

LESSON



God Made My World

GRACE

Grace is God's love for us.

References

Genesis 1:1–2:3; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44–51.

Memory Verse

“God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good” (Genesis 1:31, ICB).

Objectives

The children will:

Know that God made the world because He loves them.

Feel happy about God's world.

Respond by thanking God for the world He made.

The Message



God made pretty things because He loves us.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

In six days God creates a beautiful world for us to enjoy. He makes everything we could ever need for physical life. But more than that, He makes a world of beauty to enrich our lives every day.

This is a lesson about grace.

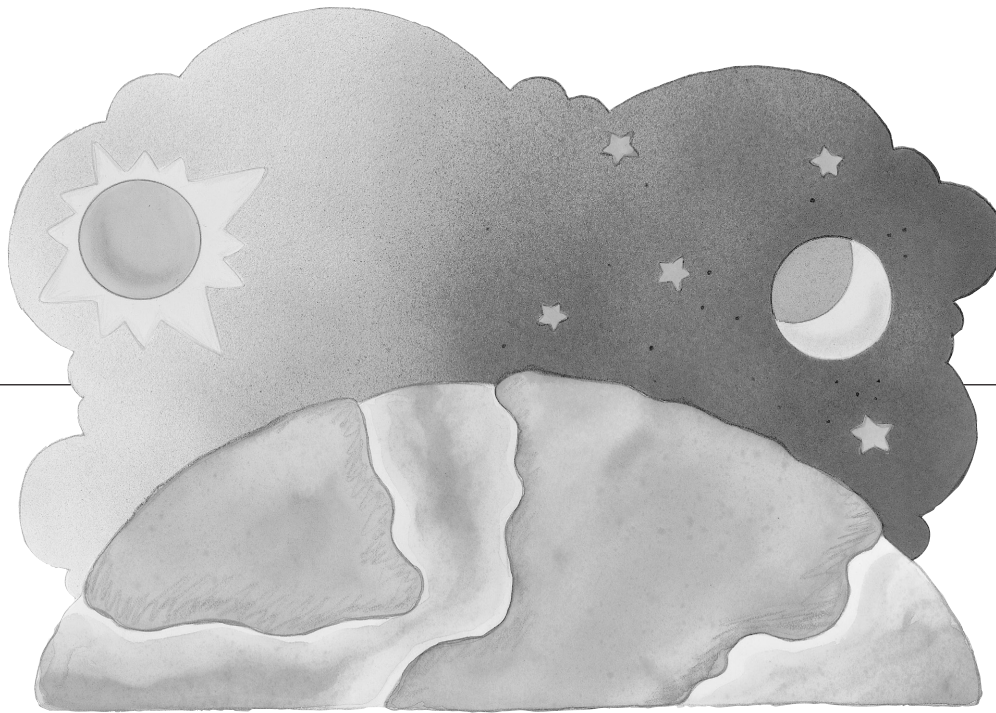
Young children can grasp the idea that God made our world for us because He loves us. This lesson tells children about all those beautiful things and encourages them to enjoy what God has made and to thank Him for it.

Teacher Enrichment

“As the earth came forth from the hand of its Maker, it was exceedingly beautiful. Its surface was diversified with mountains, hills, and plains, interspersed with noble rivers and lovely lakes. . . . Graceful shrubs and delicate flowers greeted the eye at every turn. . . .

“After the earth . . . had been called into existence, man, the crowning work of the Creator, and the one for whom the beautiful earth had been fitted up, was brought upon the stage of action. To him was given dominion over all that his eye

ONE



could behold; for 'God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.' . . . Here is clearly set forth the origin of the human race. . . . God created man in His own image. Here is no mystery" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44, 45).

Room Decorations

As you plan your room decorations for the quarter, remember that a large and elaborate background with accompanying props provides far too much visual stimulation for infants and toddlers. A few, large, well-chosen decorations are better suited for this age than is an elaborate set.

Room decorations are designed to be used for an entire quarter. An outdoor theme with trees, planters with flowers, rainbows or bright strips of ribbons hanging from the ceiling, birds, stuffed animals, sun, something to represent water (small container, plexiglass over blue paper or blue cloth with rocks around it) will be appropriate for the lesson this month and for the next two months when the children learn about Noah and Isaac. An extra-large felt Jesus

mounted on foam board could be used.

