



Teacher's Guide: Ages 4-5
God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis through Joshua
Unit 5, Lesson 23

Creating the World: Days 3 & 4

Lesson Aim: To know how God filled the heavens and the earth.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God Who Creates

THE WORD

Bible Story: Genesis 1:9-19

What He Has Done: God made the land, sea, sun, moon, stars, plants, trees, and flowers.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "It was good."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Genesis 1:1, 3

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 made the heavens and the earth.	To know God created the heavens and the earth.
23	Creating the World: Days 3 & 4, Genesis 1:9-19	God made the land, sea, sun, moon, stars, plants, trees, and flowers.	To know how God filled the heavens and the earth.
24	Creating the World: Days 5 & 6, Genesis 1:20-31	God made the birds, sea creatures, animals, creeping things, and people.	To know how God created the living creatures.
25	Adam and Eve in the Garden, Genesis 2:15-22	God made Adam and Eve and placed them in the garden.	To know God created us for relationships with Him and with one another.
26	The Day of Rest, Genesis 2:1-3	After God worked, He rested.	To know why God wants us to rest.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 104:5-9, 19-23. Please join us in praying, "Lord, thank You for filling the heavens and the earth. Help us appreciate and care for this wonderful creation! Amen."

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THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a star
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "It was good."
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: "In the Beginning" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Be Still and Know" "I Will Listen" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 23
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Genesis 1:9-19	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Genesis 1:10b Visual: Snorkel, flippers, or flotation device
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Place In Space	Sturdy paper (dark blue, green, light blue, white, yellow, and brown), star stickers, round or fruit stickers, glue or tape
		Game: Pin the Fruit on the Tree	Blindfold, large poster board, sturdy red or orange paper, tape
		Game: Good for Day or Night	Fill a container full of items or pictures of items used at night (night light, teddy bear, blanket, pillow, flashlight, etc.) and during the day (sun glasses, sun block, sun visor, shoes, ball, etc.).
		Snack: Fruit and Seeds	Seeded fruit (apples, watermelon, citrus), celery
		Circle of Prayer	None
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 5, Lesson 23 Color This Story: "God Filled the Heavens and the Earth"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Genesis 1:9-19	None
	Up to 10	Game: Star Toss	White poster board
	Up to 10	Craft: Create A Flower	Small cup (washed recycled cups from previous snack times), modeling clay or play-dough, green pipe cleaner, yellow (or any flower color) pipe cleaners, small Styrofoam ball
	Up to 10	Game: In the Beginning	Beanbag, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"
	Up to 10	Game: God's Creations	Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about creation

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



It was good

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a star. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a star remind you that God made the stars and the moon and the sun, and it was good. Today's Whisper Verse is "It was good."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "It was good."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| "It" | Make fist with raised little finger (letter "I" hand shape), then touch little finger tip to palm of opposite hand. |
| "was" | The hand moves over the shoulder to represent the past. |
| "good." | One palm moves forth from the mouth to the palm of other hand (as if something tasted is judged as good and offered to others). |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "It was good," Genesis 1:10. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



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 "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to God who created us. Who remembers what the word "create" means? (To make something.) On the first day of creation, God made light and day and night. Let's sing our Bible Memory Verse Song while we give our offering to the God who created the heavens and the earth. Sing: "In the Beginning" while collecting the offering.

On the second day, God made the sky and clouds. Today, we will find out what He made on the third and fourth days. He filled the heavens with the stars and sun and moon, and He filled the land with plants and trees and flowers! Let's sing to thank Him for creating those things. Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."

When God made all these things, He saw that they were good. That is today's Whisper Verse, "It is good." Let's try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: "It is good." Include sign language.



Let's see if our friends Delbert and Lello know what God created on the third and fourth days. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 23.



God made so many amazing things for us to enjoy. Close your eyes and imagine your favorite fruit. Next, think about your favorite animal. Together, let's thank God for all He has created for us. Each of His creations tells us He loves us. Sing: "I Will Listen."



God filled the heavens and the earth

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;
My mouth quiet as can be,
I will listen to hear,
How God loves you and me.

Point to eyes.
Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
Cup hand around ear.
Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned about the very first miracle of all—when God created the heavens and the earth. After God made them, He filled the earth with seas and land. He filled the land with plants and trees and flowers. He filled the skies with the sun and the moon and stars. Then God saw that “it was good.” Let's open our Bible to the very first words in the first book of the Bible, Genesis. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Genesis 1:10b.

WATCH THE WORD: GENESIS 1:9-19

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display snorkels, flippers, or a flotation device. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- On the first day,
- God made light.
- On the second day,
- God made the sky.
- And God saw that it was good.
- On the third day,
- God made land and seas.
- He filled the land
- With plants and fruit trees.
- And God saw that it was good.
- On the fourth day,
- God put the sun in the sky
- With the moon and stars
- So we'd know day from night.
- And God saw that it was good.



