

LESSON 1: GOD CREATES US IN HIS IMAGE

Leader Guide for Grades 5 & 6

Classroom: Deeply Rooted

 Genesis 1

08/18/2019

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Genesis 1
- In This Passage: God makes the world. God is creative, making all different kinds of plants and animals, birds and fish, and land and sea. Finally, he creates the pinnacle of his creation: humans! He makes people in his own image, so we can be creative, too!
- Bible Point: God is creative...
- Application: ...so we're creative.
- Summary Verse: "Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding" (Isaiah 40:28).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *God is creative.* Most younger kids think they're creative. But as kids start to age, some get the message that creativity just isn't their thing. Help kids see that they're created in the image of the Creator. God is creative, and that creativity is infused into each of us in different ways.
- Think About: What's the last creative thing you did? What does that show you about God's creativity?

Dig In to Prayer

- Pray that God would reveal his creativity to each child as kids consider how he made each of them specifically.

Quick Tip

- Creativity is not just revealed in art and music. It can show up in creative problem-solving, a new idea for how to play a game, or a wild imagination. Look for creativity in your kids this week. Try to affirm each child for how he or she is reflecting God's creativity.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING

Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



OBJECT LESSON

Kids use rulers to make music.

Supplies

- 12-inch plastic rulers (1 for every 2 kids)
- dry-erase markers (optional)



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Kids use creativity to explore the Bible story and what it means to be made in God's image.

Supplies

- Bibles
- paper grocery bags (1 for every 4 kids)
- craft supplies, including tape, construction paper, and scissors
- random objects, such as eating utensils, recyclables, items from your car or purse, and things from around the room
- "In His Image" handouts (1 per child) ([download here](#))
- pens
- various colors or patterns of scrapbook paper or construction paper (1 color for every 4 kids)

Easy Prep

- From each color of paper, cut a circle, a square, a triangle, and a heart. For every 4 kids, you'll need 1 set of shapes that all have a matching color or pattern.
- Fill each paper grocery bag with at least 5 random objects.



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Kids use creativity to invent a new game.

Supplies

- various game balls (such as tennis balls, soccer balls, or footballs)
- beanbags
- pool noodles
- hula hoops
- masking tape
- buckets
- kids' playing cards
- jump-ropes
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Set out the game supplies where kids can easily access them.



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Kids play a version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey to make funny faces.

Supplies

Easy Prep

- “Face Outline” handouts (1 for every 3 kids) (download [here](#))
- “Facial Features” handouts (1 for every 3 kids) (download [here](#))
- scissors
- tape
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

- Tape the “Face Outline” handouts a few feet apart on a wall.
- Cut out and keep together a set of the “Facial Features” from each handout.
- On the floor, about 10 feet in front of each face outline on the wall, place a set of facial features and a roll of tape.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids pray by creatively using craft supplies.

Supplies

- paper
- markers
- chenille wires
- pompoms
- scissors
- tape
- other random craft supplies



CRAFT

Kids make mirror frames that remind them they're God's masterpieces.

Supplies

- Bible
- thin cardboard or card stock (recycled food packaging works well)
- scissors
- duct tape in a variety of colors
- stickers, stick-on gems, or other decorating supplies
- permanent markers
- 1 mirror or cellphone

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.

**Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



OPENING

Welcome

[5 min]

Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have kids shake hands with four friends using the *back* of their hands.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by having kids sing the words “happy birthday” like opera singers.
- Collect the offering.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we’re going to learn that God is creative. He made everything and said it was good.**

Share

- Tell kids about something *you* made that you’re proud of.
- Have kids form pairs. Ask kids to share about something *they* made that they’re proud of.
- After partners have discussed, ask two or three kids to share with the whole group what they talked about with their partners.

Summarize

Open a Bible to Genesis 1, and say: **Being creative is fun! We all have creativity in us because God is creative and made us in his image. Let’s find out more about what the Bible says about that. The Bible isn’t an ordinary book; it’s God’s special book. The Bible is one way God shows us his heart and how we can reflect him. God is here right now, ready to talk to you. Let’s hear what he has to say as we pray.**

Pray, praising God for his creativity.