Make a wall tree using brown cloth, burlap, or shopping bags pieced together for the small trunk. Cut out green shapes for leaves that can be taped on. Artificial insects or birds can be placed in the tree.

For Creation, glow-in-the-dark stars can be stuck to the ceiling, strings of small white lights that can be turned on, or shiny star shapes may be hung from the ceiling.

Bulletin boards can be decorated with traditional felt "Creation circles," or pictures or cutouts of seasons. Another option is to make a "God Made Flowers and God Made Me" board with colored paper cut into flowers and stems with grass on the bottom. The child's picture or cutout silhouette can be glued in the center of each flower, or their name written in.

Obtain a picture of each child in your class to use as an option in the Make and Take activity for Week 4. Ask parents to bring in a picture or take a picture of each child early in the month.

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
5 Make and Take (Optional)	up to 10		
Week 1		<i>Handprint Flowers</i>	paper, pom-poms (optional), glue or glue sticks (optional), floral-scented air freshener (optional), crayons (optional) (see page 68)
Week 2		<i>Bird on a Stick</i>	copies of bird pattern on page 69, cardboard or heavy stock paper, scissors, glue, crayons (optional), craft sticks or tongue depressors
Week 3		<i>Fuzzy Bear</i>	copies of bear pattern (see page 70), black or brown construction paper and pom-poms, scissors, glue, crayons or markers
Week 4		<i>Creation Paper Plate</i>	paper plates, stickers/magazine pictures, nature items, picture of each child (optional), glue or glue sticks, markers, scissors (see illustration on page 71)
Week 5 (Optional)		<i>Footprints Plaque</i>	colored construction paper, pencils, markers (see illustration on page 68)
Snack Center (Optional)			napkins, crackers or fruit

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PARENT TIME

Busy parents often arrive at church tired and worn out from the week's activities and from getting the family ready for the "day of rest." Share a word of encouragement with them sometime during Sabbath School (possibly during Arrival Activities), something that will express your care and concern for them. The following statements were prepared by young parents as suggestions, and may be used at your discretion at any time you wish.

Week 1

Before kids, I was the perfect parent. I had every answer to every problem. And then I had children. Suddenly I felt like a failure on a regular basis. Are you ever hard on yourself about your parenting? God says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9, NIV). The only "perfect" we'll see as parents is the perfect of God's power working in us. He loves our children more than we can comprehend. God works in their behalf, and He's the perfect parent. Ellen White says, "Mothers, remember that in your work the Creator of the universe will give you help" (*Child Guidance*, p. 172).

Tell about a time God answered your prayers and gave you His power to be strong.

Week 2

My nature-loving daughter displayed her affection for insects early in life. One morning I was chasing a fly with a flyswatter, and she asked me to stop. "I'll get it, Mommy," she said. Very carefully she trapped the fly in a bottle, then proceeded to open the back door and release the fly. When I asked her why she did that, she answered, "This is the only life the fly has, Mommy. I want him to die happy!" Never underestimate the understanding of your children! Take your children out in nature, and point them to Jesus there. "The works of the LORD are great. . . . He has made His wonderful works to be

remembered" (Psalm 111:2, 4, NKJV).

Talk about a time you learned something from your child.

Week 3

Our firstborn watched everything. He carefully observed other children and adults walking, but wasn't about to try it himself until he was sure he knew what to do. We were amazed as we saw him toddle off across the room one day *without* falling. Our second child was quite different. She would just take off across the room toward her goal. It didn't matter how many times she fell before she got there—she just wanted to go. One was interested in the process; the other was interested in the goal. When your child doesn't do what other children that age are doing, don't worry! God has given each one their own way of looking at the world.

Share concerns you've had when your child did something differently than another child of similar age. What helped you to know that it was OK for them to grow in God's timing?

