



Creating the World: Days 1 & 2

Lesson Aim: To learn how God created light and to explore what it means to be the light of the world.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Creates

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 1:1-8

What He has done: God created the heavens and the earth.

Key Verse: Genesis 1:3

THE WAY

Christ Connection: John 1:1-5; 8:12

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.
 I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
 Your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:13-14

Unit 5: The God Who Creates			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
22	Creating the World: Days 1 & 2, Genesis 1:1-8	God created the heavens and the earth.	To learn how God created light and to explore what it means to be the light of the world.
23	Creating the World: Days 3 & 4, Genesis 1:9-19	God made the land, the sea, the plants, and the stars.	To discover ways the third and fourth days of creation reveal God's qualities.
24	Creating the World: Days 5 & 6, Genesis 1:21-31	God made the creatures of the air, sea, and land.	To appreciate God's creation of living creatures and to discover what it means to be made in His image.
25	Adam and Eve in the Garden, Genesis 2:10-24	God made Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden.	To see God created us for specific relationships with Himself and others.
26	The Day of Rest, Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11	God rested. He blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.	To challenge children to remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 104:1-6. Please join us in praying, "Lord, thank You for the heavens and the earth. Create in us a clean heart that we might glorify You as we teach Your children. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Up in the Air	Balloons (1 per child), cones or masking tape
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Praise You" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "For by Him" "In the Beginning" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "This Is My Father's World" "For the Beauty of the Earth" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: 2 Samuel 22:29	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 22 Bible Barn script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Genesis 1:1-8	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters, optional: candle or penlight
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: John 1:1-5; 8:12	
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Creation Keepsakes: birthday candle and cotton ball, W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Praise You," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Day and Night Cookies	Sugar cookies, vanilla and chocolate frosting, plastic knives or spoons, optional: vanilla and chocolate sprinkles
	Up to 10	Game: Getting to Know You	None
	Up to 15	Game: Name that Cloud	Blanket, bed sheets, or mats
	Up to 15	Craft: Recycled Creation	Clean trash items (such as soda bottles/cans, milk jugs, butter containers, newspapers, baby food jars, and paper towel tubes), yarn, glue, tape, scissors, markers
	Up to 10	Craft: Creation Mural	Large sheets of paper or poster board, crayons or markers
	Up to 10	Discussion: Creation Care	A notepad and large marker, whiteboard and wipe-off marker, or chalkboard and chalk
	Up to 10	Discussion: Who Created God?	Bible
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Bible Memory Verse Bop	Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 5	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Bible Memory Verse Wave	None
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite thing that God created?

GAME: UP IN THE AIR

Purpose: Children play a game using the air and sky God created.

Supplies: Balloons (1 per child), cones or masking tape

Prepare: Inflate balloons with air (no helium). Mark start and finish lines with cones or tape.

Today, we are going to learn how God created the heavens and the earth. We will discover how He created the light and the sky. When we look up at the sky, what are some of the things we see? (Children respond.) When we feel the wind, we are reminded of the air we breathe. In this game, we will use our breath, as well as our hands and heads, to keep balloons in the air.

Directions:

1. Form two teams. Have each team line up behind the start line.
2. Give each person a balloon.
3. On your signal, the first person on each team must blow or bat his or her balloon across the play area and over the finish line without letting it touch the ground. If the balloon touches the ground or is carried, that player must return to the starting line and begin again.
4. When he or she reaches the finish line, he or she must sit on and pop the balloon before the next person on the team may go.
5. Repeat steps 3-4 for each team member.
6. The first team to have all their team members run the relay wins.



The God who creates **THE WORSHIP**

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

Welcome! Today, we worship God for who He is and what He has done in creating the heavens and the earth. We will read about how God created the light with just His spoken words. As we collect today's offering, think about all the wonderful things we can see because of the light God created.



Sing: "In the Beginning" while the offering is collected.

Invite children to offer sentences of praise to God for their favorite parts of His creation by completing the following sentence: **"Lord, thank You for creating _____."**



Read 2 Samuel 22:29.



Sing Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Praise You."

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God our Creator, heaven, light, and darkness.



Perform Bible Barn script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 22.



God created the light, day, night, and sky

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Optional: If the room can be darkened, turn off the lights and light a candle or penlight. Ask a child to turn on the lights when you read, "**Let there be light**" (Genesis 1:3).

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

We have been learning about many of the amazing miracles of Jesus. Today, we will learn about the first miracle ever recorded—the creation of the world. If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Creation. For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Genesis 1:1-8. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Genesis 1:3.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

Listen carefully as we read about two of the first things which God created. Read Genesis 1:1-8.



