

GOD IS THE CREATOR

Creation of the World - Large Group

God is awesome
He has a big plan for me
God wants to be my closest friend

THE ESSENTIALS: GOD THE FATHER

Main point: God created everything; I am so thankful for all that He created.

FOR LEADER ONLY

God is the ultimate authority in all the world because He is the one who made it. He knows all about each one of us because He put us together. He can give us the best advice and help us in whatever situation we find ourselves because He is God. The Bible is full of stories illustrating this. Today we will study the story of creation. Through it we are reminded that God is our maker and we have so much to thank Him for. The point of this lesson is to introduce God in a very big and very interactive way. This is also the lesson in which we introduce the three principle themes of the curriculum. The story should be very interactive and fun. The story should also drive home the point that not only is God the creator of everything that they see, but God created all of this with only His words.

PREPARATION

For this lesson, a child will “act out” each step of creation. The actors needed will represent each of the following steps:

Light - a tall child stands up with arms and fingers extended toward the sky

Water - two children make waves with their arms

Cloud - a child stands up and puts his arms out to his sides around his abdomen, as if he were really fat

Land - child makes a triangle with his hands

Trees - two tall children extend their arms like branches

Flowers - two small children put their hands around their faces with their fingers spread apart

Sun - a tall child stands up and makes a large circle around his head with his arms

Stars - two small children do jazz hands in the air

Moon - a small child makes a small circle above his head with his hands

Bird - a child stands with his hands in fists at his shoulders and his elbows out as if flapping his wings

Fish - a child purses his lips like he is doing a fish face

Animals - two children on hands and knees - one moos like a cow and the other barks like a dog

Man

MATERIALS NEEDED

a sign for each of the children listed above with the category written on the sign and a string to hang the sign around the neck of a child

You will need a child to act out each part, which means you will need at least 15 actors including one that will be running across the stage space with the sign Word. The ideal situation would be that the kids would be crouched down on the stage with their signs on the ground. As the storyteller tells the story, each volunteer stands up and puts their sign around their neck when the Word passes by or taps them on the head. Then they strike their pose. After each actor stands up they should remain standing for the duration of the skit. The idea is that at the end of the story all the components of the earth will be standing on stage with Man in the middle. The Word will run from the storyteller to each object of creation, “awakening” it, and back.

It would be much easier if you pre-picked the volunteers. Before service starts, pick out your 15 actors and give them instruction on what they should do. Also, the storyteller should be standing off the side of the stage. The attention should be on the action not on the storyteller.

GETTING STARTED

Helper enters wearing a blindfold. He walks around the classroom, bumping into things and scrambling around. He trips over the stage, walks out into the crowd, and walks into a wall. The teacher walks in on this mess.

STORYTELLER

Whoa, whoa, whoa, _____ (fill in the name of the helper). What’s going on here?

Helper shouts:

HELPER

Nothing!

STORYTELLER

Ummmm it looks like something. What’s wrong?

Helper shouts again:

HELPER

Nothing! Nothing is what’s wrong!

STORYTELLER

I don't get it.

HELPER

There is just nothing good that I can see. There's nothing good; there's just nothing. You know another problem? Nobody has ever done anything for me and there is just nothing good here at all.

STORYTELLER

Really? Do you think some of the reason why you can't see anything good around you is because you are wearing a blindfold?

The helper shouts in major denial:

HELPER

NOOOOOO!!!!!! I am wearing this because I don't want to see anything!

STORYTELLER

You know _____ (*fill in the name of the helper*), sometimes we don't notice all of the good things around us. If you don't take that thing off, you will miss some *amazing* sights! God is awesome and He has done some really awesome things just for you.

HELPER

Really! Like what? Because I don't see a single thing.

STORYTELLER

Ok, well, let's hear a story about some of the huge and awesome things our God has done.

HELPER

Fine!

Helper sits down on stage with a grumpy frown, still blindfolded and angry.

TRANSITION

STORYTELLER

Sounds like someone needs to hear a little story about how great, big and awesome God is, and about all the great stuff that He has already done for us.

