Teach children how to study the Bible and apply it to their everyday life so that they are prepared to be vibrant Christians making a difference in their church, community, and world.

Encourage children to develop life-changing relationships.

- Help children recognize their need for relationships and encourage them to build them with other children and adults, and ultimately with Jesus.
- Teach God's design for the family and the role of children in their families as followers of Jesus.

Support children as they learn and become people of character with biblical values and practical life skills.

- Guide children in the development of Biblical values and character traits through Bible study and through learning to make personal choices that live out a Christian worldview.

- Provide opportunities to learn a variety of life skills and achieve awards in order to deepen a sense of personal worth and value which reflects how God sees them.

Come alongside adults as they guide children to follow Christ in every aspect of their lives.

- Through Pioneer Clubs curriculum and supplementary materials, all Pioneer Clubs children's ministry resources encourage the adult leader to stay on course in Christian theology, philosophy, education, and values.
- As adults work together in a supportive community and interact with Biblical teaching, they will continue to grow personally and spiritually by being involved with Pioneer Clubs. This will help them develop and nurture life-changing relationships with children that model Jesus.

WHAT ARE THE BELIEFS OF PIONEER CLUBS?

Theological Beliefs

We believe that:

- Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died and rose again to provide redemption for each person. Therefore, at every age level, children will be taught that Jesus is Savior and Lord. Opportunities to make a personal commitment to Christ will be given according to the spiritual readiness of each child.
- The Bible, the inspired, authoritative Word of God, is our rule for faith and practice. Therefore, children are taught to study Scripture, discover its truths and apply them to everyday life. Scripture memorization is a natural part of this learning process.
- God has created His people as whole beings called to live a biblical lifestyle. Therefore, children will be guided in practicing a holistic approach of putting Christ first in every aspect of life and learning to serve God in their church, community and world.
- God ordained the Church to evangelize and to nurture through discipleship. Therefore, each church is encouraged to adapt the program to meet its own needs and the needs of its children.

Philosophy of Spiritual Formation

We believe that:

- Being made in God's image, each person has great value and worth as someone Jesus created, died for, and wants to be a part of His Story. Therefore, children are respected and encouraged to learn new things, express creativity, explore potential gifts and abilities, and have leadership opportunities. Then they can begin to understand the unique part He has for them in His Story.
- Building a healthy and rewarding relationship with each child is a vital part of their spiritual formation. Therefore, it is our privilege to love children in a way that reflects the way that Jesus loves us and builds a bridge to a relationship with Him.
- It is our joy to teach God's Word and encourage children to investigate it for themselves so that they come to know God and love Him. Therefore, they will need opportunities to put it into practice, chances to exercise their faith, and learn to trust Him no matter what.
- Biblical values are formed as children understand the various alternatives from which they can choose, consider the consequences of each in light of God's Word and are surrounded by loving adults who guide them in this process—always relying on Scripture. We believe children should experience security, trust, acceptance and love in a club environment so they have the freedom to question, discuss and discover what God's Word has to say about all aspects of life.
- Modeling our own spiritual journey is part of the discipleship process for children. Therefore, it is our joy to share about what Jesus is doing in us. This makes the spiritual journey come alive for children. We should share that we are deeply loved, even when we struggle, and He is faithfully forming Himself in us. He can do the same in their lives.

Philosophy of Learning

We believe that:

- Children progress through certain developmental stages, mastering the tasks of one age level before moving on to the next stage. Therefore, our clubs' spiraling curriculum introduces simple facts, skills and concepts at early age levels, increasing in complexity at succeeding ages.
- Learning is the most effective when children are active participants in meaningful learning experiences. Therefore, in our programs children are given opportunities to observe and practice skills, attitudes and behaviors appropriate for their age level.
- Children have unique and individual learning styles. Therefore, the club program provides various activities and methodologies that encourage children to respond differently and individually.
- Holistic learning occurs when all three learning domains (knowing, feeling and doing) are included in the learning process. Therefore, meeting aims include activities that call for response in the cognitive (knowing), affective (feeling) and psychomotor (doing) domains.
- Children should pursue the life skills and Bible activity awards with an emphasis on self-improvement and cooperation rather than competition. Therefore, we provide opportunities to work together to pursue life skills and activities, with a reward upon completion for achievement.

