



God Created the World

Unit 1 | Lesson 1 | Toddler Lesson

Bible Study Aims

Kids will:

- realize that God is the Creator of everything.
- understand that everything belongs to God.
- desire to worship God as the Creator.

Key Idea

God created everything for His glory.

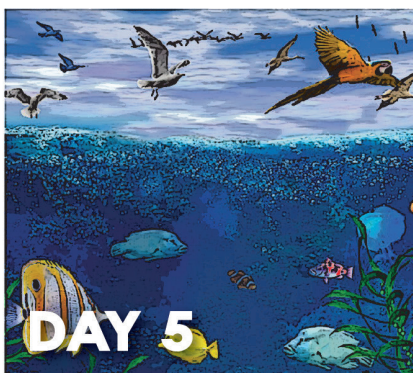
Bible Passage

Genesis 1

Memory Verse

Genesis 1:1

SIX DAYS OF CREATION





BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

God exists outside of time and always has. In His goodness and power, He created the heavens and the earth. He is the one true God, the Creator of all things, and continues to care for and sustain the universe He had designed perfectly.

- On Day 1, God created light and separated light from darkness, giving us day and night.
- On Day 2, God made the waters and separated the seas and the sky.
- On Day 3, God made dry ground appear and filled the earth with plants. He gave each kind of plant its own seeds and fruit.
- On Day 4, God filled the heavens He had made with the sun, moon, and stars—establishing seasons and weather. These acts of creation show us that God set up weather and time under His control, creating a system of order and making the world a sustainable place to live.
- On Day 5, God filled the seas with fish and other animals that live in the water and filled the air with birds!
- On Day 6, God filled the land with all kinds of creatures!

Everything God made was good and perfect.



LEADER DEVOTIONAL

Read Psalm 19:1 and 33:6-9. God is the Creator of the universe, yet He knows and cares for us intimately. As you have time this week, stop and praise God for all that He has made. Take a walk or sit outside, if possible. Dwell on the majesty and power of God. Are you in awe of Him?



SOCIAL MEDIA POST

This week our kids will explore the very first story in the Bible in Genesis 1. They'll learn that God created everything for His glory. He is worthy of our worship!

BLOCK CENTER

SEPARATING DAY AND NIGHT & SKY AND SEA

- Two colors of blocks (such as yellow and black or two shades of blue)

DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER

ANIMALS

- Toy animal figures (include both land and water animals)

LEARNING CENTER

BOOKS

- Books related to creation and the things God has made, such as animals, plants, etc.

SENSORY CENTER

WATER

- Plastic bin
- Plastic sea creatures
- Water
- Water manipulatives such as funnels, cups, strainers, etc.
- Towels

BIBLE STORY

- Bible
- Creation-themed flannelgraph felt pieces OR colored construction paper (black, yellow, light blue, dark blue, brown, green) and pictures of sun, moon, stars (printable), fish, birds, and land animals
- Deflated ball or balloon
- Felt board OR tape OR magnets
- Flashlight
- Lights
- Numbers 1-7, and several Zs, written on small pieces of felt OR index cards/construction paper

SONG TIME

- None needed

GAMES

WHERE DO I LIVE?

- None needed

DAY OR NIGHT? GAME

- None needed

CRAFTS

PAPER PLATE FISH

- Paper plates (1 per child)
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Coloring supplies
- Large googly eyes (1 per child)
- Glue dots

SEA AND SKY

- Dark blue construction paper
- Light blue construction paper
- Glue
- Cotton balls
- Pencil or marker

FINGERPLAY

- None needed

SNACK

- Animal crackers or goldfish
- Cups
- Hand sanitizer
- Napkins
- Small bowls
- Spoons
- Water

BIBLE MEMORY

- Bible

ACTIVITY PAGE

- Coloring supplies
- Activity Page (1 per child)

PRAYER TIME

- None needed



Welcome Activities

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ARRIVAL

Follow your church's safety procedures as you welcome and greet kids. Encourage children to choose a center or two to explore.



