I can know that God created everything, and I can help take care of His world.

God Created Everything

BIBLE PASSAGE
Genesis 1:1–2:3

CHRIST FOCUS
God created everything.

LIFE VERSE
In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 
Genesis 1:1 (KJV)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 
Genesis 1:1 (HCSB)

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING
God created the world from nothing.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

A careful study of the days of creation reveals the obvious—God had a plan.
God created each element in a logical and sequential order.

Only God was from the beginning. The earth had no shape or form. There was complete darkness.

Read Genesis 1 and fill in blanks
Day 1 God created ______________.
Day 2 God created ______________.
Day 3 God created ______________.
Day 4 God created ______________.
Day 5 God created ______________.
Day 6 God created ______________.

Knowing that God created each element in a logical and sequential order should help us appreciate that God’s plans are always plans of order.

How does the orderliness of God’s creation affect your relationship with Him?

Unlike the rest of creation, God created humans in His image and brought humans to life with His breath.

How will your unique creation change the way you respond to God’s guidance and call?

Psalm 139:13-16 says God knew YOU and the details about YOU before anyone thought of you.

We are part of His creation, but what does it mean to be made in God’s image? God created us with the ability to reflect His glory, and He wants us to also reflect His characteristics. Are you correctly reflecting God to the boys and girls whom you teach? If you get “caught” away from church, do you still represent God to the children you teach?

By the seventh day God was finished creating the world, and He rested. God ordained rest. God did not need to rest physically from the work of creating the world, but He showed people that rest is a good thing.

God “blessed” the seventh day, meaning He set it apart for holy use.

Find the word rest in a concordance and do a Scripture study. You will find that everything God created had a purpose… including rest. Will you take some time this week to truly rest in Him?

Give praise to God for His power and glory! He is an awesome and loving God.

Pray that God will use you to help children realize that they can know that God created everything. Then take time to enjoy God’s creation.
GOD CREATED EVERYTHING

In the beginning, God created heaven and earth. Earth was shapeless and empty. Darkness covered the waters. When God began to create, all He did was speak. Whatever God said happened.

God said, “Let there be light,” and light appeared. The light was good. God separated the light, which He called “day,” from the darkness, which He called “night.”

On the second day, God spoke again. He commanded a large space to appear between the waters. He called the space “heaven.”

Then God said, “Let the dry land appear.” He called the land “earth,” and He called the waters, which He had gathered into one place, “seas.” God told the earth to produce plants, fruit, and seeds, and it did. God saw that it was good. That was day three.

God created the sun, moon, and stars on day four. God spoke again and fish, all the sea animals, and the birds were created on day five.

On day six, God spoke and made animals to live on the earth. God’s final creation was man, whom He created in His own likeness. God made a man and a woman. He blessed them and told them to have children.

Finally, God’s creation was finished. On the seventh day, God rested. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

—BASED ON GENESIS 1–2:3

1. How did God create heaven and earth? (He spoke, and they appeared; Genesis 1:6-9.)

2. What did God think when He saw what He had made? (It was good, Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21,25,31.)

3. What was the last thing God created—on day six? (Man and woman, Genesis 1:27.)

4. How was man different from God’s other creations? (He was created in the likeness of God, Genesis 1:26-27.)

5. Name a way you can help take care of God’s world. (Answers will vary.)

6. Quote Genesis 1:1
Grades 1-3

PREVIEW

• Place the craft sticks in a pile on the table.
• The first child will find the craft stick labeled Genesis and place it horizontally on the table. The second child will find the craft stick labeled Exodus and place it parallel to the first craft stick about 4 inches (about the length of the craft stick) apart. Leviticus will be placed vertically on top of the left ends of Genesis and Exodus. Numbers will be placed vertically on top of the right ends of Genesis and Exodus.
• Repeat with the remaining craft sticks.
• As the children build the Old Testament tower, allow them to refer to the books of the Old Testament list in the front of their Bibles.

POWER UP

• Form two teams. Use the directions to guide children to play an animal guessing game.
• Fan and hold cards facedown.
• A player from Team 1 will choose an index card, think of an animal that lives in the location listed on the card, and act like that animal.
• Team 2 members will try to guess the animal. If correct, roll the numbered cube and receive that number of points. A player from Team 2 will then choose a card and repeat the activity.
• Mix the cards after each turn.
• Offer suggestions when a child struggles thinking of an animal to imitate. (Animals include snake, cat, horse, dog, giraffe, monkey, shark, dolphin, walrus, moose, bird, wolf.)

