



CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Memory Verse

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

Context/Background

This is the very beginning of God's story in the Bible. God the Father and the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit were all present and active in the beginning. The world God created was perfect – until the first humans sinned (see 'The Fall').

Summary

Genesis 1 tells the story of creation and begins to reveal to us the Creator. The creation account should help us to regard with awe God's wisdom, power and goodness. First there is nothing. Then suddenly, out of nothing, God creates light, seas and land, sun and stars. Out of the ground God forms intricately designed animals and intelligent human beings. God simply speaks and things begin to exist. What an amazing and powerful God.

The world is created for human beings to enjoy, but also to take care of and appreciate. (GROW Kids Year A)

Relevance/Application

Themes: Appreciation, Creation, Beauty

Younger students:

- God created all things, and loves and cares for his creation.
- God created a wonderful world for all of us to live in, enjoy and take care of

Older students:

- The Triune God is Creator. All persons of the Trinity are involved in creation.
 God says, "Let us make man in <u>our</u> image." In Genesis it says, 'the Spirit of
 God hovers over the waters,' and other Bible passages refer to the Son
 being involved in creation also.
- The world is created for people to enjoy and to take care of. As caretakers, humans are to conserve and preserve, not destroy God's good creation.

Christian Studies Framework

Christian Beliefs Key Idea 1: Christians believe God is one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Christian Living Key Idea 1 Christians believe that God creates people to live in relationship with him and with each other

Key Idea 3 Christians have a responsibility in and for the world

Catechism Connections

The First Article of the Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still preserves them; that He richly and daily provides me with food and clothing, home and family, property and goods, and all that I need to support this body and life; that He protects me from all danger, guards and keeps me from all evil; and all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which I am in duty bound to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Discussion/Wondering Early Years **Questions:**

- What's your favourite animal?
- What did God make?
- What did God think about all the things he made?

Primary

- What is your favourite thing to do in nature?
- How did the world begin?
- God has asked us to take care of all he has created. How do you help to do this?

Secondary

- What part of God's amazing creation do you enjoy most? Why?
- What do you think it means that we were 'created in God's image'? (see also Colossians 3:10 and Ephesians 4:24)
- Read v 26. God said, "Let us make..." Who do you think he means by 'us'?

Images or objects to spark discussion

- A collection of nature objects (flowers, rocks, a bowl of water etc)
- A globe or an inflatable earth ball



Photo by NASA on Unsplash

Telling the Story

Bibles: The Beginner's Bible

The Big Rescue Bible

The NIV Bible

Bible Story Books

The Jesus Storybook - The Beginning: A Perfect Home

Creative Storytelling:

Have groups of students illustrate the different days of creation and create your own Creation picture book or slide presentation featuring the artwork.

Tracts and Other Resources

Lutheran Tract Mission – In the Beginning Story Tract and regular and large print activity booklets, Creation tract





GROW Ministries

GROW Kids First Sunday after Pentecost (Trinity Sunday) Year A Woven Together - January Genesis 1-2:24 God Creates Adam and Eve

Audio Stories/Podcasts

Kids Corner – Bible Stories The Creation Story

Bible.ls - Audio recordings of the Bible in many different languages and several English translations. Searchable by book and chapter. Excellent resource for NESB learners.

Videos: Early Years / Junior Primary

Creation (Genesis 1-2)- Saddleback Kids

Middle - Upper Primary

Something from NOTHING - The Creation Story with LEGO (Bible) - Bite Sized Bricks

Secondary/Staff

How Genesis 1 Communicates What The Whole Bible is About - BibleProject Why Should Christians Care for Creation? - BioLogos

Invocation

And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light.

God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

Creator God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – fill us with the light of your love and grace as we gather in worship today.

Prayers

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for making me. Thank you for giving us this wonderful world to live in. Help us to look after your world the way you want us to. Amen.

God of creation, what you have done is amazing! How great is your name in all the earth! Amen.

Mealtime Prayer

Triune God, thank you for all you make and all you give. May we praise your great name as long as we live! Amen.

Blessing

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

the love of God the Father,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you, now and forever. Amen.

OR

(Name), know that God the Father created you and loves you.

Music

Blessed Jesus, at your word (Lutheran Hymnal 500)

Fairest Lord Jesus (Lutheran Hymnal 152) or <u>Fairest Lord Jesus - Fountainview</u> Academy

God is so good (All Together 54) Father in Heaven (All Together 115)

All things bright and beautiful

Younger students: All Things Bright and Beautiful - Christian Songs For Kids

All Creatures of Our God and King | Anthem Lights

Whole Wide World - Crossroads Kids' Club

Creation Song - Saddleback Kids

<u>Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord) (Lyric Video) - Matt Boswell and Matt Papa</u> This is the Day - CityAlight

Activities

Early Years:

- Make people, animals and plants from playdough or plasticine, and talk about how God made everything.
- Clean up the yard and plant some seeds/seedlings

Primary:

- Creation is beautiful but sometimes we don't always take care of it like we should. Do a school grounds clean-up. Provide rubbish bags and disposable gloves and pick up rubbish.
- Create a mural or poster featuring an acrostic poem on the word Creation.
- Play 'Earth, Air, Water'. Form a circle. Throw a ball between players. The
 thrower has to call out either 'Earth', 'Air' or 'Water'. The person thrown to
 has to call out a creature that lives in that space as they catch the ball,
 before passing the ball to someone else, calling out 'Earth', 'Air' or 'Water'.
 Repeated animals, animals from the wrong space or long hesitations means
 the player is out.

Upper Primary/Secondary:

- Consider how your care group/school can help care for creation at school, in the local community or around the world. Choose a project to contribute to.
- Get creative. As a group, make something to reflect the beauty of God's creation (collaborative artwork, music video, cloth for the altar etc) or create beautiful things to sell as a fundraiser for an environmental cause.