BLOCK CENTER • 10-15 MINUTES

Separating Day and Night & Sky and Sea

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.



DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER • 10-15 MINUTES

Animals

Set out toy animals for kids to play with. **Today, we are going to learn about how God made all kinds of creatures—animals that walk on land, swim in the sea, and fly in the sky.**



LEARNING CENTER • 10-15 MINUTES

Books

Provide books for kids to look through related to Creation and the things God has made, such as animals, plants, etc. As they look at the books, keep asking the question: **"Who made this?" or "Who made that?" Today, we are going to learn who made everything!**



SENSORY CENTER • 10-15 MINUTES

Water

Set out a plastic bin filled a third of the way with water. Lay the bin on some towels. Fill the bin with plastic sea creatures, and other water manipulatives, like funnels, cups, strainers, etc. **Today, we are going to learn about how God made the water and everything that lives in it.**



TRANSITION

Use a signal such as a flickering light, a simple call and response, or a song to clean up the centers and transition to the Bible story time.

PRAYER • 1 MINUTE

Dear God, please help us to understand Your Word. May this story help us to love You more and want to praise You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

BIBLE STORY • 5-8 MINUTES

Open your Bible to Genesis 1. **Long, long ago, God made the heavens and the earth. Everything was dark. God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. God liked what He had done—it was good. God made day and night on the first day.** Have kids hold up 1 finger. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 1.**

On the second day, God created the sky. Then, He separated the sky from the water.

- **Name some things you use water for.** (Drinking; Washing; Cleaning; Swimming; etc.)
- **Name some places you see water.** (Rivers; Lakes; Oceans; Creeks; Rain; etc.)

God is so powerful to make the big oceans, lakes, and rivers! Have kids hold up 2 fingers. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 2.**

On the third day, God made the dry land. He called it "earth." He called the water around the dry land "seas." When God finished, He saw that it was good—just what He wanted. God said, "Let there be plants and trees." And suddenly there were plants and trees. God saw that the plants and trees were good, too.

- **Can you name a plant God has made?** (Take responses.) As kids name plants, add pictures or felt pieces of plants under the number "3" on the board.

Have kids hold up 3 fingers. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 3.**

On the fourth day, the Bible tells us God created the sun, moon, and stars.

- **What did God make to give us light during the day?** (The sun.)
- **What did God make to give us light during the night?** (The moon.)

Have kids hold up 4 fingers. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 4.**

God wanted more living things for the earth. Make a wave with your arms. He filled the water with fish and other sea creatures. Then He made all kinds of birds to fly in the sky. Flap your arms like wings. He made all these creatures on the fifth day. Have kids hold up 5 fingers. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 5.**

There weren't any land animals yet, so God made them. He made lions, kangaroos, deers, skunks, cats, and dogs, and so much more!. God saw that everything He had made was good.

- **Can you name some of the animals God made? What noises do they make?** (Take responses.)
- **What is your favorite animal?** (Take responses.)

But God wasn't finished yet. We'll learn about His most special creation next week: people! Now God's creation was complete. Have kids hold up 6 fingers. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 6.**

On the seventh day, God rested, because His work of creation was finished. And God called it, "very good!" Have kids hold up 7 fingers. **So there was evening and there was morning on Day 7.**

SONG TIME • 5-10 MINUTES

Sing songs about God as Creator and what He has made, such as the songs included below.

Option #1: God Creator Made the World

Sing the following to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm":

God Creator made the world. Yes, oh, yes, He did.
 And for His world He made some cows. Yes, oh, yes, He did.
 With a moo, moo here (make milking motions), and a moo, moo there,
 Here a moo, there a moo, everywhere a moo, moo.
 God Creator made the world. Yes, oh, yes, He did.