What did God say about the land and the seas He made? (“It was good.”) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Genesis 1:10b from the teacher's Bible.

Who created light? (God.) How did He create it? (God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.) Let's say our Whisper Verse together: “Let there be light.” Include the sign language or hand motions.



See how good God's creation is!

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: PLACE IN SPACE

Purpose: To review days 3 & 4 of creation.

Supplies: Sturdy paper (dark blue, green, light blue, white, yellow, and brown), star stickers, round or fruit stickers, crayons or markers, glue or tape

Prepare:

Land: Cut a standard-size sheet of sturdy green paper in half lengthwise. (Each half may be used for a child.) On the green paper, print: **"God saw that it was good." Genesis 1:10**

Seas: From sturdy light blue paper, cut a 2-inch x 6-inch oval.

Moon: From sturdy white paper, cut a 1-inch white crescent.

Sun: From sturdy yellow paper, cut a 2-inch circle or use a sun sticker.

Tree trunk: From sturdy brown paper, cut a 1-inch x 4-inch rectangle.

Treetop: From sturdy green paper, cut a 2-inch circle.

Optional: White or silver sequins may be substituted for the star stickers. Fruit may be drawn on.

Directions:

1. Lay a piece of standard-size dark blue paper in landscape (horizontal) position.
2. **On the third day, God made the land and the seas and He saw that it was good.**
3. Attach the green rectangle across the bottom of the page for land.
4. Attach the light blue oval on top of the land for the seas.
5. **Then, God filled the land with plants and fruit trees.**
6. Attach the tree trunk and tree top.
7. Decorate the tree with fruit (draw circles with crayons or markers or add fruit stickers).
8. **Then, God made the sun and the moon and the stars. He put them wherever He chose.**
9. Attach the sun, moon, and stars anywhere in the sky.

Craft Discussion:

- **Where did you choose to put things on your paper? Why?** Give each child a chance to share his or her picture with the class.
- **What did God say about His work after He made it?** ("It was good.")
- **Everything God made was good. God sees your artwork now. He sees it is good! How does that make you feel?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: PIN THE FRUIT ON THE TREE

Purpose: In this version of the game, “Pin the Tail on the Donkey,” children are reminded that God made the fruit trees on the third day.

Supplies: Blindfold, large poster board, sturdy red or orange paper, tape

Prepare: Draw or paint a fruit tree on the poster board. From sturdy red or orange paper, cut one 2-inch diameter fruit shape (apple or orange) for each child.

Optional: Play “**Pin the Stars in the Sky.**” Use black poster board as the sky and replace the fruit with star shapes. Follow the directions as listed.

Directions:

1. Give each child a paper fruit and print the child’s name on the fruit.
2. Attach a piece of tape to the top of the fruit.
3. Teacher blindfolds the first child.
4. Teacher leads the blindfolded child to the fruit tree.
5. The blindfolded child places his or her fruit on the tree. Teacher may assist child in attaching the fruit.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 for each child.
7. Discuss who had the highest and the lowest fruit.
8. Discuss how God made the trees and the fruit, putting everything in the place He wanted it.

GAME: GOOD FOR DAY OR NIGHT

Purpose: To show all the good things we do in the day and in the night.

Supplies: Fill a container full of items or pictures of items used at night (night light, teddy bear, blanket, pillow, flashlight, etc.) and during the day (sun glasses, sun block, sun visor, shoes, ball, etc.).

God made day and night and put the sun, moon, and stars in the sky. He saw that it was good. What are some good things about daytime? (The sun gives us light to play. It makes us warmer. It helps the grass, trees, and flowers grow.) **What are some good things about nighttime?** (The stars twinkle in the darkness. We can sleep and dream.)

In this game, we will see the things that are good about the day and about the night!

Directions:

1. Each child takes a turn choosing an item from the box.
2. All children then guess whether it is used during the day or during the night.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: FRUIT AND SEEDS

Purpose: Children will be reminded that God created the plants, trees, and fruits and “it was good.”

Snack Suggestion: Seeded fruit (apples, watermelon, citrus), celery

Count the fruit seeds. Talk about the celery plant.

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the “Blessing Song.”** Sing to the tune of “Frere Jacques” or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** (“It was good.”) **Let's say it together.**
 - **What do you say when you thank someone for the food they have made for you?** (“Thank you, it was good.”) **Let's thank God out loud for each fruit and vegetable He has made for us.** Children take turns saying, **“Thank You, God, for name of a fruit or vegetable.”**
 - **CREATION CARE:** One way to thank God for the earth is to take care of it. We can help by recycling our plastic bottles and plastic cups. Recycling is reusing plastic and paper items in order to care for the parts of creation used to make these things. **After our snack, we will place them in our recycling bin.** Children place their own plastic cup or water bottle in a recycling bin.



