

# LESSON 1: GOD CREATES US IN HIS IMAGE

Leader Guide for Grades 1 & 2

Classroom: Greenhouse Kids

 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



### OBJECT LESSON

Kids make a mirror image with finger paints.

#### Supplies

- card stock (2 pieces per child)
- washable finger paint in several colors
- small paper plates
- wet wipes
- old T-shirts or paint smocks (optional)

#### Easy Prep

- Squeeze a few paint colors onto a paper plate for each child. Each child will have his or her own paint palette.



### CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Kids use their own creative ideas to make scenes of God's creation.

#### Supplies

- Bible
- blocks or Legos
- craft supplies such as construction paper, pompoms, chenille wire, sequins, foam shapes, and glue
- fabrics in different colors and sizes
- stuffed animals or other toy animals, fish, or bird
- gold foil wrapping paper (available at Walmart and craft stores)
- bell

#### Easy Prep

- Make a creation station for every 5 to 6 kids. Make at least 1 creation station per set of supplies: 1 station with blocks or Legos, 1 station with craft supplies, and 1 station with fabrics in different sizes and colors and the stuffed animals. If you have more than 18 kids, make several stations per set of supplies so kids can work in groups of 5 or 6 with 1 set of supplies.
- Cut the gold foil wrapping into 6x6-inch squares, 1 per child.



### CRAFT

Kids make portraits for friends.

#### Supplies

- transparency sheets (1 per child)
- clear clipboards; clear shallow bins; or other clear, flat, sturdy objects (1 for every 2 children)
- wet-erase markers in a variety of colors
- painter's tape

#### Easy Prep

- Tape the corners of a transparency sheet to each "easel" (clear clipboards or clear shallow bins).
- Make a sample craft to show kids.



### LOW-ENERGY GAME

Kids add facial features to a face outline to make a funny 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.



### HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Kids create a game to play.

## Supplies

- common classroom objects like balls or blocks (1 per child)



## LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

**Kids pray in their creation scenes.**

## Supplies

- creation scenes kids built in Core Bible Discovery

*\*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.



### Supplies

- card stock (2 pieces per child)
- washable finger paint in several colors
- small paper plates
- wet wipes
- old T-shirts or paint smocks (optional)

### Easy Prep

- Squeeze a few paint colors onto a paper plate for each child. Each child will have his or her own paint palette.

### Finger Paint

Say: **Today we're learning that God is creative...so we're creative, too. Let's be creative and use our fingers to paint a picture.**

- Give each child a piece of card stock and a plate with paint. Have kids use their fingers to paint fun pictures.
- As kids paint, comment on their creativity and what you like about their paintings.
- Make your own picture so you can demonstrate the next part of the activity.
- After about five minutes, have kids wash or clean their hands with wet wipes, and remove the paint from the tables.

### Make a Copy

Say: **I really like your paintings.** Tell kids about the painting you made. Explain what you drew and why.

Ask: • **Tell a friend about the picture you made. What did you create?** Invite kids to tell each other about their paintings.

Say: **Your pictures are so cool! Before they dry, let's make a copy! I'll show you how.**

- Show kids how to gently place another piece of card stock on top of the painting, give it a few pats, and then carefully lift it off. You'll now have two pictures!
- Give each child another piece of card stock, and be available to help kids make copies of their paintings.

### Talk About It

Say: **Now we all have two pictures! The first one made the second one, and they look like each other. Just like the first painting made the second one, God made us! God created us so we can show others what he's like. God is kind, so we can be kind to others. God is loving, so we can give hugs and tell people we love them. God is creative, so we can be creative and make new things, too!**



## Supplies

- Bible
- blocks or Legos
- craft supplies such as construction paper, pompoms, chenille wire, sequins, foam shapes, and glue
- fabrics in different colors and sizes
- stuffed animals or other toy animals, fish, or bird
- gold foil wrapping paper (available at Walmart and craft stores)
- bell

## Easy Prep

- Make a creation station for every 5 to 6 kids. Make at least 1 creation station per set of supplies: 1 station with blocks or Legos, 1 station with craft supplies, and 1 station with fabrics in different sizes and colors and the stuffed animals. If you have more than 18 kids, make several stations per set of supplies so kids can work in groups of 5 or 6 with 1 set of supplies.
- Cut the gold foil wrapping into 6x6-inch squares, 1 per child.

## Tip

- Leave kids' creation scenes in place for use in the Life Application Wrap-Up activity.

## Make Creation Scenes

Dim the lights in your room. Say: **Today we're learning that God is creative. That means God can make things. But he doesn't just make simple things. He makes amazing and exciting things! The Bible says he made the whole world, and he even made you and me. God created us, and he made us to be creative, too. God made us in his image. That means God created us to be like him. God is kind to others, and he made us to be kind to others, too. God is brave, and he made us to be brave, too.**

Point out the creation stations. Say: **We can be creative because God made us in his image. Let's use these creation stations to show how God made the whole world.** Invite children to choose a station based on the supplies they want to play with. It's okay if groups aren't even. Your kids may gravitate more toward certain supplies, but try to steer kids into groups of fewer than 10 so there aren't too many kids at a station for everyone to participate.