Week 4

We were trying to catch butterflies with our little net. We had caught a couple tiny ones and put them in a jar. We got excited when a big, pretty one flew by. I chased after it, but my little one called out, "Mommy, no. Don't catch that one. It's too big." I figured out that my child didn't want to catch it because it was too bird-like. It made him feel sad to think that we would catch it in a bottle and that it would die. Think about it. Ellen White says, "The children need to be given lessons that will nurture in them courage to resist evil" (*Child Guidance*, p. 49).

What lessons have you taught your children from nature? How can you use nature more?

Week 5 (or optional)

You are your child's first teacher. Your

child is watching and learning from you how the world works. Mary was Jesus' first teacher and "from her lips and the scrolls of the prophets, He [Jesus] learned of heavenly things". (The Desire of Ages, p. 70) Jesus' earthly father taught Him a trade. "As Jesus worked in childhood and youth, mind and body were developed". (Ibid, p. 72). Take your child out into nature and let them explore and teach them the lessons that nature offers. "He [Jesus] studied the life of plants and ani-

mals, and the life of man. . . Continually He was seeking to draw from things seen illustrations by which to present the living oracles of God." (Ibid, p. 70). "The more quiet and simple the life of the child,—the more free from artificial excitement, the more in harmony with nature,—the more favorable is it to physical and mental vigor and to spiritual strength." (Ibid, p. 74). Share a time you witnessed excitement in your child's eyes as you walked in nature?

2

ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES

Plan simple play activities on the carpet, blanket, sheet, or quilt inside the semicircle for the children who arrive early. The children participate in these activities under the supervision of an adult until the program begins. The child's play should be with materials that relate to the program, which is based on the monthly Bible story.

Choose from the following suggested activities for this month. Be sure to include something for the span of children's ages.

A. Book Basket

Provide a basket of sturdy board books about Creation, animals, colors, etc.

B. Animal Corner

Provide toy stuffed animals for children to hold.

C. Peekaboo

This basket includes hand towels and play objects (a block, ball, rattle, or stuffed animal). Parents hide an object under the towel. The children will enjoy playing peekaboo to find something that God made, as the parent says this rhyme:

Peekaboo,
Let's see who
Finds a *(name of object)*
God made for you. *(Child picks up the object.)*
(Name) did! (Hug child.)

D. Zoo Corner

Provide an assortment of animal block sets (zoo, farm, etc.) to build a zoo and play with the animals that God made. Adults say: "See the (name of animal) that God made. What does the (name of animal) say?"

E. Rocking Chairs

Provide an adult-sized rocking chair so children may be rocked.

F. Animal Puzzles

Provide ready-made puzzles. Or cut animal pictures from magazines, mount on foam core or cardboard, laminate, and then cut the pictures in half. Older toddlers will enjoy matching the pictures.

3 GETTING STARTED

A. Welcome

Say: **Good morning, boys and girls! I'm so happy to see you today. Sabbath is a special day. We see many friends at church on Sabbath. Let's shake hands as a special way to say good morning.** Walk around and shake hands with each child while you sing "Good Morning to You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 3).

Good morning to you,
Good morning to you,
How are you today?
Good morning to you,
Good morning to you,
This happy Sabbath day.

—Mildred Adair

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You Need:

bells

Say: **Sabbath School is a special place to be. Let's ring some bells to show that we are happy for love at Sabbath School.** Ring bells while singing "Sabbath Bells" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 237).

Ring-a-ling-a-ling,
Ring-a-ling-a-ling,
Sabbath bells are ringing.
Ring-a-ling-a-ling,
Ring-a-ling-a-ling,
Children sweetly singing.

—Mildred Adair

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B. Prayer Time

Say: **Today we are going to be talking about the pretty things God made for us. Let's stop right now and tell God thank You for making such pretty things for us.** Encourage the families to help their child kneel. To prepare for prayer, use the song "When It's Time to Pray" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 17).

When it's time to pray,
I bend my knees, bend my knees,
bend my knees;
When it's time to pray, I bend my
knees, and then I talk to Jesus.
When it's time to pray,
I fold my hands, fold my hands, fold
my hands;
When it's time to pray, I fold my
hands, and then I talk to Jesus.
When it's time to pray,
I close my eyes, close my eyes, close
my eyes;
When it's time to pray, I close my
eyes, and then I talk to Jesus.

