



## LESSON 1

## CREATION: MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

## LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Made Us in His Image

**SCRIPTURE:** [Genesis 1–2](#)

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** God creates the world and everything in it. His most precious creation is people, who He created in His image to look after the earth and to be in relationship with Him.

**WORD OF WONDER:** Jesus makes us new. —[from 2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

## FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

**WHO?**

The “who” in [Genesis 1–2](#) is God. The Bible makes it clear that God is the One who brings all things to life. And the high point of His creation is humanity— Adam and Eve, the first two people. They represent God's image.

**WHAT?**

[Genesis 1–2](#) shows the depth and breadth of God's creation. From darkness to light, from tiny insects to great sea creatures, God created them all. In His good world, all is beautiful and as it's meant to be.

**WHERE?**

Everywhere! This is the big story of the creation of the whole world. God placed Adam and Eve in a garden called Eden, near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers ([Genesis 2:10–14](#)). This places Eden in modern-day southern Iraq in the region of Mesopotamia.

**WHEN?**

The Bible tells us this happened “in the beginning” ([Genesis 1:1](#)). The main point is that God created everything according to His purpose. [Genesis 1](#) focuses on the big picture of creation, and [Genesis 2](#) zooms in on the care God put into creating humanity.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

In the beginning, there was no sin or suffering. The world was beautiful, and humanity walked and talked with God. Sadly, sin marred creation and people's relationship with God. God promises to one day restore all things. All who trust in Jesus will be made new, and sin and suffering will be no more.

# Curiosity

## Play Stations

Greet the kids warmly and briefly explain the play stations to them. Invite them to play at any of the stations.

**Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help you get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas about what we'll be learning today?**

### Play Station: Mirror Me

**Set up:** Ahead of time, print a copy of the [Faces Sheet](#). Set out a mirror.

**Play:** Encourage the kids to choose a picture of a person from the Faces Sheet and try to make the same face as the person in the picture while looking in the mirror.



### Play Station: Shaving Cream Creations

**Set up:** Set out a baking sheet and spray shaving cream on it just before the kids arrive. Set out a towel and wet wipes for cleanup. You can also squirt a few drops of food coloring into it.

**Play:** Let the kids create whatever they would like in the shaving cream. They can draw in it with their fingers to make their own creations.

### Play Station: Creation Coloring Sheet

**Set up:** Ahead of time, print one copy per kid of the [coloring sheet](#) and set out coloring utensils.

**Play:** Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw a picture of themselves.

## Craft: Clay Creations

Set out a few lumps of air-dry clay on a paper plate for each kid. You can also set out dough sculpting tools.

Today we're learning God created the world and how God made us in His image. We're going to make creations of our own with this air-dry clay. I'll read a list of things that God made, and you can make something out of the clay. As you create it, think about how amazing it is that God created the whole world and everything in it ... and He created us!



Encourage the kids to listen as you say the things God made. They can make something from each day of creation using their clay and sculpting tools. It's OK if their creations are abstract!

**On day one of creation, God made light. Can you make a sun to remind you of light?** Pause to allow the kids to work.

**On day two of creation, God separated the sky and water. Can you take one piece of clay and separate it or put another color next to it to remind you of the sky and water?** Pause to allow the kids to work.

**On day three of creation, God created the land and plants. Can you create a plant? It can be a flower or a tree or a bush—anything that grows!** Pause to allow the kids to work.

**On day four, God made the sun, moon, and stars. Can you make shapes that look like the sun, moon, or stars?** Pause to allow the kids to work.

**On day five, God made birds and fish. Can you make a bird or fish?** Pause to allow the kids to work.

**On day six of creation, God made animals, insects, and people. Can you make a person or animal?** Pause to allow the kids to work.

**On day seven of creation, God rested. He said everything He created was good. You did a great job of creating different things. Let's take a rest from creating just like God did on the seventh day.** Encourage the kids to pause. **You can take your creation home and let it dry, and it will remind you that God created everything.**

## Active Game: Reflecting in Action

**Our Wonder Truth reminds us that God made us in His image. When we care for His creation and follow His directions, we reflect what God is like. Let's play a game where you'll reflect whatever the leader is doing by doing the same thing. When we look in a mirror, we can see our reflection, and it does everything we do. In our game, you can do everything I do!**

Demonstrate how to play by clapping and encouraging the kids to clap too.

**Good job! I clapped my hands, and you reflected what I did by clapping your hands as well.**

Continue with various motions, such as jumping, walking, stomping, patting your head, spinning, waving your arms, dancing, and more. If you have time, let kids take turns being the leader.

**You did a great job reflecting my actions! This game helps us remember that being made in God's image means we get to show what God is like because we reflect Him!**

## Identity

### Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking God for creating our world. At the end of the prayer, thank Him for making us in His image.

**We're going to pray and thank God for His creation. When I say it's your turn, you can name some things God created, and we'll thank Him. Let's pray and talk to God.**

**God, thank You for creating our world. Thank You for creating ...** (call on a few kids and encourage them to name things God has created). **Thank You, God, for making people, and thank You for making us! Thank You for making us in Your image. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** **God made the flowers and trees, the birds, and the world, and He made you and me! May you always remember that God made you special and in His image. Never forget how special you are to God and how much He loves you!**