MEMORY VERSE

But first, we're going to learn our memory verse. Our memory verse for this week is **In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1**

We encourage you to incorporate competition somehow into learning the memory verse. Have a guys versus girls competition or a younger versus older kids competition, etc. See the example below.

Okay, let's practice it all together. **In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1**

We're going to have a contest to see who can say the memory verse the loudest. I want them to hear you in the sanctuary! Let me hear the boys say it as loud as you can!

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

Wow, good job. Now, girls, do you think you can beat them? I want to hear what you've got. Okay girls, all together: **In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1**

Great job! I think that the _____ (*fill in boys or girls*) won this week. This week we are going find out that God created all of the good things we see and enjoy here on Earth and we have so much to thank Him for. Let's begin!

BIBLE STORY

Throughout the story, the helper keeps lifting up blindfold to peak at all that's happening. By the end of the story, the blindfold should be around his neck.

STORYTELLER

This story is from the very beginning, the very, very beginning of all we know. This story is the beginning of the entire Bible!

Storyteller holding Bible.

I am going to need my volunteers to help me tell the story.

Gather all the volunteers, give them signs and have them crouch on the stage.

In the beginning, there was absolutely nothing. God was the only one and the only thing around. There was no earth, there were no stars, there was no sun. There was nothing but God. God has always existed and He will never go away. God is.

On the first day of all of history, God said, "Let there be light," and light was created. Word, go and touch the light. Light, I need you to stand as tall as you can and reach up with your arms and fingers extended as far as they will go.

The Word volunteer runs with the sign Word across the stage and taps the light volunteer on the head. Light stands up.

God saw that it was good, and that was the first day.

Then God said, "Let there be water and sky," and there it was. Word, go touch clouds and water. Clouds, I need you to make a circle with your arms around your stomach. Water, I need you to make wave motions with your arms. God saw that it was all good, and that was the second day.

Then God said, "Let there be land and oceans, and let the land produce trees and flowers of all kinds." His word went out, and He saw land, oceans, trees, and flowers. Word, go touch land, flowers and trees. Land, I need you to make a big triangle with your arms like a mountain. Flowers, I need you to put your hands around your face like this. Trees, I need you to put your arms up in the air and make big long swaying motions.

I think of all my favorite things like birds and mountains and snow and sunshine - God created them all! God is awesome! He's so powerful - He created the entire earth! I'm so thankful we have a God that's so great. If God is able to make the entire earth, how many more awesome things could he do for us? God created land, oceans, trees and flowers, and God saw that it was good. That was the third day.

Then God said, "Let there be sun, moon, and stars," and they sprang into existence. Word, go touch sun, moon, and stars. Sun, make a big circle with your arms around your head. Moon, make a smaller circle with your arms. Stars, open and close your hands slowly. God saw that it was good, and that was the fourth day.

The next day God said, "Let there be birds in the air and fish in the seas," and birds and fish appeared. Word, go touch the birds and the fish. Birds, make big flapping motions with your arms. Fish, make a fish face. God saw that it was good, and that was the fifth day.

Then God said, "Let there be animals that walk on the land," and there was. Word, go and touch the animals. Alright, cows moo and dogs bark. God said, "Let's make man--humans just like us." And the Bible says that God molded man out of the dust and breathed His life into him. He made both man and woman. Man and woman come on up.

So, who made you? God made you, and He has an awesome plan for you! He has a plan to bless you and for you to do great things for Him. God created the world with a plan, a plan for you. I'm so thankful God created us with great plans for us!

Okay, so God created animals and humans. God told the man, "Here is the earth and everything in it. I give it all to you. It is all yours to control and do with as you like." And God saw that it was good. That was the sixth day.

On the seventh day God rested from all of His work.

All of the beautiful things that we see around us - the animals and the sky and the clouds and the plants - God created them! And even more than that, God, the big huge creator of you, me, your mom, your dad, your dog, and the whole earth wants to be your best and closest friend forever! You were created with big plans in mind, and you were created by God.