SKIPPER MATERIALS & CLUB MEETING PARTS

The Skipper materials consist of:

- two weekly meeting plan books—*Hearing Bible Stories* and *Hearing About God*
- club members' Activity & Take Home Papers books—*Hearing Bible Stories* and *Hearing About God*
- *Skipper Bible Story Visuals* book
- weekly activity stickers and unit iron-on awards
- Skipper Club shirt
- Skippy puppet
- Memory Verse stickers
- *Skipper and Scooter Celebrations* book
- supplementary aids

All of these may be ordered on our website at www.pioneerclubs.org. Or by phone by calling one of our Ministry Representatives at our toll-free number, 800-694-2582.

Weekly Meeting Plans for Skipper Leaders each give details for 32 regular club meetings, a kickoff meeting, a closing celebration meeting, and two holiday meetings. Each planbook will provide programming for a club year while allowing clubs to plan special events and outings.

The regular meetings are organized into eight units. Once a unit has been selected, its meetings should be completed in sequence to maintain continuity.

All leaders for a given age division will need a copy of the weekly meeting plan book for regular club preparation.

While all meetings give complete plans, leaders are encouraged to use their creativity in adapting the curriculum to meet their club members' needs and interests.

Activity & Take Home Papers books reinforce each meeting's theme with fun things to do in club. All leaders will need an Activity & Take Home Papers book.

Skipper Bible Story Visuals provides colorful pictures to help illustrate the Bible Story section of the club meeting.

Weekly Activity Stickers correspond with activity papers. Each week after children complete their activity papers, leaders will apply the appropriate Activity Sticker.

Unit Celebration Iron-on Awards will remind children of the knowledge and experience gained during the unit. Because children ages 2-3 are not ready to earn awards by working through a list of requirements, these awards are to be distributed to all children at the close of each unit. The awards help every child have a sense of achievement.

Leaders will need to order a set of eight awards for each child. These should be displayed on the special Skipper Club shirt, which has a place for each award.

Skippy, a puppet, is used during each meeting, often to help introduce the Bible Story.

Memory Verse Stickers are given to club members to place on the Take Home Papers.

Skipper and Scooter Celebrations book provides special occasion meetings to supplement the regular Skipper Club materials. It includes game, activity, Bible story, and refreshment ideas.

Supplementary Aids include training materials; books on games, projects, parties, special events, the Pal program; and lots more.

WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF A PIONEER CLUBS MEETING?

All good teaching begins with preparation. Part of the preparation involves praying for the club members and the plans.

The Pioneer Clubs curriculum is designed to minimize preparation time. The Pioneer Clubs Planning Chart (download from the Skipper Teaching Resources found on the Pioneer Clubs website) may be duplicated and used to plan meetings and leader responsibilities. The time you spend reviewing meetings and planning will minimize frustration.

WEEKLY MEETING PLAN BOOK

Familiarize yourself with the weekly meeting plan book selected. The easy-to-follow plans all use the same format. Each unit has an overview page with Meeting Time Frames, Unit Aims, Unit Bible Words, Unit Award, Weekly Activity Stickers, Unit Supplies, Unit Songs, Unit Award Celebration, Unit Extras, Prayer Requests, Teaching Tips, and Planning Ahead For sections.

The **Meeting Time Frames** section provides options for clubs that meet for less time than the 1 1/2 to 2 hours that the meeting plan is designed for.

Each meeting also has a highlighted preparation column. This column lists Meeting Aims and Parent Helper. The Meeting Aims section also includes the

Scriptures for the Bible Story and Bible Words parts of the meeting.

The **Meeting Aims** are provided so leaders can tell whether club members are learning and practicing the biblical principles.

Parent Helper gives suggestions for including a parent or other adult helper in the meeting.

The **Supplies Needed** lists let you know what supplies you will need. Details on how to use them appear in the Do Ahead sections for the meeting parts.

The *Do Ahead* sections list tasks that will help you prepare for club ahead of time and will make club run smoother.

Each meeting part also gives a suggested time frame for that section. The Pioneer Clubs curriculum is designed for 1 1/2 to 2 hours of club time. If your club meets for less time, focus on Bible Story, Bible Words, and Activity & Take Home Papers, but include at least one activity time (Opening Activity or Creative Activity).

WELCOME ACTIVITY CENTERS

In each meeting, Activity Center Options are given for blocks, books, dramatic play, and sensory. Activity centers gets children thinking about the meeting theme. Other suggested Welcome Activity Centers activities include greeting children according to the security procedures of your church, singing the club song, and making announcements.

OPENING ACTIVITY

This activity prepares children for the Bible Story by creating a readiness to learn. Activity Papers are sometimes used during the Opening Activity; otherwise, you can choose to do one or both of the suggested skill-building activities.

