



# Creating the World: Days 1 & 2

Lesson Aim: To learn how God created light, day, night, and sky.

## THE WORSHIP – AT THE CAMPFIRE

Who God Is: The God Who Creates

## THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME

The Bible Story: Genesis 1:1-8

What He Has Done: God created the heavens and the earth.

## 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

<b>Unit 5: The God Who Creates</b>			
	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, day, night, and sky.
23	Creating the World: Days 3 & 4, Genesis 1:9-19	God made the land, the sea, the plants, and the stars.	To see God's purposefulness in the way He filled the heavens and the earth and to explore our response to His creation.
24	Creating the World: Days 5 & 6, Genesis 1:20, 24-31	God made the creatures of the air, sea, and land.	To appreciate God's unlimited creativity and attention to detail in the creation of all living things.
25	Adam and Eve in the Garden, Genesis 2:15-24	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	God rested. He blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.	To know why God wants us to rest on the Sabbath.

## COUNSELOR'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 campers. Amen."

**WHAT IS CAMP VENTURE?** Camp Venture is a variation on the God of Wonders Units 5 and 6 standard version lessons. Camp Venture offers different elements consistent with a camping theme. Children are referred to as campers and teachers are camp counselors. Decorate classroom or play area to create the Camp Venture experience. For example: camp tent, backpacks, photo board or album with photos of each camper, fire logs surrounded by stones as a flameless campfire, etc. Camp Venture is most often introduced as Sunday School curriculum during school vacation months but can easily be adapted as a Vacation Bible School curriculum.

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**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
<b>THE WELCOME</b>	Up to 25	<b>Camp Games:</b> Up in the Air	Balloons (1 per camper), cones or masking tape
<b>THE WORSHIP – AT THE CAMPFIRE</b>	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	<b>Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "I Praise You" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "For by Him" "In the Beginning" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "This Is My Father's World" "For the Beauty of the Earth" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		<b>Worship Scripture Reading:</b> 2 Samuel 22:29	Bible
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	Lesson 22 Bible Barn script or storybook
<b>THE WORD &amp; THE WAY – TENT TIME</b>	Up to 5	<b>The Bible Story:</b> Genesis 1:1-8	Bibles, candle or penlight
	Up to 10	<b>Pen Pal Letter</b>	Camp Cooler (ice chest), Bible, Pen Pal Letter, large lump of clay in plastic bag, picture of energy saving light bulb, and picture of carpool
	Up to 5	<b>Share a Prayer</b>	None
	Final 5	<b>Final Five Minutes</b>	Creation Keepsake— birthday candle and cotton ball, Daily Ways and basket or W <sup>3</sup> s for the older campers, Letters from Camp (available at ResourceWell.org), pencils, butcher paper or poster board, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Praise You," CD player
<b>GOT TIME?</b>	Up to 10	<b>Snack:</b> Day and Night Cookies	Sugar cookies, vanilla and chocolate frosting, plastic knives (or spoons for younger campers), optional: vanilla and chocolate sprinkles
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Getting to Know You	None
	Up to 15	<b>Game:</b> Name That Cloud	Blanket, bed sheets, or mats
	Up to 15	<b>Craft:</b> Recycled Creation	Clean trash items (e.g., bottles/cans, milk jugs, butter containers, newspapers, baby food jars, paper towel tubes), yarn, glue, tape, scissors, markers
	Up to 15	<b>Craft:</b> Night and Day Collage	Standard-size sturdy black and white paper, stickers, magazines, colored paper, label or slip of paper
	Up to 5	<b>Discussion:</b> Who Created God?	Bible
	Up to 15	<b>Discussion:</b> Creation Care	A notepad and large marker, whiteboard and wipe-off marker, or chalkboard and chalk
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Bible Memory Verse Bop	Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Bible Memory Verse Wave	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME – CAMP GAMES

**Welcome to Camp Venture! Each time before we worship, we will get to know each other better and have some fun with our Camp Games. First, let's dedicate this day of camp to Jesus. Pray. Today's Bible story teaches us about how God created the heavens and the earth. We will discover how He created the light and the sky.**

**Optional:** For added fun through Units 5 and 6, adapt all camp games to a team point system. For suggestions, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.

