Lesson 1

In the Beginning

Text: Genesis 1
Application Verse: Genesis 1:1
Heartprint: God Made Everything

LEARN GOD’S WORD
Option 1
___ One or two flashlights
Option 2
___ Play-Doh
___ Plastic cookie cutters, rolling pins, etc.

STUDY GOD’S WORD
___ TE 1-1
___ TE 1-2
___ TE 1-3

REINFORCE GOD’S WORD

CRAFT ACTIVITY
Option 1
___ Brown and blue construction paper
___ Scissors
___ Markers
___ Glue
Option 2
___ Light blue construction paper
___ Cotton balls
___ Glue

BIBLE ACTIVITY
Option 1
___ Flashlights
___ Colored balls or large blocks
___ Laundry basket
Option 2
___ Rope

SNACK TIME
___ Oreos
___ Apple and orange slices
___ Water
___ Small cups
___ Napkins

APPLY GOD’S WORD
___ TE 1-4

LIVE GOD’S WORD
___ TE 1-5
___ Take 'n Talk
___ Kids’ Cards

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

The Heartprint is the biblical truth we want imprinted on the heart of every child. It is emphasized in different ways throughout the lesson.
LEARN GOD’S WORD

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

Option 1

Items Needed: One or two flashlights

Have the children sit down in front of you. Turn the flashlight on and off. Consider turning the classroom light off to show the children how much the flashlight can light up the room.

Talking Point: Today we are going to learn God Made Everything. One of the things God made is light. Today we will learn about when God made the light and what He did with it. Think about how dark it gets at night. God made the night, too.

I’m so glad God Made Everything!

Option 2

Items Needed: Play-Doh
Plastic cookie cutters, rolling pins, etc.

Set out the Play-Doh, cookie cutters, and rolling pins on a table. Direct the children to the activity as they arrive. Encourage the children to make people, trees, animals—whatever they want to make!

Talking Point: What have you been doing with the Play-Doh? Encourage response. You’ve been making things! Did you know that God made everything around us? He made the sun, the moon, and the stars. He made our entire planet—the trees, the grass, and the animals. He even made you and me! I am so glad God made all these things. Today we are going to learn God Made Everything.

TRANITION TIME

Encourage children to clean up as you transition to the next activity. Lyrics to a clean up song are provided on the lyric sheet in the Teaching Essentials.

BIBLE SONG

Show the children a Bible. The Bible is God’s special book. It has God’s words and stories. The stories in God’s Word are true. Can you make a
Bible with your hands? Make a Bible with your hands (palms up and little fingers touching). Show me your Bibles. Encourage children to make a Bible with their hands. Use the lyric sheet to lead the children in singing “The B-I-B-L-E.” Let’s get ready to study God’s Word, the Bible.

STUDY GOD’S WORD

BIBLE STORY

A long, long time ago, before you were born, before your mommy and daddy were born, even before your grandpa and grandma were born, our world was very different. There were no people. There were no animals. There were no trees or flowers. There was no sun, no moon, and no stars. In fact, there wasn’t even any land, or water, or sky. Can you imagine that? At the very beginning of everything, there was nothing except for God. He is the only thing that existed. He has always existed. These next couple of weeks we are going to learn the different things God made. Do any of you know how long it took God to make the world? Encourage response. God made the world in just six days. Then on the seventh day, He rested. Let’s count to seven. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Good job.

Open your Bible to Genesis 1. Display TE 1-1. When God made the world, the first thing He made was light. He said, “Let there be light!” When God said that, light appeared. So, there was light, and there was darkness. God called the light “day” and the darkness “night.” This was the first day God worked on His very special world.

Display TE 1-2. The second day, God said, “Let there be . . .” and He made the heavens and the sky. Think about how big the sky is. God made the heavens and the sky on the second day He worked on His very special world.

Display TE 1-3. On the third day, God said, “Let there be . . .” and He made the seas and the dry land. He separated the land from the water and covered the land with trees, grass, plants, and flowers.

Do you know what God thought every day after He was done working on the world? He saw how awesome everything He made was. He saw that everything was good.

I am so glad God made such a wonderful and special world! I’m so glad God Made Everything!

PRAYER TIME: Lead children in saying “Open and Shut Them” to help them focus and be ready for prayer.
Open and shut them, open and shut them (open and close fingers),
Give your hands a clap (clap hands).
Open and shut them, open and shut them (open and close fingers),
Put them in your lap (put your hands together in your lap).

Dear God, I am so glad You made the world! We love You. Amen.

REINFORCE GOD’S WORD

CRAFT TIME

Choose the activity that works best for your classroom and the abilities of the children.

Option 1

Items Needed: Brown and blue construction paper
              Scissors
              Markers
              Glue

Before class, write God Made Everything on the blue construction paper. Fold the pieces of brown construction paper in half, short end to short end, and cut apart. Gather the children around the craft table. Distribute a piece of blue construction paper and a half of brown construction paper to each child. Show the children how to crumple up the brown paper to make the land, and then demonstrate how to glue it to the blue paper.

