

Bible background

Genesis 1 and 2:18-24.

Aim of lesson

- (a) To show God's care in designing our world, and his everlasting care for his creation.
- (b) To show that everything we see comes from something that God made.

Preparation required

A picture of the world and plasticine or crayons. You may also like to bring in some objects to reinforce the points you make - natural and manufactured. Crayons and coloured pens will be needed for the activity sheet.

Suggested outline of lesson

1. Place the empty picture on the table, and tell the children that in the beginning God made the world. Ask the children what sort of things God would have put on the earth to make it good to live in. As they suggest things, they can draw them on the picture, or model them in plasticine.
2. Discuss what would have happened if God had made the animals first. Draw from the children the idea that God knew what each part of his creation would need, and created it beforehand. Discuss the order of creation in as much detail as is appropriate for your class.
3. Show the children some of the things you have brought in, maybe a plant, a beetle, a comic or a bar of chocolate. Lead the children to see that everything comes from something that God has made. The children may like to think of their own examples.
4. Teach the song 'God Made The Mountains'.
5. Encourage the children to say 'thank you' to God for their favourite part of the creation. Use the worksheet to make 'thank you' cards. The children can draw their favourite part of creation on the front, and write their 'thank you' to God inside. You may need to help young infants with the writing.

Alternative activities

1. Make a book showing the creation story (either individually or as a group). Prepare each page with the heading 'On day... God made...'. The children can draw or make collage pictures to illustrate each stage of creation.
2. Make gardens in seed trays or foil dishes or, if you have a sand tray, make a large garden as a group.
3. Make a collage garden.
4. Play a circle game-'When God made the world He made...' Take turns to add something to the list e.g.
'He made light'
'He made light and trees'
'He made light, trees and fish'
The ideas don't have to follow the sequence of creation.

Relevance to the children's lives

God has made everything that they see. Discuss with the children how they can care for what God has made: being kind to animals, not dropping litter, etc.

Prayer

Ask the children what they would like to say 'thank you' to God for - they could read the cards they have made.

Verse

'Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power'. Jeremiah 32:17.

Rhyme

When God Made Me

When God made me
He knew I'd be
The sort of bear
Who wouldn't care
For an empty tummy.
He knew I'd need

(Day 6)

Sometimes to feed
 And I would wish
 To catch a fish
 Or eat some honey.
 So just before God made me
 He made some fish and a bumble bee. (Day 5)
 When God made me
 He let me see
 The sun each day (Day 4)
 To show the way
 To find the flowers. (Day 3)
 He made them grow
 So long ago
 He formed each seed
 And knew they'd need
 The gentle showers. (Day 2)
 God made us all by his great might
 But first of all he made the light. (Day 1)

Song

God Made The Mountains (Tune: John Brown's Body)

Chorus

Music: Traditional

Actions

Verse 1

God made the mountains and God made the sea (*point hands for mountains*)
 God made the mountains and God made the sea (*wave movements for sea*)
 God made the mountains and God made the sea,
 But best of all God made me!,

Chorus

Thank you, Lord, for your creation,
 Thank you, Lord, for your creation,
 Thank you, Lord, for your creation,
 And thank you for making me.,

Verse 2

God made the flowers and God made the trees (*cup hands, then stretch arms up*)

Verse 3

God made the butterfly and the bumblebee (*slow arm flaps, short hand flaps*)

Verse 4

God made the tall giraffe and the chimpanzee (*reach out with bent hand, scratch underarms*)

If you wish to use the song to review the six days of creation, you may like to sing as follows:

First day: God made the light to shine so everyone could see

Second day: God made the rain clouds and God made the sea.,

Third day: God made the flowers and God made the trees

Fourth day: God made the sun and moon and stars for us to see.,

Fifth day: God made the butterfly and the bumblebee

Sixth day: God made the tall giraffe and the chimpanzee