

LIFE POINT
God made the
world.

GOD CREATED THE WORLD



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Genesis 1:1-19

WEEKLY VERSE

In the beginning, God made the world. *Genesis 1:1*

UNIT VERSE

I am wonderfully made.
Psalms 139:14

SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

August 2

From deep-sea diving to mountain climbing and from bird-watching to stargazing, there is no end to discovering and experiencing the world in which we live. Oceans are vastly different from mountaintops and so are the animals that inhabit them. There are thousands of bird species, but there are billions upon billions of stars!

Genesis 1–2 tells how everything happened. The very first verse of the Bible declares that God created heaven and earth—the entire universe. The verses that follow go into more detail about the Creator’s amazing act of making something out of absolutely nothing.

The original Hebrew words for *formless* and *empty* are *tohu* and *bohu* (*tohubohu* or *tohu wa-bohu*) and have a similar sound when read aloud. The wordplay helps us understand the nothingness from which God brought the universe. Translated, together the words indicate that the earth had no form or shape and that there was nothing on it.

God’s spoken words created light on the first day and the sky on the second. On the third day God spoke, and the water receded and formed seas with the resulting land bringing forth vegetation. God set the sun, moon, and stars in place on day four.

For the ancient Hebrews, there was no wondering about God’s creative process. They accepted God and His acts, all of them, at “faith value.” Their unwavering belief in God gave no room for speculation. How easily are you able to believe in God’s omnipotence to create *ex nihilo*, out of nothing?

How can you help the preschoolers in your group understand that God is the only One who could do what He did? It is vitally important to prepare children now for a later time when they will need to refute nonbiblical accounts of creation.



GROUP TIME

- » **Move to music.** Play “Everything in the Universe.” Invite preschoolers to move to the music.
- » **Say the Weekly Verse.** Gather children to sit in a circle. Play “Peace and Quiet” and pass the Bible around the circle. Randomly pause the music. The child holding the Bible should locate a puzzle piece and place it in the center of the circle. Continue until all pieces are found. Help preschoolers to put together the puzzle. Point to each word as you say the verse aloud. Lead preschoolers to repeat the verse after you in short phrases. Open the Bible and show the verse to preschoolers.
- » **Tell the Bible story.** Display the Creation Poster. Explain that for the next several weeks boys and girls will be learning about the things God made. Open your Bible to Genesis 1. Tell the Bible story in your own words. Attach each of the days 1–4 pictures onto the poster.

GOD CREATED THE WORLD

—Based on Genesis 1:1-19

In the beginning, God created the world. Water covered the earth, and there was no light.

God said, “Let there be light!” Suddenly the light began to shine. Now there was both light and darkness. God called the light *day* and darkness *night*. This was the first day.

On the second day, God created a huge space above the earth. He called the huge space *sky*.

On day three, God made dry land. He gathered water into oceans, rivers, and lakes. God made plants and trees to grow on the earth. He created the plants and trees so that each kind of plant would have its own seed. Some of the trees grew fruit.

Then God said, “Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night.” He made the sun to shine during the day and the moon and stars to shine at night. This was the fourth day.

God saw that all He had created was good.

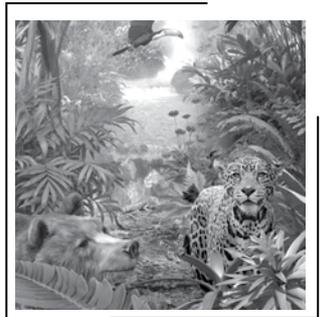
- » **Review the Bible story.** Display the Teaching Picture. Lead children to recall the first thing God created when He made the world (*light*). Turn on the flashlight. Invite children to take turns shining the flashlight on the poster as they recall what God created on the first four days.
- » **Pray together.** Lead the preschoolers to pray in a litany. Thank God for something He made and lead preschoolers to say “God made the world” after your statement. Example: “Thank You, God, for day and night. *God made the world*. Thank You, God, for trees. *God made the world*. Thank You, God, for the moon. *God made the world*.”
- » **Wrap it up.** Show the “God Created the World” video. Play “The Beginning.” Lead children to sing along.

CHOOSE

your own

SCHEDULE

Decide when to have group time; then select learning activities to use before and/or after group time.



- » Pack Items 14, 36, 37: “Weekly Verses,” “Creation Poster,” “Days of Creation (Days 1–4)”
- » Printables: “Genesis 1:1 Puzzle”
- » Teaching Picture 9
- » Music
- » Videos
- » Bible, flashlight, painters tape
- » Cut out the Days of Creation. Place a piece of rolled tape onto the back side of days 1–4. Print and cut apart the Genesis 1:1 Puzzle. Place each piece of the puzzle between different pages of the Bible.



BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

› Pack Items 36, 37:
“Creation Poster,” “Days
of Creation (Days 1–4)”

› Kids Activity Page

› Bible, paper squares, star
stickers, flower stickers,
fruit stickers, small
branches (one per child)
or 18-inch dowels, yarn
or string, tape, child-size
scissors, crayons

Note: Post an “Allergy
Alert” (Printables) if
using branches.

› Pack Items 38, 39:
“Creation Race,” “Game
Cube”

› Bible, 4 game pieces or
small toys, puzzles about
creation and nature

› Teaching Picture 9

› Printables: “Allergy
Alert”

› Leaves, pine cones,
apples, oranges, acorns,
twigs or sticks, other
items that grow on trees,
magnifying glasses,
pencils, paper

MAKE A CREATION MOBILE

Cut yarn into various lengths for each mobile.

- › Guide children to complete the Activity Page using the Creation Poster as a guide.
- › Invite boys and girls to make mobiles. They can stick stickers to the squares of paper or draw pictures of flowers, trees, the sun, and the moon on paper squares.
- › Allow each child to make as many squares as she chooses.
- › Help a child tape each of her squares to the end of a piece of yarn.
- › Assist preschoolers in tying the pieces of yarn to their sticks to create their creation mobiles.
- › Open your Bible. Read Genesis 1:1.
- › Comment that God made the world. Talk about the Bible story as preschoolers work. *(Art)*

PLAY A GAME

Prepare the cube.

- › Invite a few preschoolers to play the Creation Race board game. Explain that everyone will start on the 1 space. Children will take turns rolling the cube and moving the number of spaces shown forward or backward. The object of the game is to reach the Day 7 circle in the center.
- › As preschoolers play the game or work puzzles, remind them of the things God created on each of the first four days of creation.
- › Use the puzzles and game to talk about the Bible story. Say that all God made was good.
- › Help a child open the Bible to Genesis 1 and find the Bible story.
- › Say that God made the world in six days and rested on the seventh.
- › Pray. Thank God for making a beautiful world. *(Puzzles)*

EXPLORE TREE ITEMS

Arrange items on a table or trays on the floor. List nature items you have on the Allergy Alert and post it near the door for parents to see.

- › Invite the children to explore the various items. They can use the magnifying glasses to examine the items closely. They can draw or write their observations on paper.
- › Ask the children to think about what the items have in common. Listen as they express their ideas. Tell the preschoolers that all these items can be found on different trees.
- › Talk about the Bible story. Look at the Teaching Picture. Remark that God made the world just by speaking.
- › Say today’s Bible verse. Lead the children to repeat it after you.
- › Encourage preschoolers to name other plants God made. *(Nature)*

ARRANGE FLOWERS

Post the Allergy Alert if using real flowers. Mark the verse in the Bible.

- › Invite preschoolers to place floral marbles and arrange flowers in the various vases and cups. (Supervise closely the use of the marbles.)
- › Encourage children to recall things God created (*plants, trees, flowers, vegetables, fruit*).
- › Open the Bible to the Weekly Verse. Read the verse aloud. Lead children to say the verse along with you. (*Dramatic Play*)

BUILD WITH NATURE ITEMS

Post the Allergy Alert.

- › Encourage preschoolers to build and to incorporate the nature items into their structures.
- › Open the Bible to Genesis 1. Recall things God created on the first four days of creation.
- › Pray. Thank God for allowing us to live in such a beautiful world.
- › Challenge preschoolers to arrange blocks to make designs of objects from creation (sun, tree, flower). (*Blocks*)

PLAY SAND SHAKERS

Post the Allergy Alert.

- › Using the funnels, assist the children in pouring 2 inches of sand into the plastic bottles. Seal the lids with tape.
- › Play “The Beginning.” Lead the preschoolers to shake their shakers as they listen to or sing the song.
- › Remark that God made the sand. Talk about other things that God made in the world.
- › Display the missions pictures. Tell the boys and girls that Sally helps children in Mozambique learn about God and Jesus. Sally tells Bible stories like the story about God’s creation.
- › Open the Bible to Genesis 1 and point to the Bible story. (*Music*)

EXPLORE CREATION BOOKS

- › Invite preschoolers to color the coloring page. Remark that God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh.
- › Encourage boys and girls to explore the books and talk about God’s creation.
- › Pray, thanking God for making the world.

CLEAN UP

- › Play “Peace and Quiet” as you lead children to clean the room. Challenge preschoolers to clean up everything before the song ends.

› Pack Item 14: “Weekly Verses”

› Printables: “Allergy Alert”

› Bible, real or artificial flowers and greenery, plastic vases or cups, floral marbles

› Printables: “Allergy Alert”

› Bible, blocks, leaves, sticks, stones

› Printables: “Unit 3 Missions,” “Allergy Alert”

› Music

› Bible, plastic water bottles, sand, funnels, tape

› Printables: “God Created the World” Coloring Page

› Picture books about creation and nature, children’s nature magazines, crayons

› Music