BIBLE STORY

This section of the club meeting helps children of this age enjoy the Bible stories and feel comfortable in God's house. Leaders should avoid sermonizing.

While leaders don't have to be Bible scholars to tell a Bible story, preparation should be thorough.

BIBLE STORY HAS THREE PARTS:

- **Introduction** is used to get the children involved in the lesson theme and to lead into the Scripture Story.
- **Scripture Story** often puts an incident in the Bible into a narrative form that young children can readily understand.
- **Application** guides club members into acting on what they have learned about God and His Word. Leaders should be sensitive to the needs and experience of club members. For example, if prayer is a new concept to some members, have the group repeat a prayer rather than pray on their own.

BIBLE WORDS

Bible Words are simplified Bible verses that reinforce the unit theme. Motions are given for each verse to help children learn the verse. When club members learn the Bible Words, give them a Memory Verse sticker to put on their Take Home Paper.

SNACK

The Snack suggestions in this book often tie into the meeting theme, reinforcing the lesson.

PLAY TIME

Play is essential for twos and threes! It releases pent-up energy, develops muscles, and increases coordination.

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

This activity time generally reviews what was learned throughout the meeting. A wide variety of skill-building activities are suggested. Children may also do their Activity Papers during this time.

SONGS

Each meeting gives suggestions for choosing songs that reinforce the theme of the unit.

CLOSING

Closing starts with singing a song, which leads to prayer. This is also a good time to review the Bible Words and motions. Closing should be formal so children will know when club is finished.

DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

Have a club discipline plan that:

- outlines acceptable behavior in club
- indicates appropriate ways to handle problems
- reflects the church's policies and guidelines for discipline

Be prepared:

- know the plan for the entire meeting
- have materials collected and ready
- start club on time

Develop guidelines for your club, and when age appropriate include your club members. Let parents know the rules. Make rules:

- five or fewer
- easy to understand
- describing observable, measurable behavior
- stated positively

Go through the Group Discipline That Works training digital download which is available on the Pioneer Clubs website for additional, helpful suggestions on how to:

- develop positive behavior
- handle unacceptable behavior

LEADERSHIP NEEDED IN CLUB

Pioneer Clubs coordinator is responsible for leader recruitment, supervision, and training. Guide is the special term for a club leader in Pioneer Clubs. Guides are responsible for using the Pioneer Clubs curriculum.

Adult Pals are people in the church who each take a special interest in one or more club members.

Club members should be given leadership opportunities in the meetings. Helping set up the club room for a meeting, cleaning up following an activity, assisting another member with a project, leading group singing, and the like are all opportunities for leader development. The guide's challenge is to seek out the leadership potential in each club member and give each an opportunity to use that talent in club.

IDEAS FOR RECRUITING HELP

Parent involvement:

- Encourage parents to visit and help in club.
- Invite parents to award celebrations.
- Ask parents to help with snacks.
- Ask parents for help with different parts of the club meeting.
- Have parents chaperon a special event.
- Have parents help with transportation.
- Encourage parents to ask their children about what they are learning in club.
- Have parents review Bible memory work at home.

Developing regular helpers:

- As parents visit and help, ask them about helping on a regular basis.
- Ask teenagers to be helpers or assistant leaders.
- Older adults are also a great resource for helpers.
- Singles may have the time and energy to give your club a real boost.

PLANNING THE CLUB YEAR

A Pioneer Clubs calendar of events should be planned with the coordinator and the club leaders from other age divisions. This calendar will indicate dates for special events such as Kickoff meeting, parents' event, church missions conference, Pioneer Clubs roller skating party, Pioneer Clubs Week, Pal parties, quarterly guide and committee meetings, weekend campout, and so on. Club leaders and the coordinator should also work out goals for the year. These should be measurable and few in number so they can be evaluated periodically.

Once the overall calendar is set, leaders for each age-group can meet separately to fill in individual club plans. After planners work through at least one unit, they need to evaluate it and club in general.

While the Pioneer Clubs curriculum is flexible, leaders still need to plan and prepare. A well-prepared leader will be more likely to enjoy the children and club. While adaptation is encouraged, the program should not become leader-centered rather than child-centered.

TEACHING SUGGESTIONS FOR A PIONEER CLUBS PROGRAM

Keep these tips in mind, and you'll have a well-managed program.