The Light of the world

THE WAY

What did the earth look like in the beginning? (No shape, dark, empty, filled with water.) **Where was God's Spirit while God created the heavens and the earth?** (Hovering over the waters that covered the formless earth.) **Why do you think God created light before shaping the earth?** (Children respond.) **How many ways does light change our world?** (Children respond.)

What did God create on the second day? (The sky, the air above the water.) **Why are the sky and the air important?** (We need air to breathe, the clouds for rain, etc.) **What is your favorite thing about the sky?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

God is three in one; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Genesis describes the Holy Spirit's role in creation. Have you ever wondered where Jesus was in the beginning? (Children respond.) John answered that question thousands of years after God made the world. John calls Jesus "the Word."



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: John 1:1-5; 8:12. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read John 1:1-5.

There are two types of light in the Bible. The Creation story describes the physical light for our eyes. John describes a spiritual light or understanding of who Jesus is. It is light for each heart, soul, and mind to know who God is and what He has done. John wrote that the light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. What does that mean to you? (Children respond.)

Now, read John 8:12 to hear what Jesus says about that light. Read John 8:12. **How would you explain spiritual light and darkness in your own words?** (Children respond.)

What did Jesus call Himself? (The Light of the world.) **How is Jesus like a light in your life?** (Children respond.) **Can someone share a time when you first realized you needed Jesus?** (Children respond.)

When we do not know Jesus or follow Him, it is as if we are lost in the darkness. When we follow Jesus, it is like following a light that points to God. Read what Jesus calls those who follow Him. Read Matthew 5:14-16.

God's power, His goodness, and His nature as three in one were shown from the very beginning and proven throughout the rest of the Bible. As the light of the world, your life can point others to these same things. How might others see God's power at work in your life? (Children respond.) **How can others see God's goodness through you?** (Children respond.)

How would you describe your own relationship with God the Father, God the Son, and with the Holy Spirit? (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is two Creation Keepsakes. Let the candle remind you that God created light, day, and night on the first day. Let the cotton ball remind you that God created the sky and clouds on the second day. At home, make and decorate a box or other container to make a Creation Keeper. Use it to store your Creation Keepsakes each week as symbols of what God created.

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #22. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of God creating light, day, night, and the sky. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Praise You," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: DAY AND NIGHT COOKIES

Purpose: To create and enjoy cookies that remind children of the ways they enjoy the day and night.

Snack Suggestion: Sugar cookies, vanilla and chocolate frosting, plastic knives (or spoons for younger children), optional: vanilla and chocolate sprinkles

Creation Care Tip: If possible, replace paper supplies with reusable or recyclable supplies.

Let's make day and night cookies to remember how God created light, day, and night. We will use chocolate frosting on one half of our cookies for the nighttime and vanilla frosting on the other half for daytime.

Directions:

1. Serve snacks and drinks.
2. Show children how to spread vanilla frosting on one half and chocolate on the other half.
Optional: Add vanilla and chocolate sprinkles.
3. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
4. Ask the Snack Discussion Questions: **What is your favorite thing to do during the day? What do you enjoy doing at night?**

GAME: GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Purpose: Get to know your campers by discussing their favorite things.

Supplies: None

On this first day at Camp Venture, let's get to know each other! Seat children on the floor in a circle and ask the questions below.

- **What is your favorite thing about this past year at your church or school?**
- **What is your favorite thing about being in your family?**
- **What is your favorite thing about being at Camp Venture?**

GAME: NAME THAT CLOUD

Purpose: To appreciate God's creation of the sky on the second day.

Supplies: Blankets, bed sheets, or mats

Take the children outdoors for this activity. Spread blankets on the ground and have them sit or lay down to look at the sky.

What shapes can you see in the clouds God made today? (Children respond.) **What is your favorite thing to see in the sky?** (e.g., rainbows, fluffy clouds, storm clouds, rain, birds, butterflies, airplanes, balloons)

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: RECYCLED CREATION

Purpose: Create a craft item using recycled trash that reflects one of today's creation focuses: day and night or the air and sky.

Supplies: Clean trash items (such as soda bottles/cans, milk jugs, butter containers, newspapers, baby food jars, and paper towel tubes), yarn, glue, tape, scissors, markers

Teacher Tip: You may wish to request donations of clean, recyclable trash items prior to this lesson.

God created the heavens and the earth. He made each part to be very special and to work together. Today, we learned about light, day and night, the sky and air, and why we need all of these things to live. To thank God for His beautiful creation, we should take care of it. One way we can do that is by making old trash into new things we can use or enjoy. Who can tell me what that is called? (Recycling.) Let's use these trash items to create something that reminds you of what God created on the first or second day. What can you create that reminds you of either the sky and clean air, or light and night and day?