OBJECT LESSON

Ru-La-Ti-Do!

[10 min]

Supplies

- 12-inch plastic rulers (1 for every 2 kids)
- dry-erase markers (optional)

Play a Song

Ask: • **Have you ever played an instrument? What did you play?**

Say: **I've brought unusual instruments for us to play today.** Show kids the rulers. **Did you know that rulers can sing? Well, they can with *your* creative help!**

- Demonstrate first by placing a ruler on the edge of a table or seat of a chair. Hold the ruler firmly to the table about 2 inches from the edge of the table with several inches hanging over the edge of the table.
- With your other hand, push down on the end of the ruler that's hanging over the table, and then release the ruler. It'll cause a vibration and make a sound.



- Slide the ruler forward or backward, and then press and release it again. You'll notice that this time, the pitch is higher if you move the ruler forward and lower if you move it back.
- Use the inch or centimeter markings to find different notes as you demonstrate.
- Form pairs and give each pair a ruler.
- Invite kids to experiment and try to make the rulers play different notes. They can even try to play simple songs they know like "Mary Had a Little Lamb," "Hot Cross Buns," or "Are You Sleeping?"

Make Up a Song

Say: **It's fun to try to play songs we know. But now let's create new ones! I'll give you three minutes to create a song; then you'll have a chance to play it for all of us.**

- Have kids make up songs with their rulers. If they'd like, they can mark the rulers with dry-erase markers to help them remember where to move the rulers for each note.
- After three minutes, ask for willing kids who'd like to play their songs for the group. Lead kids in clapping and cheering for their friends after they play.

Talk About It

Say: **God created the world from nothing, but we used rulers to create our songs. We used our creativity to create something new. God is creative. We see his creativity in nature, and we can *hear* it, too!**

Ask: • **Tell about a time you heard God's creativity.** Share an example from your own life to begin. Perhaps it was a bird tweeting when you were going for a walk or a person singing at your church.

Say: **We hear God's musical creativity when birds sing, but we also hear it through the people God made. We hear God's creativity through songs that composers wrote a long time ago or songs that our favorite musicians make today. God is creative, and he's created us to make beautiful things, too—including music.**



Supplies

- Bibles
- paper grocery bags (1 for every 4 kids)
- craft supplies, including tape, construction paper, and scissors
- random objects, such as eating utensils, recyclables, items from your car or purse, and things from around the room
- “In His Image” handouts (1 per child) (download [here](#))
- pens
- various colors or patterns of scrapbook paper or construction paper (1 color for every 4 kids)

Easy Prep

- From each color of paper, cut a circle, a square, a triangle, and a heart. For every 4 kids, you’ll need 1 set of shapes that all have a matching color or pattern.
- Fill each paper grocery bag with at least 5 random objects.

Create

Say: **Today we’re going to discover that God is creative. God is so creative that he made the whole world!**

Distribute shapes. Then have kids find three other people who are “cut from the same cloth” as they are. That means they’ll find kids with different shapes but the same color or pattern of paper. When they find the three other kids, they’ll form a group of four.

Assign each group one of the following parts of creation (it’s okay if you don’t cover them all or if you repeat some):

- land and seas (Genesis 1:9-10)
- plants (Genesis 1:11-12)
- sun, moon, and stars (Genesis 1:14-18)
- fish (Genesis 1:20-22)
- birds (Genesis 1:20-22)
- animals (Genesis 1:24-25)

Give each group a Bible and a bag of objects, and set out craft supplies to share. Say: **You’re going to use the items in your bag to make a display of your group’s part of creation. You can also use craft supplies if you want, but you *have* to use every item in your bag in a creative way. God is creative, so you’re creative, too! Work with your group, and make sure everyone is involved in creating. Ready? Go!**

Direct kids to read their passages first; then allow about five minutes for groups to make their creations. Then have groups show everyone else what they made.

Say: **Wow, God is creative! He made the skies, the land and seas, and everything *in* the skies, on the land, and in the sea. That’s amazing! But you know, *you* were pretty creative when you made your displays. That’s because there’s something very special about the way God made his last creation: people.**

Read Genesis 1:26-27.