### **GAME: UP IN THE AIR**

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

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

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

**When we look up at the sky, what are some of the things we see?** (Campers 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. **Teacher's Note:** Some children are not comfortable around loud noises like balloons popping. You may choose to eliminate the balloon popping or allow children to have a teammate pop their balloon.
5. Repeat steps 3-4 for each team member.
6. The first team to have all their team members run the relay wins.

**Counselor Clue:** All games may be adapted to a competitive or a non-competitive version. Camp competition provides an opportunity for campers to learn how to honor God in a competitive environment, encourage other campers, and to be gracious winners and losers.

# THE WELCOME - CAMP GAMES *continued...*

## **Option: Team Point System for Camp Venture Units 5-6**

**Teams:** To adapt all Camp Games to a team point system for Units 5 and 6 (Lessons 22-31), divide campers into 4 teams. Instruct each team to create its own name and team banner at the beginning of the Camp Games segment of Lesson 22. Campers will remain on the same team for all Camp Games throughout Units 5 and 6.

**Point System:** Campers may earn points for their teams by attending Camp Venture, completing their Daily Ways or W<sup>3</sup>s, bringing a Bible, bringing a friend, winning a game, and showing good sportsmanship. At Camp Venture, good sportsmanship is respectful behavior toward others. It includes cheering for their team during games, playing fairly, tallying scores honestly, and cheering for other teams when point tallies are announced. Bonus team points are awarded for cheering and encouraging other teams.

**Grand Prize:** On the final day at Camp Venture, all members of the winning team receive a surprise grand prize. The grand prize can be an ice cream or pizza party or something that would be special to the campers. Have the winning team invite all of the other teams to join the party.

**About Competition:** Camp competition provides an opportunity for campers to learn how to honor God in a competitive environment, encourage other campers, and to be gracious winners and losers. For added fun, be very generous with the points. For example: 100,000 points for 1<sup>st</sup> place, 75,000 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 40,000 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and 30,000 points for 4<sup>th</sup> place. The teams will end up with point totals in the millions at the end of camp.



The God who creates

# THE WORSHIP – AT THE CAMPFIRE

**Counselor Clue:** To help campers identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as campers move from one area to another.

**Welcome! Today, we gather around the campfire to praise God for the way He created 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 campers 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. Include reciting the Camper's Code:

### **Camper's Code**

I will love God with all my heart.

I will love my neighbor as myself.

I will be a light wherever I go.

**Today's Camp Critter, the eagle, sees from the sky that God's creation is good!**



## The Bible Story

# THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME

**Counselor Clue:** Tent time should take place in a corner of the classroom, under a tent, or any covered space. Remove chairs and have campers sit on mats or sit-upons.

**Prepare:** Print the Pen Pal letter on the next page onto a sheet of paper. Fold the paper and place it in an envelope. In an ice chest (Camp Cooler), place a Bible, a candle or penlight, the Pen Pal Letter, a large lump of clay in a plastic bag, a picture of an energy saving light bulb, and a picture of people carpooling.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Camp 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 Camp Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my counselor, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."**

**Welcome to Tent Time! Today, we have been talking about how God created the heavens and the earth. Let's read about it for ourselves.**



Open the Camp Cooler and remove the Bible and the candle or penlight. Hand out spare Bibles. Counselor opens the Bible to Genesis 1:1-8.

**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? Camper prays aloud. Be seated.**

If the room can be darkened, act out the story as you read Genesis 1:1-8. Read Genesis 1:1-3, asking your helper to turn on the main light at the moment you read, **"Let there be light."** Continue reading Genesis 1:4-8.

**Since God was the one creating everything, then who created God? (Campers respond.) If someone created God, then he or she would be more powerful than God. God is the most powerful, so no one could have created God. He has always existed.**



Pen Pal

## THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME

Let's see if our secret Pen Pal can help us picture what it was like in the beginning. Remove the Pen Pal Letter from the Camp Cooler. Read the letter aloud. As they are mentioned, remove the other objects from the Camp Cooler.

Hey Pals,

Welcome to Camp Venture! I'm your Pen Pal, and for our first day of camp, let's think about what God did on the first day of creating the world. The earth was formless. With His words He shaped it and named it.

