



TEACHING GUIDE SAMPLE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 < Lesson 1

TEXT: Genesis 1:1–2:3

In the Beginning

Identifies what you want students to learn from the lesson



HOW IT FITS:

Where this lesson fits in the story of the Bible

This is where it all began. God spoke everything, including humans, into existence.

Provides an understanding of how the lesson fits in the big picture of God's plan

LESSON OBJECTIVE:

God created the world and humans in six days. He rested on the seventh. We are to look around at all the amazing things God has created and spend time in prayer thanking Him for being our Creator.

APPLICATION VERSE:

Genesis 1:1

FAMILY THEME:

God Created Everything

Family theme for elementary ages - adult

This is a list of ALL needed items for the lesson.

PREPARATION CHECKLIST:

GET STARTED

Option 1

- Lego® sets

Option 2

- TE 1-2

STUDY THE WORD

- TE 1-3
- TE 1-4

- Field Notes 1

- Pencils

APPLY IT

- TE 1-5

LIVE IT

- TE 1-1a
- Field Notes 1



BIBLE BASICS:

Share these Bible truths with your students as you teach this lesson. *God is a spirit (John 4:24) who is the Creator of everything (Genesis 1:1). He is perfectly good (Psalm 34:8) and has all power (Isaiah 40:10). God is a personal being who thinks, feels, speaks, and acts.*

GET STARTED

SG LG

SG and LG icons indicate if a section fits in Small Group or Large Group settings. Sometimes a section works for both groups.

Choose one of these two options to help students to transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

Option 1

God created a wonderful world for us to live in that is filled with many things that He created using nothing but His words. Let's make some of the things God created out of Lego® bricks. Place small bowls of Lego® bricks and pieces where all of your students have access to them. Allow the students to use the bricks and pieces to make things such as a heart, a flower, and a snake. It is easy to make imitations of things that God created, but could you actually create them? Encourage response. Could you create a living person? Of course not; only God can do that. We are God's creation and so is the rest of the world. God spoke the world into existence. He made something out of nothing. No one but God could ever do that. That is one of the many ways He is simply and awesomely different from us. Today we are going to learn how God created not only the world and us, but also the specific order in which He created it.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Lego® sets

Option 2

The cell phone is no longer just a device for making phone calls. It is a mini-computer! What are some of the things you can use a cell phone for? Encourage response. You can use a cell phone to get directions somewhere, watch your favorite TV show, shop, play games, and more! It hasn't always been so fancy, though. The very first truly portable cell phone came out in 1983. Display TE 1-2 and point to the different pictures. We have come a long way with cell phone technology since its creation. What would you say if I told you that the first cell phone just appeared in someone's hand one day? Would you believe me? Of course not; you know enough about technology to know that it is a slow process that builds a little at a time and gets better as it goes.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- TE 1-2

God does not work like man does. He does not have to learn from His mistakes and do research so He can learn. God just knows everything and can do anything. Today we will learn about God's creation of the world, including us. When God created the world He did it with nothing but His words. He spoke the world into existence, then He placed men, women, animals, birds, flowers, water, and everything else in nature on the planet formed and developed just like they are now. Today we will learn how it all began.

Take Note:

When we teach children about Creation, we must do it in a way that doesn't make it sound like a fantastical fairytale. Children are already exposed to other views through TV, books, and culture in general. We want to set the foundation of the truth of a biblical creation.

Get started activities introduce the student to the lesson. Two options are provided—Choose the one that best fits your class.



TE 1-2

Reproducible sheets are provided in the Teaching Resources.

This side of the Field Notes is used in the classroom.

STUDY THE WORD LG

Before class, cut apart the pictures from TE 1-3 and make a copy of *Field Notes 1* for each student. **Long ago, there was no universe, no sky, no sun, and no moon. There was nothing at all, except for God. God wanted to make a world, and He made something special on each of the six days of creation.** Distribute *Field Notes 1* and pencils to the students. Have them fold along the solid line and turn to the inside. Allow them to fill in the blanks as you discuss the different things God created on each day.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- TE 1-3–TE 1-4
- *Field Notes 1*
- Pencils

Learn what God's Word says.

