God Made the Sky and Earth

Lesson 1

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-19
Bible Memory: Genesis 1:1, 31

“In the beginning God created the sky and the earth. . . . and it was very good.” (ICB)
“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. . . . and, behold, it was very good.” (KJV)

Focus: ♥ God made the sky and the earth.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion
Your children may know that God created the world, but this lesson can add sight, smell, touch, taste, and feel to God’s creation. Take the time to wonder at the shape of a cloud, the feel of a raindrop, the sound of the rustling wind, and the smell and sight of a perfect flower. You will be ready to pass on to your children the amazing fact that God created our world ex nihilo, out of nothing!

Bible Background for the Teacher
The Hebrew word for God in Genesis 1:1, Elohim implies God’s power and glory. Verse two describes the earth as it first appeared when it was called into existence—formless, empty, dark. Then God spoke! He had a plan and a purpose for everything He was about to make. The Bible says that God’s Word was carried out instantaneously. God himself named the day and night, the sky, the land, and the seas. He is ruler of all.

Lesson 1 at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GETTING STARTED</th>
<th>HeartShaper Materials</th>
<th>Other Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore things God made on Days 1–4.</td>
<td>• Resources sheet 2 photo puzzles</td>
<td>• none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quick Step</strong></td>
<td>• Scout puppet, Make-n-Share lesson 1 and stickers</td>
<td>• scissors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It Fits Together</td>
<td>• none</td>
<td>• grown plants and their seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation Clues Search</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds of Creation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIBLE DISCOVERY</th>
<th>Sing and Pray</th>
<th>Bible Time</th>
<th>Bible Review</th>
<th>Bible Memory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use all of these activities to help children tell what God made on Days 1–4.</td>
<td><strong>Resources CD, Resources sheet 2 spyglass 1b and sheet 1 “I Spy” poster 1a</strong></td>
<td><strong>God Made the Sky and Earth</strong></td>
<td><strong>Resources CD Bible Memory Motions printable file, Teaching Picture 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>CD player, Bibles, Bible with Bible Memory highlighted</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROW AND GO</th>
<th><strong>Quick Step</strong></th>
<th>Creation Clues Cards</th>
<th>Creation Grab Bag</th>
<th>Memory Motions</th>
<th>Closing the Hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use one or more of these learning centers to help children thank God for making the sky and the earth.</td>
<td><strong>Scout puppet, Make-n-Share lesson 1 and stickers</strong></td>
<td>• none</td>
<td><strong>Resources CD Bible Memory Motions printable file, Teaching Picture 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Heart Tugs issue 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>crayons or markers, blunt-tip scissors, resealable plastic bags</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>paper bags, creation items</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bible</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>none</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

1 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore things God made on Days 1–4.

Welcome

- Use the Scout puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child to class, then guide the child to a center.

Quick Step It Fits Together

Before class, punch apart the puzzle and mix up the pieces.

SAY: The Bible tells us that God made the sky and the earth in six days. Let’s look at some things God made on the first four days.

Encourage children to work together to match the picture pieces. Let them try silly combinations before they correctly match the pieces.

ASK: What would it look like if the trees were on top of the sky? Or if the sun was in the ocean?

God put everything in our world together in the right order so that we would have a perfect place to live!

Especially for 4s!

Have 4s put together one picture at a time. They can try silly combinations after all the pictures have been matched.

Creation Clues Search

Before class, cut apart a set of the lesson 1 Creation Clues cards from Make-n-Share. Put a dog biscuit sticker on each card, or tape a real dog biscuit to each card. Hide the cards in your room.

SAY: The Bible tells us that God made the sky and the earth in six days. Let’s look around the room for some hidden Creation Clues cards. Scout will help us find the cards by barking loudly or softly.

Allow children to look around the room. Scout can bark louder if a child is near a card and softer if farther away. When both cards have been found, show both sides of the two Creation Clues cards.

ASK: What are some things God made that you see on these cards? What color is that thing? How does it smell? taste? sound? Ask appropriate questions for each item the children name.

What is your favorite thing God made?

Seeds of Creation

SAY: The Bible tells us that God made the sky and the earth in six days. Let’s look at some things God made on the third day.

Show the seeds and plants and ask the children to match each seed with its grown counterpart. Allow children to touch and smell the seeds and plants. Cut an apple in half and show children the star shape the seeds form. God made the sky and the earth. He is so creative.

ASK: Why do you think that plant matches that seed? Does a seed always grow the same kind of plant? What other kinds of trees, flowers, vegetables, or fruits can you name?

