



THE CREATION

GENESIS 1-2

GOAL

- ▶ To communicate God's amazing power in creating the world, emphasize the divine origins of the universe and humankind, and draw out the implications for today.
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GOSPEL HIGHLIGHT

- ▶ The Bible teaches that Jesus was present at creation and that all creation happened through/by Him (John 1:1-3, 1 Corinthians 8:6, Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:2). In the New Testament, we see Jesus at the center of the new creation where everything tainted by sin is made new by the work of the cross (2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Revelation 21).
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CHARACTERS

- ▶ **God:** God is the creator of everything. He is the only one with the power to create something from nothing. He simply speaks and life comes into being.

Adam: He was the first man ever created. All humans are a direct descendant of Adam and it is through Adam that they are born with a sinful nature (Romans 5:12).

Eve: She was the wife of Adam and the mother of Cain and Abel. Eve was the world's very first woman, wife and mother.

WORDS TO KNOW

- ▶ **Creation:** The process by which God called all things into being out of nothing. In the Bible, the act of creation is attributed to all three persons of the trinity: the Father (1 Corinthians 8:6), the Son (John 1:3) and the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:2).
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MEMORY VERSE

- ▶ **Genesis 1:1:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
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MEMORY

VERSE

MEANING

OVERVIEW

SUGGESTIONS

▶ **Read Genesis 1-3:** Before anything existed, God was there. Through His power, wisdom, and creativity, He created everything that exists on earth and in the entire universe.

▶ **Read Genesis 1-3:** In the beginning, there was nothing except for God. God created everything, and everything was good because God declared it to be so. Over the seven days of creation God did the following:

- **Day 1:** God created the heavens and the earth and separated light from dark.
 - **Day 2:** God created the sky, forming a barrier between the ocean & atmosphere.
 - **Day 3:** God created all plant life with the ability to reproduce.
 - **Day 4:** God created the sun, moon, stars and all other heavenly bodies.
 - **Day 5:** God created all sea creatures and birds.
 - **Day 6:** God created land animals and people.
 - **Day 7:** God rested because the work of creation was finished.
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▶ The creation account allows for an exploration of God's mighty character, specifically that God is all powerful, eternal, creative and all knowing. As you discuss these qualities of God with your class, take some time to consider the following:

1. Made in God's image: In His sovereignty, God chose to make us in His likeness. This makes us unique in all of God's creation. Even more amazing is that Jesus would become one of us, die for our sins, and make a way for us to become children of God.

2. Made to reflect God: Being made in God's image means that we have been created to reflect Him to the world around us! The Bible teaches that God's plan for our lives is to become more and more like Jesus (Romans 8:29).

3. Made for community: To be made in the image of God also means that we are created to be in relationship with others. God has always existed in relationship (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and He has created us to become a part of His eternal family.



PRE-LESSON ACTIVITIES

Ages 5-7 **Clay Creations** | **Supplies:** modeling clay or playdough.

Review the seven days of creation with your children and have them create something that represents one of the seven days out of clay. Afterwards, organize your students' sculptures in order of each day of creation. Use these sculptures as a visual to walk your class through the biblical account of creation.

Ages 5-10 **7 Days of Creation Mural** | **Supplies:** butcher paper and markers.

Take a large piece of butcher paper and attach it to a classroom wall. Use a marker to divide the butcher paper into 7 vertical sections. Label each section for the 7 days of creation. Break your class into seven groups and have them use the markers to decorate their section of the mural.

Ages 8-10 **Creation Dice Game** | **Supplies:** 1 six-sided die and each student needs a half sheet of paper. On the sheets of paper, list the numbers 1 through 6 vertically on the left hand side from top to bottom. After the number 6, the sheet of paper should say "(7) God rested."

Have children sit in a circle and give each student one of the half sheets of paper. Students will take turns rolling the die. When they roll a number, have them right down on their sheet of paper something that happened on that day in the account of creation. Once a student rolls the same number for a second time, they must then pass the die to the next student. The first student to fill out their entire card wins!



POST-LESSON ACTIVITIES

Ages 5-7 **Made In God's Image** | **Supplies:** Black, blue and green construction paper, silver glitter, silver permanent marker.

Give each student a black sheet of construction paper. With silver permanent marker, write "Made in God's Image" on the top of the paper and the memory verse on the bottom. Have students outline their hand on green construction paper and cut it out. Next, have them cut out a blue circle that is larger than their hand print. Have children glue the blue circle in the center of the black paper and then glue their green handprint on top of the blue circle. When complete, these cutouts should look like earth in the middle of space. Children can then decorate space with stars using glue and silver glitter.

Ages 5-10 **Creation Scramble** | **Supplies:** Print out a photo or an image representing each day of creation, for a total of seven images.

Look online or in your classroom to find images that represent each day of the Creation account. Pick seven spots on your classroom wall that are equal distance apart. Attach an image to each spot and have your children start in the center of the room. Then, call out a number from one to seven. Children must run to the image that matches the day of creation number. Children who go to the wrong number are out. Continue calling out numbers until there is only one child left.

Ages 8-10 **Name That Animal**

Make a list of animals, but scramble the letters of each animal's name. Have children compete to guess the scrambled name of the animal. This activity can be done as a team competition or individually on pieces of paper. To add a little challenge, break your class into two teams. For each team, print out each letter of an animal's name and pass them out individually to each team member. Be sure and distribute the letters out of order. The first team to assemble all letters into the correct animal name wins. Be sure and do complicated names like "armadillo" or "caterpillar."



