

Lesson 1

God Made the World

Bible Lesson: Genesis 1:1-31

Memory Verse: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

TEACHER PREPARATION

Prepare to Teach:

- ◆ that God is eternal and has always been, even before the beginning of time (John 1:1-5)
- ◆ that God created the Earth and all that is in it
- ◆ that all things came into being by God (John 1:3)

Prepare Materials:

- ◆ road maps of your city/town, state, and USA and/or North America
- ◆ a globe
- ◆ pictures of the universe/solar system and Earth from space
- ◆ large pieces of freezer wrap paper
- ◆ colorful pictures of different things God has created such as animals, trees, fish, birds, fruit, sun, moon. Include things from each day of creation.
- ◆ glue and/or glue sticks
- ◆ seeds that germinate quickly such as beans
- ◆ foam cups or milk cartons – one for each child or one for whole group
- ◆ potting soil and something to scoop it with
- ◆ water
- ◆ paper plates for cat face, precut cat eyes from paper plate (one for each child)
- ◆ paper plates for ears – precut plates into eighths to make cat ears
- ◆ black buttons (optional)
- ◆ black yarn (optional)
- ◆ tongue depressors
- ◆ camera with film

BIBLE BACKGROUND

To be added.

BEGINNING YOUR CLASS HOUR

Welcome with Love

Welcome the children with a smile and by name. Introduce yourself to any child you may not know, repeating their name. Introduce each child to the other class members and encourage them to find a place to sit. In the center of the table, have colorful pictures of different things God has created. Allow the children to look through the pictures and talk about what they see. (These pictures will be used for the mural later during class). This may be some of the children's first time in a

classroom so special effort should be taken to make them feel welcome and comfortable.

Use a Learning Center

MAP CENTER - EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE

Lay out a roadmap of your city/town and/or state. Show the children where the church is located and the city where they live. Lay out a map of the USA and/or North America. Show the children where their state is. Then show the children a globe and point out North

America, the USA, their state, and approximately where your city/town is. If possible, show the children a picture of the universe and/or a picture of the Earth from space. Point out the Earth within the solar system and North America on the picture of the Earth. As each map is shown, compare the size of each place and how each is a smaller part of a larger part. This is to show the vastness of the universe. Make comments about how big everything is and who could have made it all.

ART CENTER – CREATION MURAL

Make a mural of the Earth using a large sheet of freezer paper. Before class time, color the land and the sea. Have a variety of colorful pictures such as animals, trees, fish, birds, fruit, or anything else God has created. If pictures are not available, have the children color pictures of these things. Then glue the pictures on the mural at the appropriate spot (e.g. animal on land, fish in sea). You may want to put them in the order of the days of creation. Include the sun, the moon, and some stars. Talk about all that is on the Earth and in space. Wonder out loud about from where all this could have come.

TEACHING TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

Sing the Message

SING “*God Made Me*” p.76 Little Ones Sing Praise.

SING “*Oh, Who Can Make a Flower*” p.74 Little Ones Sing Praise. Use this song throughout the lesson as noted.

TALK about:

- ◆ God made them.
- ◆ God is so big.
- ◆ God made animals and everything we see.
- ◆ God can do anything.

SING “*My God Is So Big*” p.23 Songs of God and Me. Teach actions to children.

Pray the Message

- ◆ Pray for each child by name and thank God for them.
- ◆ Thank God for the day and the opportunity to come to church and Sunday school.
- ◆ Pray for open hearts and minds to listen to the message of God’s Word.
- ◆ Thank God for His Word, the Bible.
- ◆ Thank God for His power and all that He has created.
- ◆ Thank God that He is the one, true Creator.

Learn the New Words

You can either introduce these words before reading the Bible lesson and/or highlight them as the lesson is read. Ask and explain the meaning as you come to them in the lesson.

create to produce, to bring into being, to make out of nothing

image a person or thing resembling another person or thing, a model

beginning to start, to come into existence

Introduce the Message

OPEN your Bible to the lesson text. It is important that the children know the lessons are true and that they come from the Bible. These stories are not fairy tales or made-up stories.

ASK the children from where they think everything came.

DISCUSS the fact that man cannot make anything from nothing. Man can’t make a tree without a seed, etc. The world and everything in it was not an accident and did not just happen.

ASK the children who created the heavens and the Earth.

ASK the children who created them.

Read/Tell the Message

GOD MADE THE WORLD

See student leaflet.

Reinforce the Message

ASK the following questions:

- ◆ Who created the heavens and the earth? (GOD)
- ◆ How many gods were there? (THE ONLY ONE: TRUE GOD)
- ◆ How did God create the world? (HE SPOKE. GOD HAS POWER OVER ALL THINGS.)