Have an adult or teen helper join each creation station and help children in the creation process as you tell the Bible story.

Show the Bible. Say: **The Bible shows us God is creative.** Read Genesis 1:1. **God made the world. At first it was covered only in water.** Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to make a round world covered only in water. There's no right way for them to create the creation scenes—the idea is to invite kids to be creative—but adult or teen helpers can help them with ideas about what supplies to use at their stations. Here are some ideas:

- Block or Lego station: Kids might use blue blocks to make a big circle.
- Craft station: Kids might tear a blue sheet of construction paper into a circle. They might work independently, making their own blue circles.
- Fabric station: Kids might lay out a large piece of blue fabric, and bunch the edges to make a circle.

Signal with a bell to let kids know it's time to move on to the next part of the Bible story. Read Genesis 1:3, and then turn on the lights. Read Genesis 1:4-5, and demonstrate night and day by turning the lights on and off a few times.

Say: **God created night and day. And then God separated the sky from the ground.**

Read Genesis 1:9-10. Say: **Next, God made the land and the oceans.** Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to add land to their world. Here are some ideas:

- Block or Lego station: Kids might use brown blocks to add patches of land on top of the water.
- Craft station: Kids might add brown foam shapes over the water they previously created.

- Fabric station: Kids might place small pieces of brown fabric on their water, creating different shapes of “land.”

Signal with a bell to let kids know it’s time to move on to the next part of the Bible story. Say: **God also made the plants we see growing up from the land.** Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to add plants to their scenes. Here are some ideas:

- Block or Lego station: Kids might make trees by stacking several blocks on top of each other.
- Craft station: Kids might bend chenille wires into trees or flowers.
- Fabric station: Kids might bunch brightly colored pieces of fabric to look like flowers or treetops.

Signal with a bell to let kids know it’s time to move on to the next part of the Bible story. Say: **When God looked at the land, water, and plants he made, God said it was good. What you made is good, too. God made you in his image, so you can be creative like him.**

**The Bible says God named all these things—he named the day and the night. He named the sky, the land, and the seas. The Bible says God made the stars and moon to light the sky at night, and he made the sun to light the sky during the day. God said all he made was good. Let’s see what good things you can create.** Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to add to their creation scenes. Kids might make only a nighttime scene or a daytime scene, or they could create a daytime scene on one side of their world and a nighttime scene on the opposite side of their world. Here are some ideas:

- Block or Lego station: Kids might use yellow blocks to make stars and the moon or the sun.
- Craft station: Kids might use sequins to make stars above their world. They might use a large pompom or a round foam shape for the sun or the moon.
- Fabric station: Kids might make a yellow ball from a yellow piece of fabric for the sun or the moon.

Signal with a bell to let kids know it’s time to move on to the next part of the Bible story. Say: **Your creations look good! When God looked at the stars, sun, and moon he created, he said it was good. God is creative, so we can be creative, too. But God didn’t stop there.** Read Genesis 1:20. Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to add fish and birds to their creation scenes. Here are some ideas:

- Block or Lego station: Kids might put together various Lego pieces to make a bird or a fish. They might also pretend one brightly colored block is a bird and another is a fish. They can make fish faces with their lips and make “tweet” noises with their voices.
- Craft station: Kids might use pompoms to make birds or fish. They might also bend chenille wires.
- Fabric station: Kids might pick out stuffed birds or other toy birds or fish to add to their creation scene.

Signal with a bell to let kids know it’s time to move on to the next part of the Bible story. Say: **God told the fish and birds to multiply. God wanted the birds and fish to have baby birds and baby fish so there would be lots of them. God saw the birds and fish, and he said it was good. I like your creations—they’re good, too. Next, God created the animals on the land.** Read Genesis 1:25. Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to add animals to their creation scenes. They can add the animals in a similar way to how they added the fish and birds.

Say: **Let’s find out what God made after he made the animals.** Read Genesis 1:26-27. **That means God made people. He made boys and girls in his image. He made us to be like him. And because God is creative, we can be creative.** Encourage children to work in their creation station groups to add people to their creation scenes. Here are some ideas:

- Block or Lego station: Kids might put Lego people in their scene.
- Craft station: Kids might make chenille-wire people.
- Fabric station: Kids might be live models for their scene.

Signal with a bell to let kids know it’s time to move on to the next part of the Bible story. Say: **God named the people, and he told them to have families. He wanted there to be lots of people on earth. He made the people rulers over the plants, animals, fish, and birds. And he looked over all he made and said it was good. God is creative, so we’re creative, too.** Encourage each group to show off its creation scene to one other group.