—Janet Sage

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C. Visitors

Welcome each visitor and then sing "We Welcome You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 7).

We welcome you, we welcome you,
On this Sabbath day.
We welcome you, we welcome you,
On this Sabbath day.

—Mildred Adair

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D. Offering**You Need:**

- offering basket
- OR other container

Say: **We bring our offerings to show our love to God. Our offerings help other children know about God's love.** Place a basket

on the floor in which the children may place their money while singing "Here Is My Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 32).

Here is my money for Jesus,
for Jesus, for Jesus;
Here is my money for Jesus,
I give my money to Him.

—Janet Sage

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Say: **Thank you, boys and girls, for bringing your offering. Close your eyes now while we ask Jesus to bless the money.** Fold your hands, and pray a simple prayer similar to the following:

Dear Jesus, this money is for You. We want others to know about Your love. Amen.

E. Birthdays**You Need:**

- artificial birthday cake
- candles
- matches
- pull toy (optional)

Say: **God gives us our birthdays. Someone here has a birthday. Who has a birthday? Let's all close our eyes.** Lead the birthday child up front while singing. (Or you could use an animal pull toy to pull

around the room in front of the children while you sing. It would stop at and circle in front of the

birthday child.) Sing "A Birthday" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 36).

A birthday, a birthday,
O who has had a birthday?
Come sit right here and we will sing,
To wish you happy birthday.

—Mildred Adair

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Teacher will give the child the appropriate number of coins and assist him or her in dropping pennies into artificial cake while singing "Count the Birthday Money" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 37).

(Child's name) has a birthday. We're so glad!

We will see how many (he/she) has had.

As we count the money we are told,
(count)

Yes, the money says (he's/she's) (age) years old.

—Johnie B. Wood

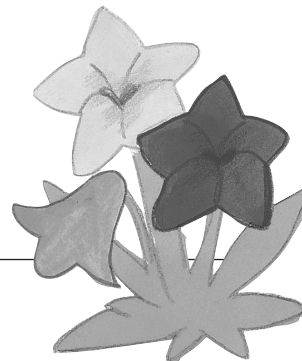
Light birthday candles and then lead in singing "Happy Birthday!" "Happy Birthday!" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 39).

Happy birthday, happy birthday,
Happy birthday to you;
Jesus loves you, dear (child's name),
Happy birthday to you!

—Janet Sage

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Encourage the birthday child to blow out the candle(s). Say a birthday prayer for the child and, if possible, give the child a small gift from Sabbath School.



4

EXPERIENCING THE STORY

A. Memory Verse

You Need:

- Bible "books" for each child (see activity for instructions)

Give each child a tiny Bible book made of felt or construction paper with at least one picture of Jesus, more pictures of different scenes if possible.

Say: **Let's open our Bible books and look inside while we sing "I Open My Bible Book and Read"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 27).

Praise Him, no. 27).

I open my Bible book and read,
"God loves me, God loves me."
—Johnie B. Wood. Adapted.

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Say: **Our Bible tells us that God made pretty things because He loves us. Our memory verse is "God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good." Let's say that together while we do the motions.**

God looked at	<i>(Point upward.) (Put hand above eyes)</i>
everything he had made, and it was very good.	<i>(Arms open wide.) (Jump with arms open wide.)</i>

OR
Let's say that together while we pat our legs. Follow the rhythm of this Bible verse by patting your legs with your hands.

B. God Made Light

Say: **Our Bible tells us that God loves us a lot. A long time ago He wanted to make a pretty world. At first our world was dark, dark,**

You Need:
for each child

- handkerchief OR dark cloth OR penlight
- rainbow stick OR colored cloth strip

dark—like when you play peek-a-boo—and it was very quiet.

To make it dark, either ask the children to close their eyes, hand out handkerchiefs to cover eyes, have a group of children get under a dark cloth, or turn the lights off in the room and have a penlight for each child.

Say: **It is very dark. We can't see light. On the first day of Creation God made light. Let's sing about the light He made.** Have the children open their eyes, remove handkerchief, or turn on flashlight under dark cloth; or help children turn their flashlights on and shine on ceiling. Say the following:

In the very beginning God created the heavens and the earth, they say,
He turned on the light in the middle of the darkness, and that was the very first day.

