



2

Creation Days 1–4

Key Themes

- The Bible tells us how God created the universe.
- God created the universe from nothing in six days.

Key Passages

- Genesis 1:3, 1:5, 1:10, 1:12, 1:14

Lesson Focus

- God spoke, and everything was created!



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Children will color a picture of one of God's creations on the God Made . . . Sky coloring sheet.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Prayer page of the Flip Chart, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God's Word—God spoke and everything was created! He is all-powerful (omnipotent). During Days One through Four, God created light, sky, land, sea, plants; and the sun, moon, and stars.

Song—Children will sing the Memory Verse Exodus 20:11 to the tune of "Jingle Bells." They will review the days of creation by singing "God Created!"



Activity 1: Can You Say "Om-ni-po-tent"?

Children will pass a bean bag around as they repeat each syllable in the word, "omnipotent" and then shout out ALL-POWERFUL! They can go faster or slower, louder or softer to make it more exciting!



Activity 2: Creation Poster

Use pieces of different colored paper taped together as a background to represent the sky during the day and night, and also the land and the sea. Students will apply stickers or pictures of created things on the proper background color according to what was created on each day.



Memory Verse Review/Snack

Children will review the memory verse while enjoying the snack for the day. You may want to use the snack as incentive to recite and/or repeat the memory verse.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



COME ON IN

- Print one copy of the God Made . . . Sky coloring sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- God Made . . . Sky coloring sheets
- Crayons



CIRCLE TIME

- Bring a stuffed animal for prayer time.
- Practice the songs on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.
- Gather pictures of things created from each Creation Day (Days 1–4) such as: light, dark, day sky, night sky, oceans, beaches, flowers, trees, fruits, vegetables, sun, moon, stars, etc. (You may also use these pictures for Activity 2.)
- Gather some real fruit, vegetables, seeds, and leaves to show.

- Bible
- Lesson Flip Chart
- Stuffed animal
- Pictures to show
- Real fruit, vegetables, seeds, and leaves to show
- Instruments to play during song time (optional)



CAN YOU SAY “OM-NI-PO-TENT”?

- No special preparation necessary.

- Beanbag or ball



CREATION POSTER

- Tape colored paper together for creation poster and hang in prominent place within children’s reach.
- Gather stickers or cut out pictures of created things pertaining to the creation days in the lesson. (You may use the same pictures that were shown during the lesson.)

- Pieces of butcher or construction paper in light blue (day sky), black (night sky), medium blue (sea), and brown (land). Make each colored section approx. 2’X2’ so completed poster will be at least 4’X4’.
- Stickers or pictures
- Adhesive for pictures (Scrap-booking adhesive is clean and simple to roll on.)
- Container for pictures and stickers—large enough for children to reach in and pull out a picture



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Lesson Flip Chart for memory verse review
- Snacks



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

To prepare for this lesson, read Genesis 1.

Through the book of Genesis, God intended for us to know specifically what He created and how long it took Him to create. The creation account allows us just a small glimpse of the power—the omnipotence—of our mighty God as He speaks, by the power of His Word, the entire universe into existence. Our lesson this week will include Days 1–4 (Genesis 1:1–19).

Day One includes the heavens, the formless earth, the waters covering the earth, and light which was separated from darkness. In addition to that, time itself began on the first day (Genesis 1:3–5).

On Day Two God created the “firmament” or “expanse.” The Hebrew word is *raqiya*, and it has the idea of something spread out. This firmament was called “heaven,” and this is what God created to separate the waters below from the waters above (Genesis 1:6–8).

God caused the dry land to appear and gathered the seas together to one place on the earth. He then spoke the grass, herbs, and trees into existence. This was Day Three (Genesis 1:9–13).

God again spoke and created lights in the expanse of the heavens—the sun, moon, stars, and other heavenly bodies appeared on Day Four (Genesis 1:14–19).

The Hebrew word for “created” is a word that depicts the making of something from nothing. God created our world *ex nihilo*—out of nothing that had previously existed (see Hebrews 11:3). The Bible reiterates that God is Creator in several other passages: Psalm 148:4–6; Isaiah 40:25–26; Colossians 1:15–16; Revelation 4:11. He spoke and it came to be. This is impossible for us to comprehend. But it should leave us breathless in the knowledge that He alone is worthy of our praise.

APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Those who want to fit evolution (and its millions of years) into the creation account in Genesis often reinterpret the 24-hour days in Genesis to be millions of years in length. As Christians who stand firmly on the authority of God’s Word, we believe that a day is a day—24 hours—just as the Bible says.

We can understand the length of the days of creation by exploring the Hebrew word for “day” in Gen-

esis 1, which is *yom* (rhymes with home). First, almost any word can have more than one meaning, depending on context. *Yom* can have several meanings. It can mean a day (an ordinary 24-hour day), the daylight portion of an ordinary 24-hour day (i.e., day as distinct from night), or an indefinite period of time describing an era (e.g., in the day of the judges, in the day of the Lord, or in my grandfather’s day).