Everybody give a big hand clap to all the actors! Thank you for your help. You may sit down.

Whoa, that was an amazing story! God is so good. It's so awesome that He created all the world, the plants and the animals, all that we see. And He created them for us! He gave you and me breath and life. Every day that we have is a gift from Him. There are so many things that we can be thankful for.

God is awesome, He has a huge plan for you and He wants to be your friend. He created everything you see, and we can thank Him for so much. We can thank God because He is the creator of everything!

CLOSING

The helper walks toward the storyteller with the blindfold around his neck.

STORYTELLER

What happened to your blindfold?

HELPER

Well, I've been thinking about the story you told us.

STORYTELLER

Really?

HELPER

Yeah, I didn't know that God made **all that stuff**.

STORYTELLER

_____ (*fill in the name of the helper*) can you think of some things that you can thank God for?

HELPER

I guess I can try. I have feet so that I can walk and some people don't so I can be thankful for that. I have hands so that I can write and play with toys. I have ears so I can hear music and a nose so that I can smell bread in the morning. I have a brother and two sisters that I really like. I have a cool church to come to as well. Wow, I have a lot of good things around me.

STORYTELLER

All these things you have, God made them. God even made you because He is awesome, because He has a huge plan for your life, and because He wants to be your closest friend. God is the creator of everything, and we can be thankful to Him for so much. Now, let's get rid of that blindfold!

Takes the blindfold from around the HELPER's neck and throws it to the side of the stage where it can no longer be seen.

STORYTELLER

Isn't life better when we look around at all God has made and thank Him?

HELPER

Yeah, you're right. Life is good! God is awesome.

APPLICATION

This week let's look all around us at everything we have and everything we can see, and let's thank God for all those things. It's really simple to thank God. You can just say, "Thank you God for the sun," or "Thank you God for the mountains" or "Thank you God for my sister and brother." God created everything. Let's thank Him!

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Think of somethings that you are grateful that God has created. Explain why you enjoy these things and what they mean to you.

DECLARATION

The declaration is an opportunity for everyone to declare how the material that they learned today affects what they believe. Before class, prepare the declaration on a poster board so that you can all say it together.

Let's say our declaration all together:

God created the earth and everything in it. He made me, and He has great plans for me. He is the giver of great gifts, and I am thankful.

PRAYER

Thank you, Father God for You are so awesome and powerful. You created the heavens, the earth and us. Father, we thank You for all the things you have created. You alone are good and awesome. Thank you for creating us and the earth so that we can enjoy it. In Jesus name.

SALVATION PRAYER

You may use this prayer or substitute in the prayer that your church uses, but do be sure to be consistent in praying the same prayer every week. There are many benefits to this including that children will learn the prayer and be able to lead their friends to Christ in confidence.

Without anyone moving, everyone keep your heads bowed and eyes closed, I want you to listen to me. There may be some of you who heard today about God and thought to yourself, I don't know God. I want to know God more. If that describes you and you've never asked Jesus to be Lord of your life, we're going to pray a prayer in just a moment and I want you to pray with us. Let's pray.

Dear God, I know I need a Savior and I know I can't save myself. Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God. I believe You died on the cross for my sins and God raised You from the dead. Right now, I say that you are my Lord and my Savior, as the one who forgives me and restores me. Thank you, Jesus my past is forgiven. I have a relationship with you. I am a new creation in Christ because I've said yes to You.

If you just prayed that prayer for the first time, that was the best decision you'll ever make. If you just prayed that prayer for the first time, I want you to raise your hand. We're going to hand you a card and we want you to fill it out with your name, your parents' names, and your information so that we can pray for you.

WORSHIP

Isn't our God awesome? He created you and me, and He has given us so many good things. Today in our songs, we're going to praise God for creating us and caring about us as His children. Everyone stand up and praise the Lord with me.

WRAP UP

Thanks for coming today, everybody. You did a great job. Don't forget that God is the creator of everything. He created the world. He created you, and He created me. Let's thank God this week for the awesome things He has given us!