—Chuck Fulmore

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Say: **God called the light day and the darkness night. Because God made the light, we have colors. Let's look at the colors in our rainbow sticks** (hold up colors and name them with children). **While we wave our rainbow sticks, we can sing this song** (option: use a strip of colored fabric for each child to wave): "Colors" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 159).

Colors, colors, pretty colors;
Colors, colors, pretty colors;
Jesus made the pretty colors

just for you and me.

—Janet Sage

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Say: **God made wonderful things for us to enjoy because He loves us. Remember:**

God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good. (Point upward.) (Put hand above eyes) (Arms open wide.) (Jump with arms open wide.)

C. God Made Air and Water

You Need:

- bubble solution
- bubble blowers
- water

Say: **God made more pretty things because He loves us. On the second day of Creation God made air. Can you blow air out of your mouth?** (demon-

strate) **Air makes wind. Let's do a finger play about the wind:**

The Windmill

Fast wind makes the windmill fast. (roll arms fast in front of you)
 Slow wind makes the windmill slow. (roll arms slowly)
 No wind makes the windmill stop. (stop arms quickly)
 So blow, wind, blow. (roll arms fast and blow air out of mouth)

—Unknown

Say: **Air can also make bubbles. Sometimes we can see pretty colors in bubbles.** Distribute small bottles of bubble solution for families to blow bubbles or walk around and blow bubbles so they are just above the children's heads. **Let's sing about the bubbles while you try to catch them.** Sing "Bubbles"

(*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 157).

Bubbles, bubbles,
 I like to play with bubbles;
 Jesus must like pretty things,
 because He made the bubbles!

—Janet Sage

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Say: **On the second day of Creation God divided the water from the air. What do you do with water? Drink it? Wash in it? Play in it? We use water for many things.** Give the children a small drink of water, or spray hands with squirt bottle, or have a dish of water to touch. **God made pretty things because He loves us. Let's sing about the pretty ocean God made.** Sing "The Big Blue Ocean" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 113).

The big blue ocean makes me think of Jesus' love,
 The big blue ocean, the big blue ocean;
 The big blue ocean makes me think of Jesus' love;
 Let's learn of Jesus at the ocean!

—Janet Sage

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Say: **God made wonderful things for us to enjoy because He loves us. Remember:**

God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good. (Point upward.) (Put hand above eyes) (Arms open wide.) (Jump with arms open wide.)

D. God Made Flowers and Trees

You Need:

- fresh flowers OR artificial flowers and floral air freshener
- basket to hold flowers

Before Sabbath School or just before this activity, lightly spray air freshener on artificial flowers or use fresh fragrant flowers in a basket or planter.

Say: **God made more pretty things because He loves us. On the third day of Creation God made flowers. Do flowers smell nice?** Let children respond. **Yes, He made the flowers to smell nice. Come and pick a flower**

and take it back to your seat. Be sure to smell the flower and let your family smell it also. While we do this, let's sing about the flowers. Sing "Wonder Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 74).

Oh, who can make a flower?
I'm sure I can't, can you?
Oh, who can make a flower?
No one but God, 'tis true.

—Grace W. Owens

Walk around the room with a basket to collect the flowers. Place the basket of flowers on a chair or table where everyone can see it. Say: **Look at all the pretty flowers! I see red flowers, yellow flowers, pink flowers, and orange flowers. God made pretty things because He loves us.**

Say: **On the third day of Creation God also made pretty trees. God made pretty things because He loves us. When the wind blows through the trees, it makes the trees sway back and forth. Let's pretend we are trees swaying while we sing "The Trees Are Gently**

Swaying" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 115).

The trees are gently swaying,
Swaying, swaying;
The trees are gently swaying,
Whispering "God is love."

—Mildred Adair

From *Songs for the Pre-School Age*. Broadman Press. Used by permission. (Adapted.)

You Need:

- artificial fruit or vegetables
- basket

Say: **On the third day God also made yummy food for us to eat. He made** (name fruits/vegetables). Give each child an artificial piece of

food and ask them to come up and put it in a basket. **Let's sing "God Made It So"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 163).