- ◆ What did God think of His creation? (IT WAS VERY GOOD.)
- ◆ What did God create? Name some of these things.
- ◆ In whose image were we created? (GOD'S)

SING "Oh, Who Can Make a Flower"
Substitute flower with other objects.

APPLYING THE BIBLE LESSON

Memorize the Bible Verse

SING the memory verse (Genesis 1:1) printed at the bottom of the activity page in the student leaflet:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

SAY the verse together with the children.

REPEAT the verse and point to the Creation mural to show the heavens and the earth OR use the map of space and of Earth.

SING the verse again a couple of times. Ask the questions, "Who made the heavens and the earth?" (GOD) and "How many gods were there?" (ONE).

Do the Activities Together

During the activity time, take a picture of each student for an activity they will be doing the following week. Develop the film and have the pictures ready for next week.

ACTIVITY 1 - LEAFLET - God Made the World

Let the children draw a picture of some things that God has created. Allow time for each child to tell about the drawing. Talk about God's wonderful creation and emphasize that there is only one God, and He created everything just by speaking.

While the children are drawing, SING "Oh, Who Can Make a Flower." Substitute flower with other objects. Then sing the memory verse again at the bottom of the page.

ACTIVITY 2 - CREATION PROJECT

The following activity will tie into later lessons and will provide an excellent discussion activity with the children for several weeks.

Plant something that germinates quickly such as a bean. This can be done as a class with just one large container or with individual foam cups or milk cartons. It may take a couple of weeks for the beans to sprout and grow, but until that time the project will serve as a great review. Have the children help with the planting and watering.

Place the plants in a sunny window and water each week. Discuss that God created the seed and will cause it to grow. God uses dirt, water, and the sun, all of which He created, to help the seed grow.

SING "Oh, Who Can Make a Flower."
Substitute flower with other objects.

ACTIVITY 3 - ART ACTIVITY - God Created Animals - Cat Mask

SAY: On the 6th day God created animals. He made many animals for us to enjoy. Today we are going to make a mask of a favorite pet animal. I'm going to give you some clues so you can guess what it is. It has four legs. It has a tail. It likes to sit in people's laps. Can you guess? It says meow. Yes, it is a cat!

Have the children each take a paper plate with precut eye holes and two ears precut. Have the children draw the cat's nose and whiskers on the plate. Then have them color their cat and ears the way they want to. Glue on the ears

and a tongue depressor stick for a handle. (Optional: could use black buttons for the nose and yarn for the whiskers and mouth.) The children will need extra help gluing on these objects.

Close by reminding the children that God created the cats and all the other animals on the 6th day just by speaking. Only God could do that!

SING “*Oh, Who Can Make a Flower.*”
Substitute flower with other objects.

CLOSING YOUR CLASS HOUR

Teach and Sing

“*Who Made the Sky So Bright and Blue?*” is the theme hymn for this quarter (p.372 Ambassador Hymnal and printed on back cover of student quarterly and teacher manual). Teach the hymn carefully and slowly so that all the children understand the words and can participate in singing the song together.

- ◆ Sing the first stanza as the children listen
- ◆ Say the words a phrase at a time and have students repeat after you.
- ◆ Say the words all together; then sing the song together.
- ◆ Teach one stanza at a time.

TEACH the first verse of the theme hymn, using the method(s) listed above. Have the children answer the questions found in the first verse. Repeat the same steps to teach stanzas 2 and 3. If time permits have each child name something God has created.

REVIEW other songs sung during this lesson.

Memory Verse Review

Sing the memory verse one more time with the students before they go. Ask the questions, “Who created the heavens and the earth?” (GOD), “How many Gods are there?” (ONE), and “How did He create the heavens and the earth?” (HE SPOKE).

Pray Together

Introduce prayer time by telling the children to fold their hands and sit quietly. Ask the children to think of something that they thank God for creating. If there are a number of children, you may want to write down what each child is thankful for so during the prayer you do not leave anyone out. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. Pray. Thank God for His creation and for His mighty power in that all He did was speak and creation came into being. Thank God that He is the one and only God and the creator of the heavens and the earth. Thank God for being the one true God. Thank God for the various things for which the children were thankful. Close the prayer by thanking God for creating each child in the class, in Jesus’ name, Amen.

PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK

Gather and Prepare Materials

Prepare Lesson 2

Begin your study and preparation with prayer.

Pray for each student daily by name.

Read the Bible text (Genesis 2:1-25) and student lesson.

Review the Bible verse:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. *Genesis 1:1*

Read the Teacher Manual.

Highlight, underline, and add you own notes for teaching the class session.