

Creation

Sunday School Lesson for Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, 45 minutes

Main point: God made everything, and everything He made is good, including you.

Bible passage: Genesis 1:1–2:3. Read it before class.

Memory verse: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." *Genesis 1:1 (KJV)*

You need: a Bible, 7 paper plates, a marker, tape, a flashlight, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child. If you have them: a leaf, a toy fish, a toy animal and star stickers.

Before class: write the numbers 1 to 7 on the fronts of the plates, and the memory verse on the backs (see part 4). Put a bookmark in your Bible at Genesis 1.

1. Opening game: Can You Make It? (5 minutes)

Ask kids to "make" things with only their bodies: "Make a tree!" (They stand tall with arms out like branches.) "Make a fish!" "Make a star!" Then ask: *Can you make a real tree just by saying "tree"? Can you make a real star?* Say: "People can build things out of stuff that is already here. Today we will hear how God made the whole world just by speaking."

2. Bible story: God Made Everything (10 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Genesis 1, so the kids can see the story comes from God's Word. Hold up each numbered plate as you tell it in your own words:

Read Genesis 1:1 from your Bible: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." At first the earth had no shape and nothing on it, and it was dark. God's Spirit moved over the waters (1:2).

Day 1: God said, "Let there be light," and there was light (1:3)! (*Click on the flashlight.*) God saw that the light was good. He called the light Day, and He called the darkness Night (1:4–5).

Day 2: God made the sky. He put it between the waters below and the waters above. The Bible calls it the **firmament**, and God called it Heaven (1:6–8).

Day 3: God gathered the waters together into seas, and the dry land came up. God called the dry land Earth and the waters Seas, and He saw that it was good (1:9–10). Then God made grass, plants with seeds, and trees with fruit (1:11–12).



The story continues: **Day 4:** God made two great lights: the greater light (the sun) to rule the day, and the lesser light (the moon) to rule the night. He made the stars too (1:14–19).

Day 5: God filled the seas with fish and great sea creatures, and He filled the sky with birds. God blessed them and told them to have lots of babies and fill the seas and the earth (1:20–23).

Day 6: God made the land animals: cattle, creeping things and wild animals (1:24–25). Then God made **people in His own image**, male and female (1:27). He blessed them and gave them the job of caring for the earth and every living thing (1:28). **Read Genesis 1:31 from your Bible:** "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good." Say: "God looked at everything He made, and it was **very good!**"

Day 7: The heavens and the earth were finished, so God rested from all His work. He blessed the seventh day and made it holy (2:1–3).

3. Questions to ask (5 minutes)

1. Who made the heaven and the earth? (*God did, Genesis 1:1*)
2. What did God make on the very first day? (*Light, 1:3*)
3. On which day did God make the sun, moon and stars? (*The fourth day, 1:16–19*)
4. In whose image did God make people? (*In His own image, 1:27*)
5. What did God do on the seventh day? (*He rested, 2:2*)

4. Memory verse: Seven Plates (5 minutes)

Tape the 7 plates up in order, verse side out: *In the / beginning / God / created / the heaven / and the earth. / Genesis 1:1*. Explain the old words: **created** means made something new, and **the heaven** means the sky and everything above us. Read the verse together. Then flip one plate around to its number side and read it again. Keep flipping one plate each time until the kids can say the whole verse by themselves.

5. What this means for us (5 minutes)

Say: "God made everything, and He made you in His image. God loves you very much. But everyone has done wrong things. The Bible calls that sin: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23, KJV). That means none of us is as good as God. Jesus is God who came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us how to obey the gospel, the good news about Jesus: 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:38, KJV) To **repent** means we are sorry for our sin and we turn away from it. We are **baptized**, buried all the way under the water, in Jesus' name, so our sins are washed away (Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16).

Remission means God takes our sins away. And God fills us with the **Holy Ghost**, His own Spirit, and we speak in other tongues, words God gives us, just like the believers did in the Bible (Acts 2:4)."

Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

This week: every day, find one thing God made (a flower, a bird, the moon) and say, "Thank You, God, You made that!"

6. Activity (10–15 minutes)

Choose one: the **Creation word search** (vbshq.com/puzzles/creation-word-search), the Creation coloring page or craft (vbshq.com/bible-stories/creation), or **Day Scramble**: lay the 7 plates on the floor, number side up. Call out something God made ("fish!", "the moon!", "trees!") and the kids run to stand by the right day's plate. Call "rest!" and everyone runs to plate 7 and sits down.

7. Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for making the sky, the plants, the animals and me. Thank You that everything You make is good. Help us take care of Your world and be kind to others, because You made them in Your image too. In Jesus' name, amen."

If a child asks "Who made God?": answer simply. Nobody made God. He was already there "in the beginning" (Genesis 1:1), and He never had a start. That is one way God is different from everything He made.