TAKE
HOME



God created the universe and everything in it, then He created humans in His image, and then He rested. The last thing God ever created was humans.

1. God gave us the ability to use reason and make decisions. That makes us different from every other thing God created. While animals have brains, they are creatures of instinct, they do not have souls. Our ability to apply reason and make decisions shows that we were created in God's image.

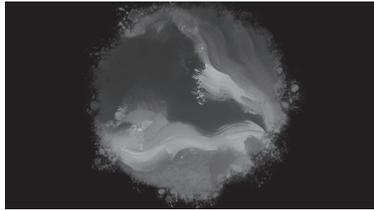
2. We were created to reflect God's goodness and holiness in the world. For a brief time, Adam and Eve were perfect and innocent. While we may still sin, we are forgiven and justified through our faith in Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice on the cross was done to atone for our sins. When we obey God, or heed the urging of the Holy Spirit, we reflect God's perfect image in which we were originally created.

3. We were created for fellowship. God is three persons in one: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each aspect of God's personage loves the others. When we make friends and spend time with our family, we are showing that we were created in God's image.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: What existed in the beginning?

A1: Only God existed in the beginning.

Q1b: Who created God?

Teacher Notes: No one created God. God has always existed. He is constant and unchanging. He is the same now as He was when He created the universe, and He will be the same for all eternity.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: How did God create everything?

A2: What God spoke came to be.

Q2b: What can you make that doesn't require any ingredients or materials.

Teacher Notes: Let students think about this and provide answers. Discuss their answers and determine if they truly wouldn't require anything to make it. It is difficult for us to think of anything we can make that requires no materials, but God made everything that exists out of nothing.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: How did God make man?

A3: God took a bit of clay from the earth, shaped it, and breathed life into it.

Q3b: If God created humans in His image, does that mean God has a body like we do?

Teacher Notes: No, God does not have a form like we do; God is spirit. When the Bible says we were made in His image, it means that God created us to have mental, spiritual, and emotional characteristics that reflected His own.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: What was the one thing Adam was missing?

A4: Adam was missing a human friend—a wife.

Q4b: Why was it not good for Adam to exist alone?

Teacher Notes: God is three persons in one: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father loves the Son, the Son loves the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit loves the Father. Together they are a community. Because God made man in His image, man was made for fellowship and community. When God saw that Adam was alone, it was the only time in the entire creation story that God said something in His creation was not good. He saw Adam's need and immediately created a solution.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: How did God make woman?

A5: He formed woman using a rib taken from Adam.

Q5b: Why is life on earth so different from what is described in the Garden of Eden.

Teacher Notes: Adam and Eve committed the first sin by disobeying God's one and only rule in the Garden of Eden. This one sin has rippled through every generation of humankind. To get us back to living in a world like the Garden of Eden, God sent His Son, Jesus, to die in our place to forgive us of our sins. Jesus promised to return to earth and finally establish His reign on earth, at which point, the entire earth will be made much like the Garden of Eden is described.



**MEMORY
VERSE**

▷ **Genesis 1:1:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

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BIG IDEA

▷ God is so powerful, He created everything in existence out of nothing!

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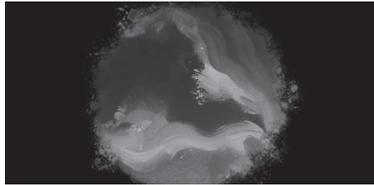
**CLOSING
PRAYER**

▷ Dear God, You were here before there was a here. You made everything. You made us. Thank You for Your power, wisdom, creativity, and love. Help us to know You and love You more and more. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 1



In the beginning, there was absolutely nothing to see—no earth, no stars, no animals, and no light. There was only God.

SLIDE 2



God then decided to create a beautiful world to display His goodness and splendor. He just spoke the words, and it came to be—vast craggy mountains, soaring beautiful trees, crystal lake, winding rivers, and animals of every variety. He placed a massive sun in the sky, warming the earth during the day, and a moon to illuminate the night. It was a breathtakingly beautiful creation.

SLIDE 3



But God was getting ready for His greatest act yet: the creation of man. He planned to make man special, not like the animals; God created man in the image of God Himself. He took a bit of clay from the earth, formed man, and breathed life into him. God called the first man Adam. God made Adam like Himself—with a mind, creativity, wonder, and emotions, and He made him to be happy. God created man with a soul and morality.



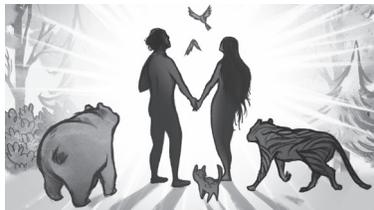
LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 4



Living in the Garden of Eden, Adam learned about all of the animals. He played with them and gave them each names. But something was missing from Adam's life. While it may seem that Adam had it all—a safe and wonderful place to live, millions of pets of every variety, fresh food, a clean new earth, and his friend, God—Adam was missing a human friend.

SLIDE 5



God put Adam to sleep, carefully took one of Adam's ribs, and formed woman. Now, there were people living in God's great creation. They were made for each other—to love each other, keep each other company, enjoy this beautiful world, and worship God. Life in the garden was beautiful and blissful. It was, quite truly, paradise. Adam and Eve had no worries. God had created them. He took care of them. The animals were peaceful and kind. They had all the food they wanted. They saw beauty wherever they turned. On the sixth day of creation, God looked at everything He had made and said it was good. On the seventh day of creation, God rested from all his work. Creation was beautiful, and man was in perfect harmony with God.