## Talk About It

Give each child a square of gold foil. Say: **God is beautiful, kind of like this beautiful, shiny gold square. God gives us light—it’s like he shines and sparkles. He’s kind, loving, patient, strong, and all the other good things in the world. Every good thing comes from him. When God created us...** Begin to shape a square into a heart by crumpling it. **He made us in his image. He put some of himself in us when**

he made us. Because God is kind, when he made us in his image, he put his kindness in us. Because God is creative, when he made us in his image, he put creativity in us.

Show kids how to crumple their gold foil into hearts.



Share about something you think God put in *you*. You might share about how God made you to care about others' feelings or that God made you to be strong so you can help others.

Ask: • **What's something you think God put in you?** Help children think of characteristics of God's that God created in them. They might talk about how they can be helpful because God is helpful or they can listen because God made them to be listeners like he is.

Say: **God is creative. He created you, and he created me! Like this gold paper was formed into a heart, God put his character into us when he made us. He made us in his image. We're made to be like him.**



## CRAFT

### Partner Portraits

[20 min]

### Supplies

- transparency sheets (1 per child)
- clear clipboards; clear shallow bins; or other clear, flat, sturdy objects (1 for every 2 children)
- wet-erase markers in a variety of colors
- painter's tape

### Easy Prep

- Tape the corners of a transparency sheet to each “easel” (clear clipboards or clear shallow bins).
- Make a sample craft to show kids.



### Make Portraits

Help kids get into pairs.

Say: **God is creative, and he created us in his image. Let's use our creativity to make portraits, or pictures, of our partners.** Show kids the sample craft.

- Give one child in each pair an “easel” with a transparency sheet taped to it, and explain that this child will hold the easel in front of his or her face with the transparency side facing out.
- The partner will use markers to draw the child's face on the transparency sheet. Encourage children to trace the shape of their partners' faces and draw their partners' eyes, noses, mouths, hair, and any other features such as glasses or hair bows.
- When partners have finished drawing, let kids look at the pictures of themselves. (Write each child's name on the portrait of him or her.)
- Remove the portraits from the easels, and tape new transparency sheets to them.
- Have kids switch roles so every child has a portrait made by a friend.

Say: **Your partners did such a great job drawing a fun picture of each of you! Your picture shows a lot of things about you, but it doesn't look exactly like you. That can remind us how we're made in God's image. God didn't make us to be exactly like him, because we're not God. But God is creative and made us to show others what he's like.**





## LOW-ENERGY GAME

[10 min]

### Make a Face

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#### 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!**



## HIGH-ENERGY GAME

### Let's Make a Game!

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[10 min]

### Supplies

- common classroom objects like balls or blocks (1 per child)

### Make Up a Game

Say: **Let's have a race. We'll go to the other side of the room and back. But instead of *me* telling us all what to do, *you're* going to make up how the race will go.**

- Have kids line up on one side of the room.
- Let kids decide the rules for the game (how they'll move across the room). Give them options to help them decide quickly. For example: **Should we hop or skip?**
- Begin the race, and remind children to follow the rules they made up.
- Repeat the game several times, each time inviting kids to "create" the game. They can use common classroom objects in their game, or they can just create silly ways to cross the room. Additional ideas include the following:
  - Pretend to be an animal.
  - Move backward.
  - Start at a different place in the room.
  - Move slowly or really fast.
  - Balance blocks on their heads.

### Talk About It

Say: **Thanks for creating our racing game. You were creative and came up with new ideas to make our game fun. We made a game, but *God* made the whole world! God created everything. God is creative! And since we're God's special creation, he's made us creative, too. Let's think of a creative way to move back to our seats. What should we do?** Use kids' ideas to transition to your next activity.



### Supplies

- creation scenes kids built in Core Bible Discovery

### Choose a Creation Scene

Gather the children away from the creation scenes. Say: **Today we found out that God is creative and that we can be creative, too! We learned how God created, or made, the whole world, and we made our own creation scenes to show some of the things God made. Let's thank God for creating us right now.**

Encourage the children to choose a creation scene to sit in. If you have adult or teen helpers, ask them to join children in each creation scene.

### Thank God

Say: **Look around in your creation scene. God made everything in it, including the friends you're sitting next to! Let's thank God for creating us.** Lead the children in a brief prayer, thanking God for creating the land, the sky, the water, the animals, and each one of the children. (If you have a small group, name each child individually.)

Say: **God is so creative that he even made each of us to be special and unique. We each have special talents and things about us that God gave us, and God likes when we use the special things about us to create new things, too. Let's thank God for making us creative.** Lead children in a brief prayer, thanking God for making each person creative. (If you have a small group, name something special about each child.)

Say: **It's wonderful to have each of you creative kids in church with us today. We hope you'll come back next week!**