Ask: • **What do you think it means to be made in God’s image?**

• **What’s something about you that you think reflects who God is?** Give your own example first, such as that you love kids and you know God loves people, too, or that you like to garden and that reflects God’s creation of flowers and plants. Have kids each tell a partner, and then ask a few kids to share with the whole group.

Say: **We’re learning that God is creative. And since you were made in his image, *you’re* creative, too! I got to see a little bit of who God is when I watched you creating your displays.**

I’m so glad I get to see God’s creativity in each of you.

Cut It Out

Say: **We're made in God's image, but we're not God. It's like when you look at a picture of yourself or look in the mirror. You see someone who looks like you, but it's not exactly you.**

Being made in God's image means we can see in ourselves and our friends little human-sized glimpses of what God is like.

Let's explore what it means to be made in God's image. Earlier, you formed groups with people who were "cut from the same cloth" as you. They had different shapes, but I used the same paper to make all the shapes for your group. Being made in God's image is kind of like that. We're all cut from the same cloth—God's image.

Give each child an "In His Image" handout and a pen. Have kids write their flaws or shortcomings around the edges of the square. Let kids know that no one else will see what they write.

Then have kids each cut out the shape of a person from the paper, cutting the person *only* out of the printed square (so it doesn't include the things they wrote).

Say: **Because we're human—and we're not God—we all have flaws and shortcomings. But the fact that we're created in God's image means that deep down within us, we're cut from the same cloth as God. We share some of his amazing qualities! Point to one of the words written on your paper person. Pause. Now turn to a partner and tell how you've seen that quality in someone else. Pause while partners share. God is creative, and you're creative!**

Ask: • **How does it change the way you think about yourself to know you were made in God's image?**

• **How might it change the way you treat other people when you think about the fact that *they're* made in God's image?**

Have kids throw away the scraps from their handouts, keeping the people.

Say: **The more we get to know God, the more he'll bring out his image in us. As our friendship with God grows, those things that *aren't* a reflection of God get smaller. God can grow his awesome qualities in us! He'll help us treat others like they were made in his image, too.**

Today we're going to focus on how God is creative and helps us be creative. But if you keep coming back, we're going to spend the next year getting to know God better and asking him to shape us more and more into his image.

Let's pray about that.

Pray: **Dear God, thank you that you are creative. Thank you that you made us in your image so we're creative, too! Help us reflect your image more and more all the time. In Jesus' name, amen.**



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Create Your Own Game

[10 min]

Supplies

- various game balls (such as tennis balls, soccer balls, or footballs)
- beanbags
- pool noodles
- hula hoops
- masking tape
- buckets
- kids' playing cards
- jump-ropes
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Set out the game supplies where kids can easily access them.

Tips

- The game supplies listed are suggestions. Feel free to use whatever you have at your church, but offer a wide variety for kids to choose from for creating their own game.
- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the album [here](#).

Create and Play an Original Game

Say: **We're learning that God created our world and everything in it. When you look around, it's easy to see that God is creative! God made us in his image, and that means God put some creativity in us, too. For this game, you get to use your creativity as you make up the rules and then play!**

- Help kids brainstorm and create their new game by
 - choosing a game they already know to be the "backbone" of their new game. They can creatively change the familiar game into something new and high-energy. Give ideas such as Tag, Hopscotch, volleyball, soccer, card sorting, or jump-rope games.
 - combining two well-known games into one, such as adding a Tag element to soccer or jump-rope blended into Hopscotch.
- Allow a few minutes for kids to nail down the rules of their game, decide on what game supplies they'll need from the mix, and form teams (if necessary).
- Give a signal to start the game, and allow kids to play their own game, making any tweaks they'd like to make after each round.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It

Ask: • **What was fun about creating a game?**

• **What do you think worked best in the game?**

• **What do you like about using the creativity God gave you?**

Say: **The Bible says that as God created our world and looked over all he was making, he kept seeing that "it was good." God was pleased with his creation. That sounds like God was enjoying creating, maybe even having some fun like you did in creating your own game. God is creative and shared that awesome part of himself with us, so we're creative, too!**



LOW-ENERGY GAME

[10 min]

Make a Face

Supplies

- “Face Outline” handouts (1 for every 3 kids) (download [here](#))
- “Facial Features” handouts (1 for every 3 kids) (download [here](#))
- scissors
- tape
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- Tape the “Face Outline” handouts a few feet apart on a wall.
- Cut out and keep together a set of the “Facial Features” from each handout.
- On the floor, about 10 feet in front of each face outline on the wall, place a set of facial features and a roll of tape.