Talking Point

• God created all the animals, and God created the places where they live, too. From nothing, God created everything.

Notes

• Bibles
• fine-point permanent marker
• craft sticks
• Label the craft sticks with the names of the books of the Old Testament.

TEACHING TIP:
Teachers may need to help younger children read the names of the Bible books.

• index cards
• marker
• numbered cube
• On separate index cards write each of the following words: jungle, farm, arctic, and ocean.

TEACHING TIP:
Because children have varied experiences, guide your children as needed during this activity.

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PREVIEW

• Urge the early arrivers to play a game of “Simon Says.” Explain that the commands will all have to do with finding the books of Law (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and that the children should only do what Simon says to do.
• Start the game by saying: “Simon says, ‘Find Exodus.’”
• Give the children time to locate the book.
• Then say: “Find Genesis.” If no one attempts to locate the book, continue playing, naming a different book of law each time.
• If a child begins to find the book, he is “out” and becomes the next Simon.
• Monitor the game, choosing the next Simon whenever more than one child fails to do what Simon says or does what he does not say.
• Remind the children to only call out books of Law for this game.
• Challenge the Simons to add chapters and verses to increase the difficulty of the game.

POWER UP

• Ask the children to write the numbers 1-8 on a sheet of paper. Explain that each child will work with a partner to complete this activity.
• Challenge the children to find the recipe cards placed around the room. Ask them to decide with their partner what each recipe would make and write what they think it makes on their paper beside the corresponding number.
• Guide the children to place the recipe back where they found it and move to the next one.
• Allow several minutes before revealing the recipe titles.

Talking Points

• By reading the list of ingredients, which recipes do you think you might be willing to eat?
• People use many ingredients to make good things to eat.
• Recipes can not be made out of nothing.
• Today you are going to learn that God created the world out of nothing!

 Notes

► Copy 8 recipes from a cookbook onto index cards. Two or three should be familiar to the children, and the rest should not. Write corresponding numbers on the cards. Place the recipes around the room.
Notes

- Bibles
- Picture: God Created Everything
- Memory Verses, printed on colorful paper
- learner guide pages
- large sheet of paper
- index cards
- markers
- plain paper
- pencils
- tape
- beanbag
- flashlight

Attach a large sheet of paper onto the wall.

On separate index cards print the following answers and tape them onto the walls: *He spoke, He worked; It was good; It was plain; He was created in the likeness of God; He could hunt better; Plant flowers and trees; and Litter.*

**INTRODUCTION**
- On the large sheet of paper, list new beginnings happening in the children’s lives right now.

**Talking Point**
- Today’s Bible story will explain how the world began.

**BIBLE STORY**
- Give each child a sheet of paper and a pencil.
- She will fold the paper into fourths to create four separate areas for drawing.
- As each child listens to the Bible story, she will draw four objects God created.
- Display today’s teaching picture.
- Open your Bible to Genesis 1.
- Tell the Bible story in your own words.
- Ask each child to share at least one thing she drew that God created.

**MEMORY VERSE**
- With the children sitting in a circle, place the memory verse poster in the center.
- Read aloud the verse, Genesis 1:1.
- Pass a beanbag around the circle as quickly as possible. Say: “Stop.” The child with the beanbag will toss it onto the poster.
- Children will say the verse, stopping at the word closest to the beanbag.
- Continue play until children are familiar with the entire verse.

**REVIEW**

**Talking Point**
- God only had to speak, and whatever He said happened.
- Distribute learner guide pages.
- Together read the Bible story, inserting the correct phrases to coincide with pictures in the story.
- Turn off the lights and turn on the flashlight. (See the margin.)
- Ask today’s review questions.
- Children will locate answers on the wall.
- Volunteers may shine the light on the answers.

**APPLICATION**

**Talking Point**
- God created the world from nothing.
- Your job is to help take care of His world.
- Using paper and markers, each child will think of and illustrate one way to take care of God’s world.
- Invite children to share their ideas.
- Each child may keep her picture.