When determining the meaning of the word *yom* in the context of Scripture, theologians have relied on Hebrew dictionaries like the *Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew Lexicon*. This respected Hebrew resource actually gives Genesis 1 as an example of an instance in Scripture where the word *yom* refers specifically to a 24-hour day.

We also know that the Hebrew word *yom* always refers to an ordinary day when associated with a number and the words “evening” or “morning.” In fact, whenever the word *yom* is used in the Old Testament in this way, it clearly refers to a 24-hour day. This simple study of the Hebrew language confirms the Genesis account of creation in six 24-hour days.

The study of Genesis and its accuracy as to the age of the earth is never far from a discussion of fossils. Fossils are the remains, traces, or imprints of dead plants or animals that have been preserved in the earth’s near-surface rock layers. Secular scientists view fossils as evidence for a long prehistory for the earth and life on it—spanning millions of years.

Creationists view the same fossil deposits around the world and understand that these had to be formed by the rapid burial of countless billions of plants and animals. This rapid burial, when looked at through the lens of Scripture, is consistent with a global, catastrophic, year-long Genesis Flood which occurred, according to the biblical time frame, about 4,300 years ago.

Why is this an important issue? Because millions of years of history create an insurmountable problem regarding the gospel. The fossil record consists of the death of billions of creatures. It is a record of death, disease, suffering, cruelty, and brutality. The Bible makes it clear that God’s creation was “very good” (Genesis 1:31) and that it was the sin of Adam that brought death, disease, and suffering into the world (Genesis 2:17; Romans 5:12). Death is the penalty for sin; Jesus Christ is the remedy. When Christians allow for death, suffering, and disease before sin, they are ignoring the exclusive message of the Cross and

Christ's atoning work there, and they impugn the character of God who called His creation "very good."

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prior to the 1700s, few believed in an old earth. Most people accepted the biblical account of Genesis and believed that the earth was approximately 6,000 years old. The subjective concepts of old age and uniformitarian geology—the view that slow and gradual processes, rather than a global catastrophe, created the earth's rock layers—started in the mid-1700s and 1800s. This was the beginning of the surrender of the truth of Genesis and the belief in millions of years of earth's history.

These concepts have weakened the culture of the western world and have affected the church because they attack the veracity of the very Word of God. Genesis 1 tells us exactly how God created the universe and exactly how long it took Him. To deny the very beginning verses of God's Word is to open the door of compromise to many other scriptural truths. The church is rushing down that road of compromise and

must realize the urgent need to ignite a new reformation—calling believers back to the absolute authority of the Bible.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

El Shaddai, God Almighty, I worship you as my Creator. Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from your Law this week. Help me to have a teachable heart as I prepare, that I will learn new truths from your Word. Then help me pass that understanding on to my class. Open their hearts so they believe the wonderful truths about creation. Help them to gain confidence to believe your Word above man's word. And please dear Father, bring them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will color the God Made . . . Sky coloring sheet. Talk to them about the amazing things we see in the sky.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class. Remember, children learn by repetition and review.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the lesson pages from the Flip Chart. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds, and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your Bible, Flip Chart, stuffed animal, pictures of created things, real fruit and vegetables, seeds and leaves, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible Study with prayer. Let's pray. *Turn to the Prayer Page in the Flip Chart. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.*

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Adoration is suggested. You might proceed this way:

Today let's say prayers of adoration—and tell God how much we love Him.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their own confidence in praying to God.

I'll start. Dear God, you are so great and powerful. Today I want to praise you for . . . *(insert personal prayer here).*

➤ Prior to making your transition to circle time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the circle time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer telling God they love Him.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away and we'll get into God's Word.

GOD'S WORD

These first four questions will be repeated each week. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

? Before we begin, what is this? *Hold up your Bible. The Bible!*

? What is in this Bible? *God's holy Word!*

? What does the Bible tell us? *Everything we need to know!*

? And all God's Words in this Bible are what? *True!*

Last week we learned that God made everything in just six days. The Bible tells us what special things God created each day. Let's think again about Day One. *Open Flip Chart to Lesson 2. Point to Day One on the chart.*

? What did God make on that first day? *Read from your Bible, Genesis 1:3. Light.*

? That's right. What did God call the light and the darkness? Listen to what God's true Word says. *Read Genesis 1:5 emphasizing "day" and "night."*

God spoke and there was light and dark; night and day! *Point to Day One on the chart.*

What about Day Two? The Bible tells us that God made the sky. Wow! The sky is so big! But God spoke and the sky was created! What a powerful God He is! *Point to Day Two on the chart.*