1. Leaders should arrive at least 10 to 15 minutes before club starts. This allows time to set up the room and prepare for the various aspects of the meeting. Leaders should be organized before the first club member arrives so they can interact with members socially.
2. A well-prepared leader will be more relaxed in club. Members will catch the leader's enthusiasm for activities and Bible Story times.
3. Leaders need to accept children's differences. Avoid passing judgment and, instead, give understanding.
4. Leaders should give suggestions and directions in a positive way. They need to listen to what club members say. Listening takes eyes, ears, intelligence, and feelings.
5. Children, like adults, need to be treated as individuals. Leaders should know children by name and find out a little about their interests, families, and concerns.
6. Leaders need to provide opportunities for children to make choices when possible. (All Christmas trees don't have to be painted green.)
7. Leaders must be friendly and loving. The club setting can provide the affection and security children need.
8. Leaders will have to establish a few ground rules when club begins. If the rules are enforced, they will be respected. Children may also help establish some rules.
9. Children need to know what they are to call their leaders. Some groups choose nicknames for leaders, thus making club less formal than a classroom. While some parents are uncomfortable with their children calling other adults by their first names, the first names could be used with Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss in front.
10. Leaders need to show appreciation for what children have accomplished. Praise and encouragement go a long way.

UNIT 1 OVERVIEW

God Created the World

MEETING TIME FRAMES

The meeting plan is designed for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. If your club meeting is shorter, focus on Bible Story, Bible Words, Activity Papers, and at least one other activity time.

UNIT AIMS

Twos and threes want to explore and experience everything. In this unit, they will explore things God has made. Use their curiosity as an opportunity to help them learn about and love the Creator of the world and everything in it.

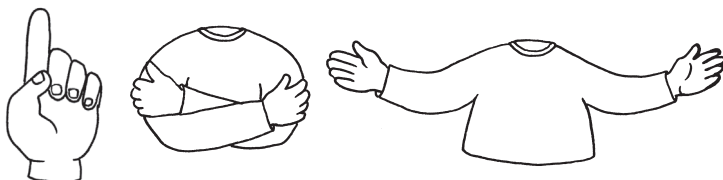
In this unit, children will:

- learn that God created the world and everything in it.
- enjoy various aspects of God's creation.
- use their senses and work on identifying and classifying plants and animals that God has made.

UNIT BIBLE WORDS

"God loves all He made" Psalm 145:17

- "God"** (*point up*)
- "loves"** (*hug self*)
- "all He made"** (*open arms wide*).



UNIT AWARD

At the end of this unit, each child will receive the God Created the World Award, whether or not he or she attended every meeting.

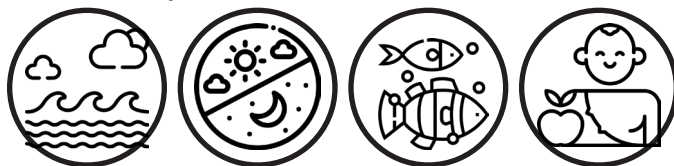


Order a set of unit celebration iron-on awards (item #4010) for each child. You may also order Skipper shirts, specially designed to display the awards.



WEEKLY ACTIVITY STICKERS

Each meeting in this unit has a corresponding Activity Sticker. Stickers are put on children's Activity Papers. Order a set of Activity Stickers (item #4051) for each child.



UNIT SUPPLIES

Before beginning the unit, check each meeting to determine what supplies you will need.

Have on hand:

- *Skipper Bible Story Visuals* (item #3614) for Bible Story time.
- set of Memory Verse stickers (item #6650) for each child.

UNIT SONGS

Choose songs that fit the unit theme. Remember that Skippers enjoy:

- songs with actions.
- a lot of repetition.

UNIT AWARD CELEBRATION

Awards for Skippers may be displayed on special Skipper shirts. Distribute awards during a Unit Award Celebration time during the final meeting of the unit.

Give a God Created the World iron-on award to every Skipper, whether or not the child has attended every meeting. When you hand out the awards, make it fun for Skippers by clapping and cheering (for example, "Chris learned that God created the world. Hooray, Chris!").

UNIT EXTRAS (OPTIONAL)

At the end of this unit, consider having a special meeting before starting the next unit. Ideas for Skipper Specials are available as a digital download on the Skipper Teaching Resources section on the Pioneer Clubs website. See Pioneer Clubs' *Skipper and Scooter Celebrations* (item #3030) for more ideas.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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UNIT 1 OVERVIEW

TEACHING TIPS

Children need a sense of security in order to learn and develop.