**PERSONALIZE**
- Describe the Personalize choices.
- Each child will choose an activity to help her learn about taking better care of God’s world.
INTRODUCTION
• The children will express what they know about the beginning of the world.

BIBLE STORY
• Carrying your Bible, escort the children outdoors.
• Tell the Bible story in your own words.
• Stop at the first rock.
• After telling about day one, cue a child to uncover and read the index card.
• Continue moving to rocks, telling about each day of creation, and reading and collecting the cards.
• Lead the children back indoors.

MEMORY VERSE
• Display today’s memory verse, Genesis 1:1.
• Together read aloud the verse.
• Turn the poster facedown.
• Mix up the memory verse cards with enough blank cards to ensure each child chooses a card.
• Once children choose the cards, the children who have cards with phrases will read their cards in the order of the memory verse.
• The children with blank cards will say, “And God saw that it was good!” Mix the cards and repeat.

APPLICATION
• Invite children to close their eyes and think of the most beautiful outdoor place they have visited, or seen in pictures.
• Lay the teaching picture in the middle of the floor.
• Toss the craft sticks onto the picture all at once.
• One child will read the stick that landed closest to the mountain peak.
• Encourage the children to use the phrase to explain what they can do to take care of the world.
• Continue by pointing out another area for a child to select a word.
• Repeat the activity until each child has a turn.

REVIEW
• Give each child a blank index card and a pencil.
• Ask the review questions.
• The children will record their responses on the cards.
• Reveal the answers.
• Each child will stand on the tape line that corresponds to the number of his correct responses.
• Encourage him to shoot a paper wad into the basket for two extra points.

PERSONALIZE
• Describe the Personalize choices.
• Each child will choose an activity to help him learn about taking better care of God’s world.
**Choice 1: Spruce Up!**

- Distribute the learner guide pages and markers.
- Help children complete “Let There Be … EVERYTHING!” and “Secret Message.”
- Remind children how God created the beautiful world.
- Ask boys and girls to think of ways they can help take care of God’s world.
- Print their ideas on the large sheet of paper.
- Explain that they will plan a project to spruce up around their homes.
- Give each child a large sheet of paper.
- She will draw a map of her front and back yards.
- Encourage her to label areas that need attention. For example, she may write: *Bikes need to go in the garage.*
- Steps to planning the project:
  1. On the back of the maps make a “to do” list. The list will include tasks such as weeding, planting, watering, and cleaning.
  2. Make family assignments: green thumbs—prepare soil and plant flowers; weeders—clear the area of leaves and weeds; waterers—water all plants; trash blasters—pick up all food wrappers, papers, and other trash.
- The boys and girls can apply what they learned by sharing with their families their plans to help take care of God’s world.

**Choice 2: Clay Displays**

- Distribute the learner guide pages and markers.
- Help children complete “Let There Be … EVERYTHING!” and “Secret Message.”
- The children will make a display of their part of God’s world.
  1. Give a small foam plate and a large portion of modeling clay to each child.
  2. She will think about where she lives and plays, and make clay figures of the trees, plants, animals, and people from her world.
  3. She will attach the clay figures to the foam plate.
- The children can apply what they learned by thinking of ways to take care of God’s world this week.

**Talking Points**

- God created the world from nothing.
- He created people in His likeness. They are able to care for His world.
- The children will make a display of their part of God’s world.

**At Home:**

As the children leave, urge each child to find at home one thing God created.

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**Choice 1: Lights, Camera, Action!**

- Give each child a learner guide page and a pencil.
- Complete “Water, Earth, and Sky.”
- The children will write a script based on their responses to the activity.
- The script should remind others how they can help take care of God’s world.
- Help children write their scripts on the large sheet of paper.
- Create a public service announcement.
- Use the script.
- Develop actions to accompany the script.
- Practice the public service announcement.
- Go outdoors and film it, using the video camera.
- Include footage of the children taking care of God’s world by watering plants, picking up trash, and so forth.
- Return to the room to view the public service announcement.
- Consider showing the public service announcement during the announcement period of the worship service.
- Pray, thanking God for His creation.
- Challenge the children to apply what they learned by finding ways to take care of God’s world this week.

**Choice 2: Clay Creation**

- Distribute the learner guide pages and pencils.
- Together complete “Water, Earth, and Sky.”
- Assign each child to read one of the following verses in Genesis 1:10,12,18,21,25, or 31.

