



Creating the World: Days 3 & 4

Lesson Aim: To see God's purposefulness in the way He filled the heavens and the earth and to explore our response to His creation.

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, the sea, the plants, and the stars.

Key Verse: Genesis 1:10

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Galatians 5:22-23

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, 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 2:15-22	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 God wants us to enjoy a day of 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."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Star Design	None
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: Psalm 90:1-2	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 23 Bible Barn script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Genesis 1:9-19	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, modeling clay
		Christ Connection: Galatians 5:22-23	
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Creation Keepsakes: seed, glow-in-the-dark bouncing ball, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Praise You," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Name That Nut	Fruits, nuts, edible seeds, fruit juice
	Up to 10	Game: Water Wonders Relay	Water spray bottle and bucket for each team, floor tape, timer, music, CD player
	Up to 10	Game: Pin the Fruit on the Tree	Poster of tree with one fruit painted on it, paper cutouts of fruit, tape, blindfold, markers
	Up to 10	Craft: Planting Seeds	Clay pots or plastic cups (preferably 8 oz or larger), markers, glue, craft decorations, potting soil, fruit or vegetable seeds (bean seeds work well), water, straws or craft sticks, note cards
	Up to 10	Craft: Creation Mural	Large sheets of paper or poster board, crayons or markers
	Up to 10	Discussion: Creation Care	Will be determined by the activity you choose
	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 planet?

GAME: STAR DESIGN

Purpose: Children create star groupings to introduce the idea of God's placement of the stars.

Supplies: None

Today, we are learning how God created the plants, trees, sun, moon, and stars to fill the heavens and the earth. He created everything needed for all living things to survive. At night, we can see the stars. What is the big star we see in the sky during the day? (The sun.) How do stars help us? (For centuries, stars have been used for telling time and seasons and in guiding travelers. They light up the sky. The sun provides heat, energy, and helps plants grow.) Have you ever looked into the night sky and imagined the stars form shapes, just like we imagine clouds form certain shapes?

Let's play a game where you will get to be the stars and work together to create your own star shapes. As we play, think about how God carefully created everything, even deciding exactly where each star would be placed in space.

Directions:

1. Children to wander about the play area in no particular pattern.
2. **Listen for me to clap. Count how many claps you hear and get into groups of that number. For example, if I clap 3 times, I want you to get into groups of 3. Then, you will hear me call a shape, such as a circle. Once you have your group, I want you to create that shape using everyone in your group.**
3. At your signal, clap 4 times and shout out the first shape: square. Help children create groups of 4 children. If you have an uneven number, have the remaining children join one of the groups.
4. Children work in their groups to create a square shape. If they aren't sure how to do it, suggest they might lay on the floor in the shape of a square or spread their arms out to touch fingertips while standing.
5. After all the groups have formed a square, repeat the game. This time call out a different group size number and shape. Each time you play, you may wish to make more challenging shapes (such as animals or objects) or let each group decide what shape they will create.

Variation: Give a small flashlight (penlight) or glow-in-the-dark object to each child. Turn out the lights before you begin playing the game and let the children use their lights or glowing objects to create star groups that shine in the dark.



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.



Today, we worship God for who He is and what He has done as our Creator. Even before the earth was formed, God was there. Read Psalm 90:1-2.

On the first day, God created light. On the second day, He created the sky. On the third day, He made the land and the seas. He filled the land with plants and fruit-bearing trees. On the fourth day, He filled the sky with lights by placing the sun, the moon, and the stars in space.



As we collect today's offering, think about the things God made: tall mountains, deep valleys, powerful rivers and seas, beautiful flowers, delicious fruit, bright stars, and the warm sun! Sing: "This Is My Father's World" while the offering is collected.



Perform Bible Barn script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 23.



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

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God our Creator, land, seas, vegetation, growth, stars, or planets.



God filled the heavens and the earth

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.

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."

If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Creation. For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Last time, we discovered God created light, day and night, the sky, and the air. How did God cause these things to be created? (He said it and it happened.) Today, we will discover how God began filling the heavens and the earth with many good things.**



If you brought your Bible, open it now and share with others. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals Bible Story Scripture reference: Genesis 1:9-19.