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your “Place in Space” craft. Use it to tell someone how God filled the land and sky with plants, fruit trees, the sun, stars, and the moon.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about ways to care for God's creation.**

COLOR THIS STORY: “God Filled the Heavens and the Earth.” Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, “In the Beginning,” as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

Teacher's Tip: In the GOT TIME? segment of lesson 26, classes are encouraged to play a favorite creation game from lessons 22-25. Be sure to hold onto game supplies of any game you would like to play again.

SAY & DO: GENESIS 1:9-19

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **On the first day,** (Raise index finger.)
- **God made light.** (Point to open eyes.)
- **On the second day,** (Raise two fingers.)
- **God made the sky.** (Point to sky.)
- **And God saw that it was good.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)

- **On the third day,** (Raise three fingers.)
- **God made land and seas.** (Move hands in wavy sea motion.)
- **He filled the land** (Spread arms far apart.)
- **With plants and fruits trees.** (Pretend to pick and eat an apple.)
- **And God saw that it was good.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)

- **On the fourth day,** (Raise four fingers.)
- **God put the sun in the sky,** (Point to sky and shield eyes.)
- **With the moon and stars.** (Wiggle fingers like twinkling stars.)
- **So we'd know day from night.** (Rest cheek on folded hands as if sleeping.)
- **And God saw that it was good.** (Whisper Verse sign language.)

GAME: STAR TOSS

Purpose: To imagine when God placed the stars in the sky and saw that it was good.

Supplies: White poster board

Prepare: From white poster board, cut one 12-inch circle for a moon and a 3-inch star for each child.

Directions:

1. Children line up at one end of the play area.
2. Place the moon 3-5 feet away from the children.
3. Each child takes a turn tossing his or her star to its place near the moon.
4. After each toss, children chant together: **"It was good!"** Include sign language.
5. After all the stars are placed, ask children to point out the stars that are closest and furthest from each other, as well as the stars that are nearest or furthest from the moon. Talk about how God put the real moon and all the real stars in place.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: CREATE A FLOWER

Purpose: Child creates a flower in order to remember God created flowers on the third day.

Supplies: Small cup (washed recycled cups from previous snack times), modeling clay or play-dough, green pipe cleaner, yellow (or any flower color) pipe cleaners, small Styrofoam ball

Prepare: Fill recycled plastic cup with a lump of play-dough. Insert a green pipe cleaner into the Styrofoam ball. Insert the green pipe cleaner into the play-dough. Cut yellow (or other flower color) pipe cleaners into 1 inch pieces as flower petals.

Optional: Use sturdy paper instead of the Styrofoam ball. Use sturdy paper for the flower petals.

Directions:

1. Give each child a flowerpot with the stem and flower center prepared above.
2. Children insert pipe cleaner pieces into the Styrofoam ball to create their own flower.
3. Discuss how every flower is different and beautiful. Discuss why flowers are good. (They are pretty, smell good, make people smile, etc.) Share favorite flower colors and scents.



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Genesis 1:1, 3

GAME: IN THE BEGINNING

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

Supplies: Beanbag, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"

Directions:

1. Stand in a circle with the children.
2. **In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Let's tell each other some of the things God created.**
3. Toss the beanbag to one of the children in the circle.
4. Child names one thing God created (trees, flowers, dogs, bugs, people).
5. Child tosses the beanbag to another child.
6. Repeat until each child has a turn.
7. At the end of the game, sing the Unit 5 Memory Verse Song.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: GOD'S CREATIONS

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

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "In the Beginning"

Let's pretend we are some of the amazing creatures God has created.

Directions:

1. Children line up behind you.
2. As you play the Bible Memory Verse Song, lead the children in walking around the room as they act out your creation instructions. Instructions may be used more than once.
Examples:
"Let's creep like a quiet mouse."
"Let's slither like a snake."
"Let's wave our branches like a tree."
"Let's roar like a lion."
"Let's jump like a frog."
"Let's grow from a seed to a beautiful flower."
"Let's shine bright like the sun."
"Let's twinkle like the stars."
3. After a short time, have a helper pause the music. Stop and recite the Bible Memory Verse with the children.
4. When you begin the music again, choose another of God's creations to act out. Allow the children to take turns leading.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about creation.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 5, Lesson 23: Creating the World: Days 3 & 4

PONDER! Read Genesis 1:9-19 with your family. On the third day, God made the land and filled it with plants and fruit trees. What is your favorite fruit? On the fourth day, God filled the sky with the sun, moon, and stars which help us know the time of day. What is your favorite time of day?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "God, thank You for the sun, moon, and stars. Thank You for the trees, fruits, and flowers. Help us take good care of all You have made. Amen."

PLAY! Thank God for the land He created by taking a family walk through your neighborhood or a nearby park. Collect any trash you find along the way. On a clear night, go outside and search for the stars. Count how many different stars you can see! Thank God for each one.

Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1, 3

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."