Focus

Heart God made the sky and the earth.

Materials

Resources sheet 2 photo puzzles

Teaching Tip

A set of Creation Clue cards will be used throughout the unit, so be sure to keep them each week.

Materials

Scout puppet, one set of cards from Make-n-Share lesson 1 and stickers, scissors (optional: dog biscuits and tape)

Cleanup

Have groups of two or three children do specific tasks as they sing “Cleanup Song,” found on the Resources CD Teacher Helps printable file.
Focus
❤ God made the sky and the earth.

Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

Sing and Pray

Sing “Thank You, God” (verse 1) and “In the Beginning.”

PRAY: God, thank You for making the sky and the earth. We are so glad to learn from the Bible how You made our world. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Show the spyglass. ASK: Have you ever wanted to be a detective, looking for clues about how something happened? Today we’re going to look at some clues to find out what happened when ❤ God made the sky and the earth.

Bible Time

Display the “I Spy” poster. SAY: For our first clue, we need to look in our Bibles. Help children open their Bibles to the book of Genesis. Point out the word Genesis. The Bible tells us what it was like before anything was on the earth. In the book of Genesis, it says there was nothing on the earth. There was no air or land or light. Everything was dark and without any kind of shape.

But then something happened! God spoke. On the first day, God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. Just like that! Clap your hands together once. Have children do so too.

On the second day, God made the sky and the air we breathe. Have everyone take a deep breath and let it out. Raise your hand if you see the sky on our poster. Place the spyglass over the sky.

On the third day, God made the dry ground appear. Then God said, “Let the land have plants!” Trees and vegetables and flowers and grass appeared on the ground. Which of these creations do you see on our poster? Place the spyglass over each item as the children name it. God saw that the land and the plants were good.

On the fourth day, God made the sun, moon, and stars. Do you see any of these things on our poster? Place the spyglass over the sun, moon, and stars. God saw that the sun, moon, and twinkling stars were good.

In just four days God had created a beautiful and bright world!

Bible Review

Let children to take turns placing the spyglass over various items on the poster. The children can say together on what day God made that item.

ASK: On what day did God make light? (Day 1)
When did God make the sky? (Day 2)
When did God make the dry ground and plants? (Day 3)
When did God make the sun? the moon? the stars? (Day 4)

Bible Memory

SAY: In Genesis, the very first book of our Bibles, we learn about the time when ❤ God made the sky and the earth.

Open your Bible to the first page of the book of Genesis and find Genesis 1:1, 31. Read aloud the Bible Memory and ask the children to say it with you.
Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

Focus

God made the sky and the earth.

Quick Step Creation Clues Cards

SAY: Scout is thankful that God made the sky and the earth. Nod puppet’s head. We can thank God too. Every time you name something to thank God for, Scout will give you a dog biscuit sticker to put on one of your Creation Clues cards.

Help children cut out the cards. As they complete the cards, guide them to name things God created on each day. Have Scout give each child one sticker for each of the first four days of creation. Help children print their names on their cards. Put each child’s cards in a separate plastic bag. More cards will be added throughout the unit.

ASK: Do you remember what God made on the very first day? (light)

What is something in the sky that you can thank God for?

What is a plant that God made on Day 3?

Creation Grab Bag

SAY: We can be thankful because God made the sky and the earth. Let’s take turns discovering some things we can thank God for.

Have children sit in a circle. Pass one bag around the circle and let children take turns touching the object in the bag without seeing it. After everyone has had a turn, let children guess the object. They can thank God by naming something special about that object—how it feels, looks, smells, sounds, or tastes. Repeat with several bags.

ASK: How does an apple taste? How does that make you thankful?

I’m so thankful God made smooth, cold rocks! What are you thankful God made? Take time to pray with the children.

Memory Motions

SAY: Let’s learn the words in our Bibles that tell us that God made the sky and the earth. Then we’ll thank God for what He made.

Show children the words in your Bible as you read them aloud. Say the words together. Say the Bible Memory again, adding motions from the CD. Between times of saying the Bible Memory, ask children to name things they are thankful God made. They can look at the teaching picture for ideas.

ASK: Why are you thankful God made the sun?

What will you say to thank God for making splishy, splashy water? Allow each child to say a thank-You prayer to God.

Especially for 4s!

Teach only the first part of the Bible Memory and choose fewer motions. Point to items on the teaching picture that children can thank God for.