- Follow the same general routine in every club meeting.
- Make the same basic equipment available for children to enjoy over and over again.
- As much as possible, keep the same leaders and helpers from week to week.

Children have short attention spans at this age.

- Many behavior problems can be avoided by keeping Skippers actively involved- making sounds, touching items, naming things, imitating actions, talking about their experiences and feelings.
- Avoid trying to have Skippers sit still for more than a few minutes. Use visuals and other attention-getting devices frequently, and have children stand up, wiggle their fingers, and so on when they get restless.

Children are just beginning to learn at this age that the Bible is a special book that tells about God.

- Be sure to have your Bible open during Bible Story, and tell children that the story is from the Bible.
- Be aware that some Skippers may not have a Bible at home. Help them understand the Bible's importance by your attitude toward what it teaches.

Children need to be actively involved in learning.

- Recognize that firsthand experiences form the core of learning for Skippers, and minimize your talking while maximizing the children's participation and experimentation.
- Try to involve as many of the five senses (seeing hearing, smelling, tasting, touching) as possible in learning activities for Skippers.

PLANNING AHEAD FOR

Club Kickoff

- ↳ Invite parents.
- ↳ Order needed supplies.

Meeting 1: God Created Day and Night, Sky and Sea

- ↳ None.

Meeting 2: God Created Land, Plants, Sun, Moon and Stars

- ↳ None.

Meeting 3: God Created Fish, Birds, and Animals

- ↳ None.

Meeting 4: God Created People

- ↳ Have on hand iron-on awards. Plan the Unit Award Celebration.

MEETING

God Created Day and Night, Sky and Sea

MEETING AIMS:

The children will:

- understand that God made day and night, and the sky and the sea.
- feel amazed that God is Creator.
- work on the concepts of opposites: day and night, sky and sea.

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-10

Bible Words: “God loves all He made.” Psalm 145:17

PARENT HELPER:

The parent helper could:

- hold up flashlights for the Shadow Play opening activity.
- turn off and on room lights during the Bible story.

WELCOME ACTIVITY CENTERS

10-15 minutes

Follow your church’s safety procedures as you welcome and greet Skippers.

Help each child choose one of the activity centers.

Blocks

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** blocks in two colors

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies.

Set out two colors of blocks (such as yellow and black or two shades of blue). Help kids divide the blocks by color. Talk about how God separated day and night and sky and sea.

Books

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** books about creation

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies.

Read books about God creating the world, day, night, the sky, or the sea.

Dramatic Play

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** home-play area (toy kitchen, etc.) or dollhouse and dolls

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies.

In a home-play area or doll house, encourage children to play out day or night time routines.

Sensory

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** plastic bin, water, towels, manipulatives (funnels, cups, strainers, etc.)

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies.

Set water bin on a towel and add various manipulatives. Let children use the manipulatives to play with the water. **God made water.**

Transition

At the end of activity centers, have Skippy lead the Skipper theme song (inside front cover). Sing it several times.

OPENING ACTIVITY

8-12 minutes

Shadow Play

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** paper, crayons, flashlights, small toys (such as animal figures)

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies.

Set a toy on a piece of paper. Hold up a light behind it to create a shadow. Let kids trace the shadow. As they work, talk about how we have light to see during the day and at night it is dark.

Sky or Sea?

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** Sky or Sea printable, scissors or cutting machine, light and dark blue construction paper, tape, paper bag

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies. Download, print, and cut apart the Sky or Sea printable images. Place in a paper bag. Set the dark blue construction paper on the floor to be the “sea”, and tape the light blue construction paper to the wall at the children’s eye level to be the “sky”.

Place the images from the Sky or Sea printable in a bag. Let kids take turns drawing one image out of the bag at a time. They will decide if that object belongs in the sea or the sky and place it in the correct location using tape.

BIBLE STORY

8-12 minutes

- ✎ **Supplies Needed:** Bible, Skippy

- ✎ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies. Practice Introduction with Skippy.

Introduction

Lead Skippers to the story area.

Skippy: **I love getting wet and playing in the water! My dad said he is going to teach me how to swim! I can’t wait to learn the doggy paddle.** Asks children:

- **Do you like to get wet and play in water? Clap your hands if you do.**
- **Clap your hands if you have been in these kinds of water: a lake . . . a bathtub . . . a stream . . . a fire hydrant . . . a sprinkler . . . the rain . . . a swimming pool . . .**

Skippy: **Wow! There are so many fun ways to get wet! I like to drink water, too. My mom says its important that I drink water to stay healthy.** Asks children:

- **Who likes to drink water? Clap your hands.**

Skippy: **Water is good for us and is fun, too! Hmmm... Do you know who made water? Let’s find out.**

Put Skippy away.