? What is one thing God created on Day Three? Listen as I read. *Read Genesis 1:10 emphasizing "dry land."*

? Then God put something on the land. Listen carefully! You can tell me! *Read Genesis 1:12 emphasizing "grass," "trees," "fruit."*

Yes! He made plants grow! *Point to Day Three on the Flip Chart.*

Take a look at what I brought today. These all came from plants that God made. *Show some fruits, vegetables, or seeds, telling the names of each plant they came from.*

They're all different aren't they? But do you think that if we planted this (sunflower) seed we would get (an apple tree) from it? *Use whatever examples you have on hand.*

Of course not! God tells us right here in His Word that He made plants and fruits with seeds "according to their kinds." Listen to how God tells us. *Read Genesis 1:12 again emphasizing "according to their kinds."*

So a banana tree will always give us bananas—not coconuts! And an acorn will always grow into an oak tree, not a maple tree.

► As you teach this, refer often to the Flip Chart picture to keep the children engaged.

Genesis 1:3

Genesis 1:5

Genesis 1:10

Genesis 1:12

Now let's talk about Day Four. The Bible says that God put something in the sky. Listen to this! *Read Genesis 1:14.*

- ? Hmm. What do you think those lights in the sky were? *Allow for answers. Sun, moon, and stars.*

And the Bible tells us that God put two great lights in the sky. One of them was for daytime.

- ? What great light do you see in the sky during the day? *Sun.*

That's right; we see the sun in the sky during the day.

- ? What about at night? What is the big light we see at night? *Moon.*

Right again. We see the moon at night. The Bible also tells us that God made the stars, too. *Point to Day Four on the Flip Chart.*

- ? How many stars are in the sky? *Allow for answers. So many, we can't count them all.*

Wow! What a powerful God! He spoke and the sun and the moon appeared. He spoke again and all the stars were created. God is omnipotent!

- ? Who remembers what that means? We talked about it last time! *Allow for answers.*

"Omnipotent" means that God is all-powerful. He is more powerful than anything else in the whole universe!

Let's look at some pictures of things that God made on Days One, Two, Three, and Four. I want you to tell me which day God created them. *As a review, show the pictures you have brought in for Activity 2. Have the students say which day each thing was created as you point to the corresponding days on the Flip Chart.*

- ? Who remembers how God created these things? *He spoke and everything was created!*

- ? Does anyone remember how long it took God to make all these wonderful things? *Six days.*

That's right! God created everything in six normal 24-hour days. Remember the Bible says, "And there was evening and there was morning." *Do the motions for sleeping/waking.*

That's how we know it didn't take millions of years! God is all-powerful, omnipotent! He spoke and everything was created! The Bible tells us about creation.

- ? And all the words in the Bible are what? *True!*

SONG

Alright everyone. Let's stand up and sing our song about how God made all things. *Turn to Memory Verse page in the Flip Chart. Pointing at each picture, sing the song*

➤ Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse page and Song page during this part of the lesson.

through several times as time permits to the tune of "Jingle Bells." As the children get to know the song better, you may want them to use instruments or march as they sing.

That was wonderful! Let's review all seven days of God's Creation by singing the "God Created!" song. Sing through the song once or twice as time allows. You may want to add clapping, motions, stomping, or marching.

Lyrics to these songs can be found on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.



Can You Say "Om-ni-po-tent"?

This will be a continuation of the circle time today. You may want to have the children move to another part of the room to form a different circle, just to get them moving a bit.

Now, let's play the Omnipotent Game.

- ? Who remembers what that word means? *All powerful!*

MATERIALS

- Beanbag or soft, spongy ball

INSTRUCTIONS

This is to be done while standing in a circle. Each child will repeat one syllable of the word, "om-ni-po-tent," as he or she passes the ball around. When all the syllables have been said, everyone should shout out the whole word together **OMNIPOTENT!** then shout out **ALL POWERFUL!**

Pass the bean bag and repeat like this: om (pass) ni (pass) po (pass) tent (pass) **OMNIPOTENT** (pass) **ALL POWERFUL!** (pass) and repeat. Keep going around the circle. Use

variations like slower, faster, louder, softer, jumping or marching in place, etc. while repeating the word and saying it in syllables.

Have the children sit down in the circle when you're finished with the game.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

- ? Who remembers what the word omnipotent means? *All-powerful.*
- ? Who is the only one that is omnipotent? *God.*

That's right. God is the only one that is all-powerful. All He had to do was speak and everything was created. And He created everything in six normal 24-hour days! What an awesome God! What an omnipotent God!

The children may remain sitting in the circle for the next activity while an assistant prepares snacks at the table.