Closing the Hour

Be sure children who are leaving now have their activity projects and a copy of today’s Heart Tugs. Note: A Family Together Time page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.
God Made the Sky and Earth

**Lesson 1**
**Extra Hour**

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:1-19

**Bible Memory:** Genesis 1:1, 31

“In the beginning God created the sky and the earth. . . . and it was very good.” (ICB)

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. . . . and, behold, it was very good.” (KJV)

**Focus:** 🌍 God made the sky and the earth.

**Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion**

Your children may know that God created the world, but this lesson can add sight, smell, touch, taste, and feel to God’s creation. Take the time to wonder at the shape of a cloud, the feel of a raindrop, the sound of the rustling wind, and the smell and sight of a perfect flower. You will be ready to pass on to your children the amazing fact that God created our world ex nihilo, out of nothing!

**Bible Background for the Teacher**

The Hebrew word for God in Genesis 1:1, *Elohim* (El-oh-heem) implies God’s power and glory. Verse two describes the earth as it first appeared when it was called into existence—formless, empty, dark. Then God spoke! He had a plan and a purpose for everything He was about to make. The Bible says that God’s Word was carried out instantaneously. God himself named the day and night, the sky, the land, and the seas. He is ruler of all.

---

**Lesson 1 at a Glance—Extra Hour**

1. **MORE! GETTING STARTED**
   - Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore things God made on Days 1–4.
   - **Quick Step**
     - Scout’s Creation Clues
     - Wonderful Water!
     - Creation Texture Pictures

2. **MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY**
   - Use all of these activities to help children tell what God made on Days 1–4.
   - **More! Sing and Pray**
     - Bible Time—Another Way!
     - God Made the Sky and Earth
     - More! Bible Review
     - More! Bible Memory

3. **MORE! GROW AND GO**
   - Use one or more of these learning centers to help children thank God for making the sky and the earth.
   - **Quick Step**
     - Scout Puppet Story
     - “It Is Good!”
     - Saying Good-bye

**HeartShaper Materials**

- Scout puppet
- None
- None

**Other Materials**

- Ice, ice bucket, paper towels
- Creation items, sidewalk chalk, hair spray, plain white paper, tape

**Resources CD, Teaching Picture 1**

- CD player, Bibles, flashlight, construction paper strips

- Grass clippings, tree twig, 2 small rocks
- None
- None

---

*Pre-K & K Teacher, Unit 1, Lesson 1, Extra Hour*
More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore things God made on Days 1–4.

Focus

 לו God made the sky and the earth.

Transition Time

• Greet new arrivals, giving each a name tag.
• Play a game of Duck, Duck, Goose, using the words “Dark, dark, light.” When a child taps another child on the head and says “Light,” the child tapped says “God made the sky and the earth!” The two children exchange places and the game continues.
• Serve a snack. Follow your church’s policy for taking children to the restrooms.

Quick Step Scout’s Creation Clues

Show Scout. SAY: Scout and I are so glad that God made the sky and the earth. Scout wants you to guess some of his favorite things God made. Have Scout whisper in your ear; then give children clues, such as the ones suggested. Children can guess what creation you are describing.

• I’m thinking of something God made on Day 4 that is big and round and bright. It shines at night. (moon)
• I’m thinking of something God made on Day 3 that is yellow and sweet. Monkeys love to eat these and so do boys and girls. (bananas)

Wonderful Water!

SAY: We are learning about how God made the sky and the earth. I am holding one of the most wonderful things God made. People can’t live without this special thing. Plants and animals can’t live without it. I am going to let each of you hold some of this special thing God made.

Give each child a small piece of ice to hold over a paper towel. Ask children to watch what happens when they hold the ice in their warm hands. Then allow each child to eat small pieces of ice.

ASK: What is this special thing God made? (ice, water)
What happens when you hold it in your hand?
What are some ways we use water?

Creation Texture Pictures

SAY: God made the sky and the earth in just one week. Let’s explore some things God made.

Help each child tape two sides of a full sheet of paper to his workspace. Allow each child to choose a creation item to lay on the full sheet. Place a half sheet of paper over the item and tape it at the corners to the full sheet beneath. The child should use the flat edge of the chalk and rub it across the paper to bring out the texture of the creation item. Spray the chalk with hair spray to fix it in place on each picture.

ASK: What thing that God made did you rub on your paper?
Are the creations smooth or rough or prickly?

Especially for 4s!
Use crayons and leaves. The leaves are easier to work with, and the crayons will not rub off onto clothes and faces.
Focus

❤ God made the sky and the earth.

More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

Use all of these activities to help children tell what God made on Days 1–4.

More! Sing and Pray

Sing “Thank You, God” (verse 1).