Directions:

1. Encourage children to be creative. You may wish to have them work together in groups.
2. Idea Starters: Votive candle holders out of baby jars, a collage (picture) showing the sky during the day and the night, or a lantern from a milk jug.

CRAFT: CREATION MURAL

Purpose: To illustrate the creation story.

Supplies: Large sheets of paper or poster board, crayons or markers

Teacher Tip: This mural is designed to be used in Lessons 22-26. Divide a long piece of banner paper into 7 sections or use 7 large pieces of paper. Display it in your classroom.

As we learn about each part of the heavens and earth that God created, we will draw about it on our creation mural. Today, we learned about the first and second days of creation.

Let's draw the darkness, the light for Day 1 and the sky for Day 2. (Note: The sun, moon, and stars were not created yet. Use a light blue marker to shade the background of half the picture for the daytime sky with clouds and a dark blue marker to shade the other half for the night sky.)

DISCUSSION: WHO CREATED GOD?

Purpose: To help children better understand the eternal and all-powerful nature of the Creator.

Supplies: Bible

Who was there in the beginning? (God.) Who created God? (No one. God has always existed.)

Brainstorm logical reasons that support the following statement: "No one created God; He was never born. He has always been here, since before time began." Example: If someone created God, then he or she would be more powerful than God. But we know God is the most powerful, so no one could have created God. He must have always existed.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

DISCUSSION: CREATION CARE

Purpose: To understand our responsibility of caring for the parts of God's creation discovered today: light, night and day, air and sky.

Supplies: A notepad and large marker, whiteboard and wipe-off marker, or chalkboard and chalk

Prepare: Look up current statistics and conservation information on air quality and energy conservation for your area. In the United States, the U.S. government website on the environment www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Environment-Agriculture.shtml offers links to many different types of statistics and resources. At airnow.gov, you may view your local air quality index and discover practical ways to help make the air safe to breathe. Print helpful pictures and information. If you have internet availability in your classroom, have the campers help you gather this information in class.

God created the world to be a very special place. He wants us to take care of all He has created. Caring for God's creation is one way we can worship Him and show Him we love Him. This week, we learned how God created light, day and night, the sky and its air. Let's talk about how we can care for those parts of creation.

Did You Know? Share some of the simple facts you have discovered about air pollution and energy use in your area or country.

What Can I Do? Lead children in discussing simple, easy ways they can help keep the air clean and save energy.

Examples:

- Save air and energy by carpooling or riding bicycles.
- Raise the thermostat when it is hot out and lower it when it is cold out to save energy.
- Turn off the lights when leaving a room.
- Use energy saving products such as energy efficient light bulbs.

Where Can I Go For More? Encourage children to discuss these ideas and to look up more information with their families. You may wish to give them a list of helpful websites or copies of the information you researched. Encourage them to bring in what they discover the next time you meet.

Optional: If available in your area, purchase an energy efficient light bulb. (If you have a small class and available funds, purchase one for each child or family). In class, examine the packaging and bulb with the children and talk about the money and energy savings listed on the package. Ask the children to talk about how this bulb can help them care for creation. Have the children assist you in replacing the bulb in a lamp with an energy efficient light bulb.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.” Psalm 139:13-14

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE BOP

Purpose: Children will memorize the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 139:13-14.

Supplies: Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Display the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster.

Teacher Tip: Children may help each other remember the words so the balloon never falls.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Repeat the Bible Memory Verse several times together.
3. Start by tossing the balloon into the air while reciting the first three words of the Bible Memory Verse: “For You created.”
4. Each child who “bops” the balloon must say the next three words of the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Continue until the Bible Memory Verse is complete.
6. Play several times.

Competitive Version: Form two teams in two separate circles. The first team to complete the Bible Memory Verse without the balloon touching the ground wins.

Timed Version: Time children as they play. Challenge children to get a faster time each round.

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE WAVE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from Psalm 139:13-14 to each child or group.
2. Direct each child or group to quickly stand, say the assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky and down to the thighs, and then sit down.
3. Repeat three times, faster each time.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Genesis through Joshua. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Creation: What did God create on the first day? (Light, day, night.) **What did He create on the second day?** (Sky, the air above the water.)

How to create a Bible Timeline from Genesis through Joshua:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the two Unit 10 cards for God of Wonders Advent: Lessons 48-52.
4. To review the Bible Timeline, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Genesis through Joshua: Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350.B.C.) > Tower of Babel > Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.)

Unit 10: John the Baptist (Circa 7-2 B.C.) > Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)