Other stanzas: pigs (oink oink, wrinkle nose); dogs (arf arf, make begging motions); owls (hoo hoo, hold fingers in circles around eyes); cats (meow meow, hold up hands as ears); sheep (baa baa, playfully leap around); birds (tweet tweet, flap arms); donkeys (hee haw, kick one leg back).

Option #2: God Made . . .

Sing the following to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell":

God made the chicken
 God made the chicken
 I'm so happy, very happy
 God made the chicken.

For additional stanzas, replace "chicken" with other things God made. Ask kids for additional suggestions.

GAME TIME • 5-10 MINUTES

Option #1: Where Do I Live?

Name an animal, fish or bird. If it flies, kids can flap their arms and "fly." If it lives in the water, kids can lie down and pretend to swim. If it lives on land, kids can move like that animal and make the animal's noise.

Option #2: Day or Night? Game

God made day and night! 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. Ideas: 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 church, etc.



CRAFT TIME • 5-10 MINUTES

Option #1: Fish Craft

Ahead of time, cut a pie-shaped piece out of a paper plate to form a fish's mouth. Staple the cutout piece opposite the mouth to form the tail. Make one for each child.

Pass out fish and coloring supplies. Let kids color their fish. Add a large googly eye using a glue dot. Help kids write their names on the back of the fish. As they work, remind kids that God made fish.

Option #2: Sea and Sky

Give each child a sheet of light blue construction paper. Ahead of time, rip some dark blue construction paper into smaller pieces. Help them glue the dark blue pieces onto the bottom to make the "sea." Help them glue cotton balls at the top to make the "sky." As they work, remind kids that God made the sea and sky, and all the animals that live in the sea and live in the sky. Help kids write their names on their pictures.

Option: Provide fish stickers for kids to put in the "sea" or bird stickers to put in the "sky."



FINGERPLAY • 5-10 MINUTES

Teach one verse at a time.

In the beginning, God above (*point up*),
Looked all around and created with love (*hug self*),
God made the water (*make ripple motions with hands*),
God made the sky (*reach above head*).
He gave a smile (*smile*),
And not a sigh.

God made the dirt (*stomp*),
And some plants to grow (*stretch arms up and out*),
What a beautiful world (*clap*),
God made it just so!

God made the sun (*make big circle with hands*),
And God made the moon (*make small circle with hands*),
And He made the stars (*wiggle fingers above head*),
Not a moment too soon.

God made birds that sing (*put hands to mouth for beak*),
and fish that swim (*wiggle hands forward*).
All that God made (*make sweeping motion with hand*),
Gives praise to Him (*clap*).

Look at the animals (*wiggle hands by head for ears*)—
God made them, too.

And God made people (*put hands on head*)—
That's me and you (*point to self and others*).

SNACK TIME • 5-10 MINUTES

Have the kids wash their hands and sit down at a table.

Encourage a volunteer to pray. Thank God for the snack.

Dear God,
Thank You for the food we eat.
Thank You for the world so sweet.
Thank You for the birds that sing.
Thank You for everything!
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Serve animal crackers or goldfish. As they eat, show the Bible Story Picture and ask questions about what they see to review the Bible story.

BIBLE MEMORY • 5-10 MINUTES

Memorize Genesis 1:1. Repeat it several times together so the children become familiar with it. Then, have the group do hand motions while they say the verse.

- "God made"** (*point up*)
- "the sky"** (*shade eyes with one hand and look up*)
- "and the earth"** (*point down*).
- "Genesis 1:1"** (*hold up one finger on each hand*)

ACTIVITY PAGE • 5 MINUTES

Give children the coloring page. Help them write their name on it. As they work, use the picture they are coloring to review the Bible story.

PRAYER TIME • 1 MINUTE

As children are released to their families, say this prayer over them.

Dear God, thank You for making this beautiful world we live in! Thank You for making (name of child)! In Jesus' name, Amen.

DISMISSAL

Follow your church's security procedures as you release kids to their families.