PRAY: Dear God, thank You for giving us the Bible to help us learn how You made our world. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Help children open their Bibles to the book of Genesis. Point out the word Genesis. The very first book of the Bible tells us that God made the world in just one week. Do you know how much time is in a week? Let’s say the days of the week together. Say the days aloud slowly. You can help me tell what God made on the first four days.

Bible Time—Another Way!

Show the teaching picture. SAY: This picture shows some of the things God made when ♡ God made the sky and the earth. Each time I tell you something God said, cup your hands around your mouths and repeat in big, deep voices what God said. Demonstrate; then tell the Bible lesson.

On the first day, God spoke into the black, empty, cold space. He said, “Let there be light.” Repeat phrase in deep voices: “Let there be light.” God called the light day, and He called the darkness night.

On the second day, God spoke again. He said, “Let there be sky.” Repeat phrase.

On the third day, God said, “Let dry ground appear.” Repeat phrase. Then God said, “Let there be plants.” Repeat phrase. Immediately the earth was filled with trees, grass, flowers, fruits, and vegetables!

On the fourth day, God said, “Let there be lights in the sky.” Repeat phrase. One light ruled the day—the sun. The other shone at night—the moon. God made twinkling stars too. And God saw that they were all good.

More! Bible Review

SAY: Let’s see if we can light up some of the things God made on each of the days of creation. Review the things God made on each day. Then call out a day. Allow children to take turns shining the flashlight on something God made on that day.


More! Bible Memory

SAY: When we learn Bible Memory verses, we are learning verses from God’s Word, the Bible. Today’s Bible Memory, Genesis 1:1, 31, is from the very first book of the Bible. Let’s find Genesis 1 in our Bibles as we listen to our Bible Memory song.

Play the Bible Memory song “In the Beginning.” Patiently help the children open their Bibles to the first page of Genesis. As each child finds the page, mark the page with a construction paper bookmark. Then ask the children to practice opening their Bibles to the marked pages. Sing “In the Beginning” together as children hold their open Bibles.

ASK: What book tells us that ♡ God made the sky and the earth?
More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

Focus

God made the sky and the earth.

Quick Step “Scout’s Work and Play Day”

Before class, put some grass on Scout’s head.

SAY: Scout, what is on your head? It looks like grass. Scout nods, then whispers in teacher’s ear. Oh, sounds like you had a good day! Listen and I’ll tell you about Scout’s day.

Scout was sleeping in his doghouse when he heard a loud whirrrrr. Scout’s people family had come outdoors, and Dad was mowing the grass. Scout knew he could help. He picked up some twigs that had fallen into the yard. Scout picks up twig. Maybe he would get to play fetch later!

Scout lay in the warm sun and watched for dangerous enemies—like cats and rabbits. Scout lies down, peering back and forth. Scout watched as Mom dug around some flowers. The children pulled weeds and watered flowers. Scout dug in the dirt too. Pretend to do so. He found two smooth rocks. Show rocks. Scout rolled in the fresh, green grass. Roll puppet.

Then Scout saw something he really liked! The children had ice cream cones. Scout jumped up and ran over to the children. They laughed as he licked up a drip of ice cream. Pretend to lick. Finally, Scout lay on the soft grass in the shade of a big tree. Scout sighed a happy sigh and lay down for a long nap. Cradle Scout in arm.

ASK: What did Scout enjoy that God made? (sun, rocks, grass, tree)

What are you thankful for that God made? What can you say to thank God? Encourage each child to say a thank-You prayer to God.

“It Is Good!”

SAY: God made the sky and the earth in just one week. Let’s learn a rhyme to help us remember all the wonderful things God made on Days 1–4. Give each child a copy of today’s Heart Tugs. Teach children the rhyme “It Is Good!” Look at the pictures and practice doing the motions together.

ASK: What things that God made on Days 1–4 are you thankful for? Let’s thank God together for those things. Do so.

Especially for 4s!

Ask children to listen to you say the rhyme and imitate you as you do the motions. Don’t expect them to be able to say the words with you.

Saying Good-bye

As children wait for parents to come, play Dark, Dark, Light from Transition Time. Be sure children have projects made in class and a copy of today’s Heart Tugs. Encourage parents to do the activities and talk about the things God created on Days 1–4. Note: A Family Together Time is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Materials

Scout puppet, grass clippings, a tree twig, 2 small rocks

Teaching Tip

Encourage children to stand and use large sweeping motions. This is a good large-muscle activity for 4s and 5s.

Cleanup

Divide the class into teams. Give each team an area to clean. Praise team members they complete their tasks.