Scripture Story

Open your Bible to Genesis 1. **The Bible tells us that a long, long time ago, there were no people, no plants and no animals. There was only God. It was very dark everywhere, all the time.** Have children close their eyes and have a helper turn off the room lights. **God had a plan to make a beautiful world filled with wonderful things. He would be the Creator of everything!**

UNIT 1 / GOD CREATED THE WORLD

On the first day, God said, “Let there be light.” And there was light! Have a helper turn on room light and let children uncover their eyes. **God named the light “day,” and He named the dark “night.”**

God liked everything He made on day one. Hold up one finger and have children copy you. **He said, “This is good!” Say that with me: “This is good!” So there was evening and morning the first day.**

On the second day, God made air. Air is what we breathe. Take a deep breath of air with me. Have children take a couple of deep breaths in and out with you. **God named the air “sky.”**

Then God made all the water and He separated it from the sky.

- **What do we use water for?** (Drinking, washing, swimming, etc.)
- **Where do we see water in nature?** (Rivers, lakes, ponds, oceans, rain, etc.)

God is so powerful to make all of that water! Have children make muscles to show God’s power. **God is an amazing Creator!**

God liked everything He made on day two. Hold up two fingers and have the children copy you. **He said, “This is good!” Say that with me: “This is good!” So there was evening and morning the second day.**

Next week we’ll learn about some more things that God made.

Application

Let’s sing a song to say, “thank You,” to God for making our wonderful world.

Sing the following to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

Thank You, God, for making day,
making day, making day.
Thank You, God, for making day,
for our wonderful world.

For additional verses, replace “day” with the following words: night, dark, light, sea, sky. *Option:* Add different bodies of water (ponds, oceans, rivers, lakes, rain, etc.).

BIBLE WORDS

5-7 minutes

- ✚ **Supplies Needed:** Bible, for each child: Take Home Paper, Memory Verse sticker
- ✚ **Do Ahead:** Review the Bible words from Psalm 145:17

Have Skippers stand to review the Bible words from Psalm 145:17, using motions. Repeat several times.

—“God” (*point up*)
—“loves” (*hug self*)
—“all He made” (*open arms wide*).

“God loves all He made.” Psalm 145:17

SNACK

optional

- ✚ **Supplies Needed:** cups, water, napkins, hand sanitizer, blue jello cups, whipped cream, spoons
- ✚ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies. Check for any food allergies and prepare alternative snacks if necessary.

Pray together: **Thank You, God, for food we eat. Thank You, God, for this good treat. Amen.**

Give each child a cup of blue jello to represent the sea. Add whipped cream on top to represent the sky. As kids enjoy, talk about what God has made.

PLAY TIME

optional

I’m going to name something that we do every day. If it is something we do during the day time, make a large sun (circle) with your arms. Demonstrate. If it is something we do during the night time, pretend to sleep and make your hands like a pillow. Demonstrate. Add additional ideas as time allows.

—get dressed
—get in bed
—read a bedtime story
—eat breakfast
—go to the park
—brush your hair
—brush your teeth
—pray
—go to the store
—go to school
—go to Skipper club

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

10-15 minutes

- ✚ **Supplies Needed:** crayons, cotton balls, blue tissue paper, glue sticks; for each child: Activity Paper, Activity Sticker
- ✚ **Do Ahead:** Gather supplies.

Hand out Activity Papers (p. 13, *Hearing about God Activity and Take Home Papers*).

For the Day 1 picture, have children color one side yellow and the other side black to represent day and night.

For the Day 2 picture, have children glue cotton balls to represent the clouds/sky and blue tissue paper to represent the sea.

When children finish, write their names on the papers, and stick on Activity Stickers.

SONGS

optional

- ✚ **Supplies Needed:** your choice
- ✚ **Do Ahead:** Choose songs about God as Creator.

Sing the songs you chose.

CLOSING

5-7 minutes

- ✚ **Supplies Needed:** for each child: Take Home Paper
- ✚ **Do Ahead:** Be prepared to sing the Skipper prayer song (inside front cover). Gather supplies.

Sing the Skipper prayer song together, and pray a short prayer, thanking God for creating day and night, the sky and the sea. Review the Bible words and motions.

Hand out Take Home Papers. Follow your church’s security procedures as you release kids to their families.