Creation Poster

God is omnipotent. He created everything just by saying so. But did you know that the Bible also tells us that everything He made was good? That's right! Everything was good. And when He created all the plants He created them "according to their kinds." Remember, that means an apple seed will only grow into an apple tree. *Refer to the fruit, seeds, etc. you brought into class.*

Let's work together to make a poster showing some of these good things that God made on the first four days of Creation Week.

MATERIALS

- Four pieces of butcher, scrapbook, or construction paper. Each colored section should be approximately 2'X2'—light blue, black, medium blue and brown. The poster will be approx. 4'X4', although it could be made smaller if only small-sized stickers will be used.
- Tape for hanging poster to the wall.
- Pictures and/or stickers of created things from Creation Days 1–4 (make sure there are enough for each child to participate and to put at least one created thing into each colored area.)
- Adhesive for sticking pictures to poster.
- Bag or container for pictures/stickers; large enough for children to reach in and pull out a picture/sticker.

INSTRUCTIONS

Ahead of time: tape together light blue and black side by side. Then below those, tape on medium blue and brown.

Label each section: brown is land; medium blue is the sea; light blue is daytime sky; black is nighttime sky.

This poster shows us four things God created. We have the day sky (light blue section), the night sky (black section), the sea (medium blue section), and the land (brown section).

In this bag are pictures of some of the good things that God created. When I call on you, come up here and reach into the bag. Pull out one picture and show it to everyone. Then you will have to think about where to stick it on our poster.

Should it go in the light blue sky? Or in the dark night sky? Maybe it will go on the brown land or in the blue water. *Point out each area on the poster as you explain.*

Ready? I'm watching to see who I should pick first.

Allow the children to work together to determine where to hang their pictures. Continue taking turns attaching the pictures to the poster until the bag is empty.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Look how beautiful our poster is now! What an amazing, omnipotent God. He spoke and all of these things were created. God looked at them all and said that they were good.



Memory Verse/Snack

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them.

After thanking God for your snack, review the memory verse with the children while enjoying the snack for the day. You may want to use the snack as incentive to recite and/or repeat the memory verse.

Use the Memory Verse page in the Flip Chart. Explain the verse to the children as you go over the verse together. Say the verse and point at each picture several times. Ask the children if anyone wants to try and say it on his/her own.



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Now let's take a look at the first four days of creation again. Turn to the Flip Chart Lesson page and refer to the classroom poster you just made together.

? Who remembers what God created on the first day? *Light.* The second day? *Sky.* How about the third day? *Dry land, sea, plants.* And who remembers what He made on the fourth day? *Sun, moon and stars.*

? How did God create all of these things? Allow for answers. He spoke and everything was created!

How long did it take God to create all of these things? Remember—"And there was evening and there was morning." Do the motions for sleeping/waking. Six normal 24-hour days!

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.

Some people don't believe that God created everything. Sometimes even we forget that He is an omnipotent God. But the Bible tells us that He did create all things. And He said they were all good things too. This week, let's remember to thank God for these wonderful things He's made. Next time you see the stars at night or the flowers in your yard, or hear the birds singing, or eat your favorite food; remember to tell God, "thank you" for all those good things He shares with us.



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God for the many good things He created.
- Thank God for His omnipotence.
- Thank God for His love for us.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring page, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

EXODUS 20:11—THE LORD MADE

(To the tune of "Jingle Bells")

Exodus 20:11!

(Everyone shout!)

In six days, in six days,

(Jingle bells, jingle bells,)

The Lord made the heavens and the earth.

(Jingle all the way.)

God made the heavens and the earth, the

sea, *(Oh, what fun it is to ride,)*

And all that is in the—em!

(In a one-horse open slei—eigh!)

In six days, in six days,

The Lord made the heavens and the earth.

God made the heavens and the earth, the

sea,

And all that is in them! Hey!

Exodus 20:11!

GOD CREATED!

(To the tune of "This Old Man")

Hold up 1 finger for Creation Day 1.

God made day, God made night,

(This old man, he played one,)

God made everything in sight.

(He played knick-knack on my thumb.)

So let's stand up, turn around,

(With a knick-knack paddywhack,)

Thank God for His grace.

(Give a dog a bone.)

With a big, happy smile on our face!

(This old man came rolling home.)

Hold up 2 fingers for Creation Day 2.

He made the air, the blue sky too.

He knew exactly what to do.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace,

With a big, happy smile on our face!

Hold up 3 fingers for Creation Day 3.

He made the plants and the land,

From the hardest rock to the softest sand.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

Hold up 4 fingers for Creation Day 4.

He made the stars, the moon, the sun.

Exploring the sky is so much fun.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

Hold up 5 fingers for Creation Day 5.

He made the fish, the birds that fly;

We see them daily in the sky.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

Hold up 6 fingers for Creation Day 6.

All the animals that roam the land,

He even created woman and man.

So let's stand up, turn around,

Thank God for His grace.

With a big, happy smile on our face.