Display TE 1-3a. On day one, God created time, space, matter, and light. You may be surprised to learn that God created time, but before God created the world, there was no such thing as time. Only God existed, and God is eternal—without beginning or end. God also had to create space—somewhere to put everything He made. He also had to create matter—the stuff that makes up all He created. He also made a lot of water. At first, the earth was covered with water and had no shape; it was also empty and very dark. God's Spirit moved above the waters and God spoke and there was light. The light was not the sun, because that had not yet been created. The Bible doesn't say what the source of this light was, but that it shone on the earth. God called the light **day**, and the darkness he called **night**. This was the first day of creation and God said that the light was good (Genesis 1:1-5).

Display TE 1-3b. On the second day, God created an expanse of space around the earth from the water on the earth. The Bible calls this expanse **heaven**, which we refer to as the **sky** and **outer space**. The air is made up of just the right amount of gases that we need to live. God was pleased with what He had made and said it was good (Genesis 1:6-8).

Display TE 1-3c. Remember, the earth is still covered with water. On the third day, God commanded the dry land to appear and called it **earth**. He called the water **seas**. He covered the earth with grass. Then He made plants and trees fully grown with seeds in them so they could produce more plants and trees. Each tree had its own unique seed and produced more of its kind. An apple tree did not turn into an orange tree, and bananas did not turn into pineapples. God was pleased with what He had made and said it was good (Genesis 1:9-13).

Display TE 1-3d. On the fourth day, God made the **sun, moon, and stars**. The sun was to shine and make light for the day and the moon was to give light at night. These were to help people keep track of days, seasons, and years. Remember, the sun God made on this day is the very same sun that warms you when you are outside. The moon God created on the fourth day is the very same moon you see at night. He also called this good (Genesis 1:14-19).

Display TE 1-3e. On day five, the earth was ready to support animals. There was water, air, soil, plants, and fruit for food, so God made **flying animals and ones to live in the sea—water animals**. He made all kinds of birds and winged creatures from parrots to penguins. He made all



Field Notes 1



TE 1-3a, b



TE 1-3c, d



TE 1-3e, f

Color pictures are provided in the Teaching Resources.

Zoom In

Develop a Biblical Worldview

Help students develop a biblical worldview by helping them understand Genesis 1 and 2 provide the foundation for the rest of Scripture.

"Zoom In" calls attention to a biblical worldview.

kinds of fish and creatures to live in the sea—tiny ones like goldfish to huge ones like whales. God was so wise that He made birds and fish to produce more of their own kind. God was pleased with what He had made and said it was good (Genesis 1:20-23).

Display TE 1-3f. *Land* animals were made on day six. God made cows, sheep, elephants, zebras, dogs, and all kinds of crawling animals, even dinosaurs! Did these animals struggle and evolve over millions of years? No! The Bible says God made each of the animals after its kind. That means each animal was able to make baby animals; they could reproduce. But one kind could not change into another kind, either then or now. After God made the animals, He made His most special creation—humans. God breathed life into Adam, the very first person in our world. God created man in His own image. Then God created a helper for Adam so he wouldn't be alone. He caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep and while he slept, God removed a rib from him. With Adam's rib, God created the first woman, Eve. God was very pleased with all He had made (Genesis 1:24-31).

Display TE 1-4. What do you think God made on the seventh day? Encourage response. He didn't make anything. God rested. Not only did God rest to set an example for us, He made the seventh day a holy day. We should honor Him by taking a day of rest and worship, too (Genesis 2:1-3). If time allows, let the students find the words in the word search on their *Field Notes*.