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 hear how God created and filled the land and the sky. Read Genesis 1:9-19.



Our response to God's creation plan

THE WAY

God's creation plan had a purpose for every created thing. Everything God created has been working together for thousands of years to make the world a wonderful place to live.

What did God create on the third day? (Land, seas, plants, trees.) **He created the land and then grew plants and trees on it. He chose seed-bearing plants and fruit trees so new plants would grow. Have you ever found a seed in a piece of fruit?** (Children respond.) **What are the seeds inside fruit used for?** (To grow into new plants.) **What is your favorite fruit God has made?** (Children respond.)

Plants and trees give us food, shade, and fresh air. They can be used in making medicines, boats, buildings, tools, furniture, paper, beautiful carvings, toys, and more! **What is your favorite item made from wood?** (Children respond.)

On the fourth day, what did God create to fill the sky? (Sun, moon, and stars.) **God planned for them to separate day from night and to mark the days, seasons, and years. That is how we know our age and when to celebrate our birthdays and favorite holidays. They also help us understand weather, history, and some of the sciences.**

God said the stars, sun, and moon would mark the seasons. **What is your favorite season of the year?** (Summer, winter, spring, or fall.) **What is your favorite thing God created on the third and fourth days?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Just as plants need sunlight to grow, our hearts need the light of Jesus to grow close to God and each other. And, just as a plant with light bears fruit, a heart with His light bears the fruit of the Holy Spirit. They are heart choices, which prove the Holy Spirit is working in us and through us.



Everyone, place your Bible on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Galatians 5:22-23. **Let's find this scripture.** Read Galatians 5:22-23.

Is this fruit we can eat? (No.) **What type of fruit does God give our hearts?** (The fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control.) **God helps us want to do all these good things.**

The nine fruit of the Spirit point others to Jesus and help us care for the people He has created. We can show kindness by getting food and supplies from creation to those in need. We can plant new trees to replace those we use, and we can keep the land and seas clean. If time allows, see CREATION CARE in the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.

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 this seed remind you that God created the land and trees on the third day. Let this glow-in-the-dark bouncing ball remind you of the moon, sun, and stars that God created on the fourth day. At home, place them in your Creation Keeper (any container used to hold your Creation Keepsakes as symbols of what God created each day).

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 23 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. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of your favorite things God created on the third and fourth days. 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: NAME THAT NUT

Purpose: To appreciate God's creativity by comparing various fruits and seeds.

Snack Suggestion: Different types of fruits, nuts, edible seeds, fruit juice

Prepare: Cut different types of fruit into bite size pieces. Serve with nuts and seeds.

Teacher Tips: Due to potentially serious allergic reactions, avoid serving peanuts. If varieties are limited, serve one fruit and show photos of other fruits.

Creation Care Tip: If possible, replace paper supplies with reusable or recyclable supplies. Recycle by saving plastic cups to use as pots for the craft in this lesson.

God made many types of fruits, nuts, and seeds in different sizes, colors, tastes, and textures. Let's try different ones and compare some of God's creations.

Directions:

1. Serve drinks.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the fruits, nuts, and seeds He created.
3. Have the children close their eyes and see if they can identify the various fruits by their scents.
4. Serve the snack.
5. Have the children compare the different features of each fruit, nut, and seed they are served.
6. Ask the Snack Discussion Questions: **If you could create a fruit, what would it look and taste like? What would you name it?**

GAME: WATER WONDERS RELAY

Purpose: To celebrate how God made the land and the seas.

Supplies: Water spray bottle and bucket for each team, floor tape, timer, music, CD player

Prepare: Clearly mark each bucket with the team name. Measure the distance the spray bottles can squirt. Place floor tape at a distance from the buckets which the spray bottles can easily reach.

Today, we are learning that on the third day, God gathered the waters and named the waters, "seas." He called the dry ground, "land." In this relay race, we will see which team can gather the most water in their bucket before the time is up!

Directions:

1. Divide children into 2-4 teams. Have the teams line up behind the floor tape.
2. Place the team buckets at the distance determined during preparation.
3. Set the timer for 2 minutes. Play energized music as the teams fill their buckets.
4. First child on each team squirts twice, aiming for the team bucket.
5. The children take turns until the time is up.
6. The team with the most water in its bucket wins.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: PIN THE FRUIT ON THE TREE

Purpose: To remember God created fruit-bearing trees on the third day.