Tip

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the album [here](#).

Play a Version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey

Say: **We've learned about how God made the world and all of us. Even just looking around this room and seeing all the different faces God has made makes it easy to see that God isn't just any creator—God is creative! In our next game, you'll get to be creative, too.**

- Form teams of three, and have each team gather by a set of facial features on the floor.
- Have kids take turns choosing a facial feature and making a tape loop to place on the back of the piece.
- When a facial feature is ready, a child will close his or her eyes, spin quickly three times, and try to put the piece on the face outline.
- Team members can call out to guide their friend as he or she goes toward the face outline to place the facial feature.
- Teams are done when their faces each have two eyes, eyebrows, ears, a mouth, and a nose.
- Give a signal to start the game. If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.
- For a silly second round, have kids choose their facial features with eyes closed to see what the faces look like at the end.

Talk About It

Ask: • **Even though everyone was working with facial features that looked the same, why did the faces end up looking different?**

- **What do you think the world would be like if we were all exactly the same?**
- **What's something you like about the way God made you?** Share an example of your own—it can be a physical attribute, such as your eye color, or something about your personality, such as a kind heart.

Say: **We all have eyes, ears, things we're good at, things we like—but all those things are different for each person. You're all one-of-a-kind proof that God is creative, and you showed in our game that you're creative, too!**



Creative Prayers

Supplies

- paper
- markers
- chenille wires
- pompoms
- scissors
- tape
- other random craft supplies

Make Prayers

- Set out craft supplies.
- Tell kids to think of something about themselves they want to thank God for. For example, "I'm thankful God made me good at encouraging other people."
- Encourage kids to use the supplies and be creative in making items that reflect their thanks.

Pray

Have kids hold up their craft prayers as an offering to God.

Pray: **Dear God, thank you that you are creative. We're so glad you made us creatively...and you made us in your image! Thank you for all the wonderful ways you made us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.



CRAFT

[20 min]

Masterpiece Mirror Frames

Supplies

- Bible
- thin cardboard or card stock (recycled food packaging works well)
- scissors
- duct tape in a variety of colors
- stickers, stick-on gems, or other decorating supplies
- permanent markers
- 1 mirror or cellphone

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Make Mirror Frames

Say: **God is creative, so you're creative! Let's use our creativity!**

Show kids the sample craft you made. Set out supplies to share, and have kids follow these instructions to make mirror frames.

- Cut a large rectangle out of cardboard or card stock. (It should be slightly bigger than your face.)
- Cut out the inside of the rectangle, leaving a roughly 1-inch frame.
- Cover the frame with fun colors and patterns of duct tape.
- Add stickers, gems, and other decorations.
- Somewhere on the frame, write "Masterpiece."

Take Selfies

Read Ephesians 2:10. Say: **When you get home, you can tape this frame on your mirror.**

Whenever you look at your reflection, the frame can be a reminder that God is creative and he showed his creativity in how he made you—his masterpiece!

- Have kids take turns holding their frames up to a mirror and looking at their reflections.
- Alternatively, the frames can be used for fun selfies! Kids can hold their frames in front of their faces and take group selfies. Some kids may have their own phones to use for selfies.

Talk About It

Ask: • **What did you do to make your frame creative?**

• **What's something creative about the way God made you?**

Say: God is creative, and he's so creative that he made each of us different! But even though we're all different, we're *all* his masterpieces. That's because we're made in his image. Thanks for using your God-given creativity to make such fun frames!

Have kids take their frames home and hang them on their mirrors or use them for selfies with friends and family as a reminder that God is creative and made them creatively.

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