Talking Point: Today we learned that God made the seas and the land. Look at our craft! We have made the land and the sea to remind us of these things God made. I know God Made Everything.

Option 2

Items Needed: Light blue construction paper
              Cotton balls
              Glue

Before class, write God made the heavens and the sky on each piece of construction paper. Gather the children around the craft table. Give each child a piece of blue construction paper, a few cotton balls, and some glue. Show the children how to pull the cotton balls apart to look
like clouds and have them glue the cotton balls to the paper.

Talking Point: Today we learned God made light on the first day. He called the light day and the darkness night. On the second day, God made the heavens and the sky. This picture of the sky can remind us of all God has made! God Made Everything!

SONG

Lead the children in singing “God Made the World” to the tune of “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.”

God made the world, yes He did.
God made the world, yes He did.
God made the world, yes He did.
God made it with His words.

BIBLE TIME

Choose the activity that works best with the children in your class and setting. If time allows, do both.

Option 1

Items Needed: Flashlights (one per child or group of children)  
Colored balls or large blocks  
Laundry basket

Give each child or group of children a flashlight. Place the colored balls or blocks around the room, allowing the children to observe. Assist the children in turning on the flashlights. Turn the lights off in the room. Allow the children to search for and collect the colored balls and blocks by flashlight. When they have found them, allow the children to place the balls and blocks in the laundry basket.

Talking Point: Today we learned God made the light and the dark. We used light to help us find the balls and blocks in the dark. I am so glad God made the light! God Made Everything!
Option 2

Items Needed: Rope

Spread the rope on the floor to make a circle large enough for the children to fit inside. Show the children how to go inside the circle—land—and then jump out of the circle and into the water. Say, “land” when you want the children to get inside the circle and “water” when you want them to jump out. Alternate back and forth.

Talking Point: Did you have fun jumping from the land to the sea, and then back to the land? Encourage response. That was very fun. Do you remember who made the land and the sea? God did! He made the heavens and sky, the sea and dry land, and the trees and flowers. God Made Everything!

SNACK TIME

Items Needed: Oreos
Apple and orange slices
Water
Small cups
Napkins

Before class, cut the apples into slices and peel the oranges. Give each child an Oreo, a couple of slices of apple and oranges, and a napkin. Pour the water into the small cups. Show the class how to separate their Oreos so that one side is white and one is black.

Talking Point: Our cookies are black and white. That reminds me of the dark and the light that God made. God made the trees the fruit grows on. God made the water too. I'm so glad God Made Everything!

Let's thank God for this snack. Lead children in saying “Open and Shut Them” to help them focus and be ready for prayer.

Thank You, God, for our snack and for everything You made. We love You. Amen.

APPLY God’s Word

These next couple of weeks we are going to learn God Made Everything. We are going to learn about all the wonderful things God made. Display TE 1-4 and introduce the verse to the children by reading it aloud. Be sure to point to each word as you say it. When did God start making the world? Encourage response. God began making the world
in the very beginning! He made the heavens, the earth, and everything in it. He started making our world when nothing else existed but Him. I am thankful for everything He made. Do any of you remember what God made on the first day? Encourage response. God made light. Before He did this, He was the only thing that existed. He called the light day and the darkness night. Do any of you remember what He made on the second day? Encourage response. He made the heavens. And what did God make on the third day? Encourage response. God made the seas, dry land, and plants. Let’s say our application verse together again. Have the children say the verse with you.

LIVE God’s Word

What are some of the things God created? Encourage response. We learned in our lesson today God made the heavens and the sky, the seas and dry land, and all the plants. Have you ever seen the clouds move across the sky? God made those clouds. Have you ever seen the waves on a beach? God made those waves. Think about all of the pretty flowers God makes. God makes the leaves change colors on the trees too. God is our great Creator, and He made everything. It is our job to take care of the world God made for us. What are some ways we can take care of the very special world God made? Encourage response. I am so glad God made our world. He did such a wonderful job! Let’s thank God for making this incredible world.

PRAYER TIME: Lead children in saying “Open and Shut Them” to help them focus and be ready for prayer.

God, thank You for making this wonderful world. Help us always remember You are the maker of everything. We love You so much. Amen.

Copy and distribute Take ’n Talk sheets. Encourage the children to complete the suggested activity. Remind them to do the activities on the back of the sheet with their families.

If you do not mail the Kids’ Cards to the children, pass them out now. Encourage them to tell the lesson to their families.

Copy and place “Ask Me” wristbands (TE 1-5) on the children before they leave the classroom. Say the Heartprint together and have them practice saying it to someone else in the class. Then encourage them to share Heartprint: God Made Everything with their family and friends.

Kids’ Cards are an additional resource that provide a weekly summary of the lesson in a postcard format.

Reproducible sheets are included for craft activities, Take ’n Talk sheets, and wristbands.