Let's make a creation of our own. Divide out the clay in this cooler and form it into something new. Shape it into anything you like and give it a name. If you have a tent full of campers, separate the clump into 4 pieces. Divide the campers into four teams and give each team a piece of clay to create and name their creation together. **Show all the campers your creation and tell them its name.**

Have you ever wondered where Jesus was in the beginning? The Apostle John answered that question thousands of years after God made the world. Read today's Christ Connection: John 1:1-4. **So, where was Jesus during creation?** (He was with God.) **God the Father and God the Son were there. The Holy Spirit hovered over the waters. Just like the Holy Spirit, Jesus was also a part of creating the world.**

**Creation Care:** Now let's talk about ways to care for what God has given us. We can thank God for the light He made by saving energy in our electric lighting. We can keep unused lights off and use low-energy light bulbs. Show light bulb picture. We can thank God for making the sky by walking, riding bikes, or sharing car rides to lower sky pollution. Show carpool picture. We can fly a kite to enjoy the wind and sky.

Keep cool!  
Your Pen Pal

# THE WAY *continued...*



## SHARE A PRAYER

Let's thank God for this beautiful world He has created. We can pray for each other and for everyone He has made. Ask campers for individual praise and prayer requests. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

Thank You, God, for creating the heavens and the earth. Thank You for creating every camper here today. You know our needs—the ones we shared out loud and the ones we hide in our hearts. We lift all these up to Your throne now. Pause for a moment of silence. We can't wait to see the way You will answer each one.

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

**CREATION KEEPSAKES:** Today, your Treasure Treats are 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.

**DAILY WAY CHALLENGE:** Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 22 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible.** Bring it back next time to win points for your team here at Camp Venture.

**W<sup>3</sup> CHALLENGE (For Older Campers):** Take home today's W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. \*Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry #22 instead of the Daily Way. **Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!** (\*Although older children usually keep their W<sup>3</sup>s at home, you may choose to have them bring back their W<sup>3</sup>s during camp to win points for their teams.)

**LETTERS FROM CAMP:** Write a Letter from Camp to someone to let them know what you did today. Write or draw your favorite thing about today and something special you just learned from the Bible. Sign it and give it to a family member.

**CREATION MURAL:** Let's work on our Creation Mural (blank butcher paper or posterboard). As we learn about each part of God's creation, we will draw about it on our 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 light blue to shade half the picture for day and dark blue to shade the other half for the night sky.

**Counselor 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.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Praise You," in the background as campers 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 campers of the ways they enjoy the day and night.

**Snack Suggestion:** Sugar cookies, vanilla and chocolate frosting, plastic knives (or spoons for younger campers), 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 campers how to spread vanilla frosting on one half and chocolate on the other half.  
Optional: Add vanilla and chocolate sprinkles.
3. Camper 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 campers 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 campers 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?** (Campers 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

**Counselor 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 campers 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: NIGHT AND DAY COLLAGE**

**Purpose:** To encourage appreciation for the environment God prepared for us.

**Supplies:** Standard-size sturdy black and white paper, stickers, magazines, colored paper, label or slip of paper

**Prepare:** Using stickers, paper shapes or magazine pictures, prepare several day and night pictures for each child. Cut a standard-size white sheet of paper in half for every two children.

**Counselor Tip:** If you have time, have children find their own pictures to add to their collages.

### **Directions:**

1. Give each child a sheet of standard-size sturdy black paper and a half sheet of sturdy white paper.
2. Children glue the half white sheet to one side of the black paper.
3. Write "day" on the white side of the paper. On a label or slip of paper, write "night" and attach the label to the dark side of the paper.
4. Choose pictures to attach to each side of the collage.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **DISCUSSION: WHO CREATED GOD?**

**Purpose:** To help campers 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.

## **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](http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Environment-Agriculture.shtml) offers links to many different types of statistics and resources. At [airnow.gov](http://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 campers 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 campers 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 camper or family). In class, examine the packaging and bulb with the campers and talk about the money and energy savings listed on the package. Ask the campers to talk about how this bulb can help them care for creation. Have the campers 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:** Campers 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.

**Counselor Tip:** Campers may help each other remember the words so the balloon never falls.

#### **Directions:**

1. Campers 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 camper 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 campers as they play. Challenge campers to get a faster time each round.

### **GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE WAVE**

**Purpose:** To help campers 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 camper or group.
2. Direct each camper 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.