

LESSON 1

God Creates the World

GENESIS 1



BIBLE TRUTH

GOD IS THE POWERFUL AND MAJESTIC MAKER OF ALL THINGS

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. **OPENING REVIEW** 5 MIN
Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
2. **BIBLE STORY** 10 MIN
Read Genesis 1 from the Scriptures or read story 1, "God Creates the World," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
3. **OBJECT LESSON 1** 10 MIN
Count the Stars
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ telescopic photograph of the stars (available from the Internet [<http://www.stsci.edu/outreach> or <http://hubblesite.org/>] or local library)—one copy for each student
4. **TEACHING/DISCUSSION** 10 MIN
5. **OBJECT LESSON 2** 20 MIN
Draw a Day
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ drawing paper
 - ✓ colored pencils
 - ✓ hat or bowl
6. **WORD BIBLE MEMORY** 5 MIN
7. **ACTIVITY TIME** 10 MIN
The Solar System
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ crayons, colored pencils, and paper
 - ✓ pictures of the solar system in an astronomy book or downloaded from the Internet (<http://hubblesite.org/>)
 - ✓ (optional) coloring page 1—one copy for each child
8. **CLOSING PRAYER** 5 MIN
9. **BONUS OBJECT LESSON** 10 MIN
Pipe Cleaner Animals
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ assorted pipe cleaners (four per child)

TOTAL 85 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

God existed before all things—At the very beginning of the Bible, Genesis tells us that God existed before all things. It also tells us that he is the awesome Creator of everything—the whole universe and everything in it. Imagine what it would have been like to watch God form the universe by his mighty power! What amazing power God has that he can create the world and all of the heavens above!

God spoke creation into existence—God created all things, and most of the time he did so simply by speaking. All God had to do to make the planets and stars, the oceans and the mountains, and the trees and the animals was speak them into existence. He made them from nothing.

God made man in his image—After speaking everything else into existence, God made man in his own image. But this time, he didn't do it by speaking; instead, he formed man from the dust of the earth (see Genesis 2). Then, God put man in authority over everything on earth.

This makes man very different from the rest of creation, and shows God's intention to have a personal relationship with man. So, man was formed by God into God's image, and given some of God's authority and leadership over the earth.

Everything God made was good—When creation was complete, the Bible says it was very good. There was no death, no sin, and no imperfection in the creation.

WHERE IS JESUS?

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

Read Colossians 1:15–17.

In Colossians 1:15–16, we read that Jesus is the firstborn over all creation and that all things were created by him and for him. The creation was made by the Lord, for the Lord.

In the very next verse, Colossians 1:17, we learn something very important. After Paul tells us that Jesus created all things in the beginning, he says Jesus is doing something else, even right now. Jesus is holding all things together. The stars continue to shine and plants continue to grow because Jesus holds everything together.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Genesis 1 from the Scriptures or read story 1, "God Creates the World," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 10 MIN

Count the Stars

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ telescopic photograph of the stars (available from the Internet [<http://www.stsci.edu/outreach> or <http://hubblesite.org/>] or local library)—one copy for each student

Find a place in the telescopic photograph where the stars can be individually counted. Draw a circle around one hundred stars. Depending on how concentrated the photo is your circle may be larger or smaller. Give a copy of the photo to each of the students in your class.

Simply ask them to try to count the number of stars in the circle. The point of this exercise is not to finish but for the children to realize how amazing the creation is. Then inform the children that the Bible tells us that God not only knows how many stars there are but also knows the stars by name!

TEACHING/DISCUSSION **10 MIN**

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 **10 MIN**

Draw a Day

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ drawing paper
- ✓ colored pencils
- ✓ hat or bowl

Prior to class cut up enough small slips of paper to give one to each student. Write the numbers 1 through 6 on the slips of paper. (If you have twelve children in your class there should be two of each number. If you have eighteen there will be three of each number.) Fold the papers in half and drop them in a bowl.

Each student should pull a number out of the bowl. The number they choose is the day of creation that they are to draw on a piece of paper. Allow students to trade if they wish. Give the children several minutes to draw their day of creation. Take notice of their creative drawings, and have the children explain what they drew.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY **5 MIN**

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

ACTIVITY TIME **10 MIN**

The Solar System

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ crayons, colored pencils, and paper
- ✓ pictures of the solar system in an astronomy book or downloaded from the Internet (<http://hubblesite.org/>)
- ✓ (optional) coloring page 1—one copy for each child

The children can either use the preschool coloring sheets or draw a picture of the solar system on a blank sheet of paper.

Share with the children that the earth is the only planet in our solar system that can support life. It is perfectly placed in relation to the sun to benefit from the warmth of the sun without becoming too hot. All of the other planets are either too hot or too cold. This is another sign of God's perfect design.

CLOSING PRAYER **5 MIN**

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON **10 MIN**

Pipe Cleaner Animals

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ assorted pipe cleaners (four per child)

Ask the class to create an animal by bending and twisting the pipe cleaners into shapes. While the children are working on their creations, talk about how God created real animals, just by speaking them into existence and how only he can make animals that are alive.