TE 1-4

DIG DEEPER

LG

The Bible tells us God is our Creator. Evolution is a theory that tries to explain the existence of everything without God being involved. Evolutionists imagine that over billions of years the earth and the animals changed and evolved into what we now see. Some people who believe in evolution try to tell us that everything on earth was made by chance and by accident. Others believe a big bang created everything, but when has an explosion ever created anything but a big mess? God created all living things according to their kind, which means that dogs will only produce dogs, and cats will only produce cats. Yes, many of God's creations are very similar, but that is just because the same God created them. God didn't use evolution or a big bang to create anything. He didn't need to. He is almighty; He has absolute power. There is more scientific evidence that God created everything than any of man's guesses or theories. The Bible is our proof that God created the heavens and the earth and all it contains.

Dig Deeper explores more into what God's Word says.

Take Note:

Answer keys for the *Field Notes* are available at www.D6teacher.com.

Important notes for the teacher

APPLY IT

SG

LG

Today we learned God is the creator of the world and the things in it. The next time you see the stars at night, know that God spoke those stars into being. Have you ever seen a flock of birds flying in the sky and then they suddenly turn all at the same time? God gave the birds the ability to do that. Have you ever noticed that each and every

ITEMS NEEDED:

- TE 1-5

Apply what you've learned from the lesson to your life.

sunset is different? Remember, God is the ultimate designer and He created the world in just six days. God gave us the example of setting aside one day for worshiping Him. Why is this important? Encourage response. The more we learn about God, the better we can reflect His image and who He is in our lives. Remember we were created in His image. But for some of us, when we look in the mirror, we only see things we wish we could change about ourselves. Maybe we wish we were taller. Maybe we think we are too tall! Maybe we wish we didn't have freckles. Maybe we wish we were the smartest kid in class and always knew all the right answers. If we know we are made in the image of God, why do we so often want to change the very way He created us? Encourage response. Why do we compare ourselves to others? Encourage response. We allow our thinking to be influenced by the world and not by God.

Display TE 1-5 and introduce the application verse for these next several weeks. You may be familiar with this verse. It is the very first verse in the Bible. It tells us two things: God is the creator and He has been from the beginning. Let's say our verse together several times. We need to remember He is the Creator of us and He is perfect. Divide the class into two groups with each group sitting together. One group will be the speaker and the other will be the echo. Have the first group say the first few words of the application verse (In the beginning), and the second group will echo them. Once the verse has been said and echoed, switch the groups and repeat the activity.

LIVE IT

SG LG

Before class, cut apart the pieces from TE 1-1. Display TE 1-1a. We should *Keep God in first place* in our lives because He is the Creator of the world and us. Read or choose a student to read Revelation 4:11. We are to worship Him with every part of our lives. God deserves all praise, honor, and glory. How can we show God that He is worthy of being in first place? Think about your relationship with God as I ask these questions. How do I show God has first place at school? What about at home? What do your friends see in you and your relationship with God that encourages them to want to be closer to God?

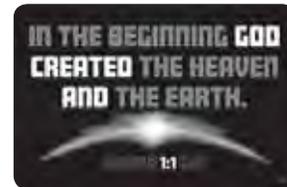
ITEMS NEEDED:

- TE 1-1a
- Field Notes 1

As we have learned today, God is the Creator of the universe and of us. God created every living creature and plant on this earth. Have you ever noticed the way the clouds move across the sky or the power of the waves? God does that. He is the Creator of the magnificent beauty we see all around us. We often take it for granted, but this week let's try to be more aware of the tiniest details of God's creations. Have the students refer to the *Next Step* section on their *Field Notes*. Your *Next Step* for this week is to look around you at all the amazing things God has created and spend time in prayer thanking Him for being our Creator.

End class with prayer for your students. Ask God to help them to remember God is the creator of the world and help them to keep Him in first place in all areas of their lives.

The *Next Step* focus on the *Field Notes* challenges students to act on what they've learned.



TE 1-5



TE 1-1a



Field Notes 1

The text side of the *Field Notes* provides activities for families to continue the conversation at home.