**Talking Points**

- What do these verses have in common? *(the phrase “and God saw that it was good”)*
- Suggest that God may have repeated that phrase because it was important.
- God’s creation was good. That is why God instructed Adam, and you, to take care of it.

- The children will research one of the following Bible locations: Garden of Eden, Nile River, Mount Sinai, Garden of Gethsemane, or Sea of Galilee.
- If available, use a computer to find current photos of the locations in order to make “then/now” comparisons.
- Create clay replicas of the locations.
- Attach the replicas to the poster board.
- Label the locales. Talk about the beauty of God’s creation and how the children can take care of it.

- The children can apply what they learned by thinking of ways to take care of God’s world this week.

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**Teaching Tip:**
If the weather is not permitting, find a place in the room that would be suitable for filming.

**Option:**
Instead of filming the public service announcement, act it out for a younger class or for the other Personalize group.

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**Choice 2**

- Bibles
- learner guide pages
- Bible encyclopedias, atlases, Bible dictionaries, modeling clay, small poster boards, pencils

**Teaching Tip:**
The clay replicas will stick directly to the poster board; glue is not necessary.

**At Home:**
As the children leave, urge each child to find at home one thing God created.
Grown By God!

Draw a line to match the reference inside each flower to the things God created on that day.

1. Genesis 1:1-5
2. Genesis 1:6-8
3. Genesis 1:9-13
4. Genesis 1:14-19
5. Genesis 1:20-23
6. Genesis 1:24-31
7. Genesis 2:1-3

LIFE PHRASE
In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
—Genesis 1:1 (HCSB)

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth
—Genesis 1:1 (KJV)
God created the World

—Genesis 1:1–2:3

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Darkness was everywhere. God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God named the light “day” and the darkness “night.” This happened on the first day.

On the second day God separated the waters and placed the sky in between.

On the third day God created dry land and seas. He said that the earth should produce trees and plants with seeds.

God created the lights in the sky—the sun to rule the day, and the moon to rule the night. He also created the stars. This happened on the fourth day.

On the fifth day God created the fish and the birds. God filled the waters with living animals and made the birds fly above the earth.

Then God created the animals that live on land. God made man in His own likeness to rule over all of the fish, birds, and animals. God saw all that He had made. He was very pleased. This was the sixth day.

God rested from His work on the seventh day. God blessed it and declared it holy.

SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION!

Use this picture to discover what your family likes best about God’s creation! Pass this page to each family member and ask him to sign his name over the top of his favorite part of God’s creation. If it is not pictured, ask your family member to draw a picture on this page.
God Created Everything

Place the eraser of your pencil on the dot. Let the pencil fall on one of the three pictures. Write one way you can help take care of that part of God’s creation. Repeat until you fill all of the blanks.

1. _________________
2. _________________
3. **Turn off the water when brushing my teeth.**
4. _________________

1. **Recycle paper products.**
2. _________________
3. _________________
4. _________________

1. _________________
2. **Ride a bike instead of taking a car.**
3. _________________
4. _________________

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

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. *Genesis 1:1* (HCSB)
God Created Everything

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. All He did was speak, and whatever He said happened.

Day 1: God said, “Let there be light,” and light appeared. God separated the light from the darkness.

Day 2: God spoke again. He commanded a large space to appear between the waters. He called the space “heaven.”

Day 3: Then God said, “Let the dry land appear.” He called the land “earth,” and He called the waters “seas.” God told the earth to produce fruit trees and plants with seeds, and it did.

Day 4: Once again, God spoke. He made the sun, moon, and stars, and He placed them in the sky to give the earth light.

Day 5: God told the seas and the sky to fill up with life. He created the sea animals and the birds.

Day 6: God created animals to live on the earth. He also created man in His own image. God created both a man and a woman. God looked at everything He had made, and it was very good.

Day 7: God’s creation was finished, so God rested. He blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

Genesis 1–2:3

Read Your Bible

Sunday: Genesis 1:1
Monday: Genesis 1:3
Tuesday: Genesis 1:5
Wednesday: Genesis 1:6-8
Thursday: Genesis 1:9
Friday: Genesis 1:11
Saturday: Genesis 1:14
Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 6:18

Time with God

- Print your thoughts about the verses in your notebook.
- Pray. Talk to God about the things going on in your life right now.