

GOD CREATES THE WORLD

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GENESIS 1



The STORY

Read "The Beginning" and "The Special Helper" stories from The Beginner's Bible (pages 9-13).

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- Who can remember what God made first?

Day #	Creation
1	Light and darkness
2	Firmament or expanse (The sky is an easy way for children to understand)
3	Oceans and dry land are separated and plants are created
4	Stars, sun, and moon

- How did God create the light? (God just said "Let there be light", and it happened.)
- What do we learn about God when we study the way that he made things? (We learn that God is full of power and that the things he created are good, which speaks of his goodness.)

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CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: the solar system. Engage the children by asking:

- What do we call all the planets together? (The solar system.)
- How did God design the solar system to work?
Explain how the planets each spin and also revolve around the sun and how the moon revolves around the earth.
- What keeps all the planets floating in space without crashing into one another?
Read Colossians 1:17 and encourage the children to memorize it. "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- What is light? (Light can be seen but not tasted or touched. Light can be blocked but not captured in a box. Light moves so fast you can't see it move, it is just there.)
Light is electromagnetic radiation but obviously none of the children will know that. The point of this question is to help them appreciate the wonders of God, which should become evident with the difficulty of explaining something we can see but not hold. Help the children be amazed at what God invented.
- Let's try and name as many plants as we can. God has created so many different kinds.
The children might start by giving generic names like flowers and trees. Steer them toward specific names like oak, apple, sunflower, poison ivy, etc. See how many different names they can come up with and help them marvel at how creative God is in making all the different kinds of plants.



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Where is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

In Colossians 1:15-16 we are told 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.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

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.