Supplies: Poster of tree with one fruit drawn on it, paper cutouts of fruit (one for each child), tape, blindfold, markers

Directions:

1. Each child prints his or her name on a paper cutout of a fruit.
2. Blindfold the first child.
3. Gently spin the child in a circle a few times. Point the child toward the tree poster.
4. After the blindfolded child has placed the fruit where they think the tree is, use tape to attach the fruit at that spot.
5. Repeat for each child.
6. The child with the fruit closest to the poster's fruit is the winner.

Variation: Play the **PIN THE STARS IN THE SKY** version of this same game as a reminder that God placed stars in the sky on the fourth day. You will need a black poster with one star drawn on it, paper star cutouts, tape, and a blindfold.

CRAFT: PLANTING SEEDS

Purpose: To remember what God made on the third and fourth days.

Supplies: Clay pots or plastic cups (preferably 8 oz or larger), markers, glue, craft decorations (ribbon, gems, stickers, shells, colorful paper, foil, etc.) potting soil, fruit or vegetable seeds (bean seeds work well), water, straws or craft sticks, sturdy paper

Prepare: Print the instructions located on the seed packet for each child on sturdy paper.

Teacher Tip: Introduce Creation Care by using recycled plastic cups.

God created plants, trees, fruits, seeds, and the sun to work together to supply food for people and animals. Let's each plant a seed to take home and watch as it grows.

Directions:

1. Use craft decorations and markers to decorate the cup or pot.
2. Fill your decorated cup about 3/4 full with potting soil.
3. Push your seed(s) down into the soil until covered.
4. Sprinkle water over the soil until moist but not too wet.
5. Glue growing instruction care to the upper half of the craft stick.
6. Insert the stick in the soil so the instruction card is visible.

Take home your seed and watch it grow. Keep it in a sunny window. If it sprouts and grows, you may need to move it into a larger pot or plant it in a garden. Each time you see it, give thanks for the land and plants God created on the third day and the sun He made on the fourth day!

GOT TIME? *continued...*

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 God created, we will add to our creation mural. Last time we drew the darkness, the light, and the sky God created on Day 1 and Day 2. Today, we will draw the seas, land, plants, and fruit trees for Day 3 and the sun, the moon, and stars for Day 4.

DISCUSSION: CREATION CARE

Purpose: To understand our ability and responsibility to care for others God has created.

Supplies: Will be determined by the activity you choose

Prepare: Research information on local or international efforts to alleviate hunger. Local charities, churches, or schools may offer helpful information as well as sites such as heifer.org, secondharvest.org, kidsagainsthunger.org, or compassion.com. Print helpful pictures and information. If possible, have the children help you gather this information.

We learned today God filled the heavens and the earth with everything we need to live. He continues to fill the land with fruits, vegetables, and seeds for us to eat. Some people in the world do not have the food they need to live. Let's think of ways we can help others receive the food they need.

Did You Know? Share some of the simple facts you discovered about hunger in your area and/or around the world.

What Can I Do? Challenge children to pray that God would show them how He wants them to serve the hungry. Lead children in discussing ways they can serve the hungry. Be sure to share the opportunities you discovered in your research. Pray for those who are suffering from hunger today.

Examples of serving projects:

- Sponsor a food drive. Children may bring in canned food and dry goods to be donated to your local food bank or shelter or collect donations from your community.
- Arrange a day and time for your children and their families to volunteer together for a local organization. This may involve serving meals in a soup kitchen, planting a community garden, picking vegetables from a farmer's donated field, or delivering boxes of food to families in need.
- Raise money for an organization that fights hunger.

Where Can I Go For More? Encourage children to discuss these ideas and to look up more information with their parents. You may wish to give them a list of helpful websites or give them copies of the information you collected. Encourage the children and their families to be involved in your class project as well as a family project.

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.)

What did God create on the third day? (The land, seas, seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees.) **What did God create on the fourth day?** (Sun, moon, and stars.)

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.)