

September 12, 2012

Creation

Genesis 1-2:2

Psalm 139

LESSON FOCUS**Creation**

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17). This lesson is on Creation. Give your students plenty of chances to experiment, laugh, learn, and have fun! Let them build relationships with you and with one another!

As the book of Genesis begins, we see these words untarnished by the ages: ***“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*** (Genesis 1:1) In these few simple words we have the Bible declaration of the origin of the universe. God called all things into being by the word of His power. He spoke and worlds were formed. ***“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.”*** (Hebrews 11:3).

The deeds of our God, as seen in creation, are His footprints by which we recognize His work and Himself. The creation story speaks to us of God’s wisdom, power, goodness and love. The more we study the works of creation, the more we learn to love, to wonder, and to adore. When we look up at the sky and its beauty – at the sun, the moon, the stars, and their light – at our earth and at everything that fills it, in all this we recognize God. All God’s creation points us to the Creator, God.

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.” 2 Corinthians 5:17. Tonight’s lesson is on Creation. In this lesson give your students plenty of chances to experiment, laugh, learn, and have fun! Let them build relationships with you and with one another!

LARGE GROUP BEGINNING

3 minutes

At this time take attendance, divide students into small groups and move to your first rotation. There are 4 rotations: Bible story, Bible challenge, Games, Science Challenge

BIBLE STORY

Genesis 1:1-2:3

15 minutes

Read from your Bible. Ask students to find it in a Bible too. Those that can read can follow along. Choose the passages you would like to read aloud. Use Tell the Story below. Use visuals to help tell the story. Use a picture Bible to help children see the story.

Let the children know that God gives us the pleasure of knowing Him, our Creator. Let the children know that God has created us from scratch.

No one else is just like you! Let the children know that God doesn't make mistakes and God doesn't make yucky things.

In the beginning of time, God made the world and everything in it. Earth was empty and dark. So, the first thing God made was light. He made day and night. The second day God saw that water and land were all mixed up. So, He fixed that too.

God spent the next five days making the sun and moon, planting plants, making fish and birds. He made big animals and small animals. He made wild animals and tame animals. And He told each kind of animal to make more animals just like itself. Then God smiled because what He had done was very good.

But wait! God had one more thing He wanted to make, you and me!

Tell the Story:

Leader: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. On the first day, God said, "Let there be light." And there was light. God made day and night.

All: "It was good."

Leader: On the second day, God made sky and water.

All: "It was good."

Leader: On the third day, God made dry land and separated it from the water. God made plants and trees.

All: "It was good."

Leader: On the fourth day, God made the sun, moon, and stars.

All: "It was good."

Leader: On the fifth day, God made fish and birds.

All: "It was good."

Leader: On the sixth day God made animals.

All: "It was good."

Leader: Also on the sixth day God made Adam in His image.

All: "It was very good."

Leader: On the seventh day God rested.

Here's a great way to tell the Creation story. In a big bowl, add the ingredients in parentheses as you read the story from Genesis 1:1 - 2:2...

- Day 1 -- God created the light and dark (mini Oreo cookies).
- Day 2 -- God separated the water on the top from the water on the bottom. The top was sky, and the bottom was ground (Frosted Mini-Wheats cereal for the clouds and the ground).
- Day 3 -- God made the green grass, the trees, and the flowers (green M&M's candies, stick pretzels, and red M&M's candies). God also made the fruit and the berries (raisins and blue M&M's candies).
- Day 4 -- God created the sun and the moon and the stars (orange M&M's candies and yellow M&M's candies).
- Day 5 -- God made the birds and the fish (Goldfish crackers).
- Day 6 -- God made man and woman and all the animals that walk on the ground (animal cookies).
- Day 7 -- God rested on the seventh day (marshmallow "pillows"). God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

God looked at everything he made and said, "That looks good!" Now, let's enjoy God's creation by eating our snack!

You'll need one small package of M&M's for each student. The other ingredients use small amounts of each for each snack size baggie.

GAMES

15 minutes

Game 1: Name Game

7 minutes

This medium energy game will help students get to know one another. When God created us, He knew us by name.

Group students into teams of six to eight each. Teams line up in a single-file line leaving at least 4 feet between each team.

In our game today, each person will take a turn to call out to his or her team the letters of his or her name. When a vowel (A,E, I, O, or U) is said, team members jump up in the air. When a consonant (any other letter) is said, team members squat down. Let's practice with my name.....

At your signal, the first student on each team begins calling out the letters of his or her first name while the other students on the team jump or squat down according to the letter called. When the first student is done, the second team member calls out the letters of his or her name with teammates responding as above.

Discussion Questions: What names did you learn?
What are some ways we can get to know God more?

Listen to these verses:

"Before I formed you (*in the womb*) I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;" Jeremiah 1:5a

"He who created you...
He who formed you,

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." Isaiah 43: 1
God knows us very well! Before He formed us He knew us! He redeemed us, and calls us by name!
Wow! That's awesome!

Game 2: Clump Breakers

7 minutes

Students will form groups based on the numbers the leader calls out.
Use an open space.

When I call out a number, you will need to form groups of that size by connecting with others around you. For example, if I call out "five", you'll need to hook arms with four other people for a total of 5 people. Make sure you group isn't too big or too small.

Call out various numbers and keep the game moving quickly. Make sure you include numbers that are impossible for everyone to find a place, like one more than the total number you have in your group.

Discussion Questions: What was it like to find a group quickly?
What happened with you couldn't find someone quickly?
How did you feel when you grouped with everyone, but couldn't get the right number of people?

We are all created in His image, whether we have brown hair or blonde, green eyes or not....we all belong to Him...we are part of His group all the time.

SCIENCE CHALLENGE

15 minutes

New Creation Sensation

Supplies:

White glue	Water
Borax	2 cups per person
Spoons	Baggies
Paper towels	Sharpies

Label cups A & B,

Put glue into cup A a third of the way up from the bottom

Add 5 teaspoons of water.

Put warm water into cup B a third of the way up from the bottom.

Add a level teaspoon of Borax into this cup, stir well.

Pour B into A, stirring as you do. You won't need all of B, save some B for later if needed.

As you stir B into A, the mixture will cling to the spoon. Take the spoon out of cup A and use your hand to pull the flubber off of the spoon. Knead this a bit.

Store flubber in a baggie.

Talk about it:

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." 2 Corinthians 5:17

BIBLE CHALLENGE

15 minutes

Psalm 139:14

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Read this passage from your Bible. Ask students to locate it in a Bible too. Help them learn this verse.

Take a digital photo of each child and print it right away!

While photos are developing, help students write tonight's Bible verse on an index card. When photos are ready, attach photos to index cards and put a magnetic strip on the back of each so they can hang them up at home.