This world is full of yummy food,
Yummy food, yummy food;
This world is full of yummy food.
God made it so, God made it so,
God made it so.
This world is full of yummy food.
God made it so.

—Charles M. Fillmore. Adapted.

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Say: **God made wonderful things for us to enjoy because He loves us. Remember:**

God	(Point upward.)
looked at	(Put hand above eyes)
everything	(Arms open wide.)
he had made,	(Jump with arms open wide.)
and it was	
very good.	



E. God Made the Sun and Stars

You Need:

- felt suns OR
- star sticks
- sunshine faces (see activity)
- penlights (optional)

Say: **On the fourth day of Creation God made the sun. The sun keeps us warm and helps flowers to grow. The sun is bright and pretty.**

Use either felt suns for the children to bring to the felt board or distribute sunshine faces for

the children to hold up to their face (make by cutting a circle out of the center of a paper plate, cutting a jagged edge on the outside of the plate and coloring it yellow). **Bring your sun and place it on the felt board** (or wear your sunshine face) **while we sing "Jesus Made the Sunshine"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 168).

Jesus made the sunshine, sunshine,
sunshine;

Jesus made the sunshine, I'm so glad!
—Janet Sage

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Say: **God also made the stars in the sky. God made pretty things because He loves us.** Use stars on sticks for the children to wave, or turn off the ceiling lights and use small penlights for each child (use black construction paper with tiny pinprick holes in it and cover the end of the flashlight). Say: **Let's sing "God Made Me"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 164).

Little twinkling star says,
"God made me,
He made all my family."
Little twinkling star says,
"God made me,
On the fourth day."

—Clara M. Striplin

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Say: **God made wonderful things for us to enjoy because He loves us. Remember:**

**God
looked at
everything
he had made,
and it was
very good.**

(Point upward.)
(Put hand above eyes)
(Arms open wide.)
(Jump with arms open wide.)

F. God Made Birds and Fish

You Need:

- recording of bird sounds OR bird whistle
- feathers
- plastic fish
- fishbowl with live fish OR plastic fish

Use a recording of bird sounds, or a bird whistle, or invite an adult who can make bird calls to visit the class. Say: **On the fifth day of Creation God made birds. What do you hear?** Allow responses. **I hear birds too. God made the birds to make pretty sounds, because He loves us.**

Show the children an artificial bird made with real feathers or real feathers that have been washed and dried. Say: **Birds have feathers.**

Would you like to touch the bird's feathers? Let the children touch the feathers. **How do the feathers feel? They're soft, aren't they? God made the birds with pretty feathers that are soft, because He loves us. Feathers help birds to fly.** Encourage the children to flap their arms like wings while they move around the room. **Let's stand up and pretend to fly like the birds while we sing "I Like to See the Birdies Fly."** Use the tune to "I Like to See the Butterflies" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 173).

I like to see the birdies fly,
Flying high (*stand tall*), flying low
(*crouch low*).

I like to see the birdies fly.
Jesus made them I know.

—Dorothy Robison. Adapted.

Show a fish puppet, a bowl with live or plastic fish, or a picture of fish. Say: **God wanted to make more pretty things on the fourth day of Creation because He loves us, so He made fish.** Have the children make a "fish" with their hands, palms together with hands making a wiggling motion to simulate swimming, or dis-

tribute plastic fish to place in your room decoration water pond. Say: **Fish like to splish-splash and swim in the water. Let's make our fish swim while we sing "Fishy, Fishy"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 161).

Fishy, fishy, swim in the water.
Fishy, fishy, swishy swish!
God made fishy swim in the water,
Fishy, fishy, swishy swish!

—Janet Sage

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Option

Use the fish hand actions to do the following finger play:

Little Fish

Little fish, little fish goes out to play,
Wiggles its fins and swims away
(*wiggle thumbs*).
Swims and swims in the water bright,
Opens its mouth and takes a bite
(*open hands*).
Mmmmmmmmm! Good!
(*rub tummies*).

Mmmmmmmmm! Good!

—Dawn Reynolds

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Say: **God made wonderful things for us to enjoy because He loves us.**

Remember:

God	(<i>Point upward.</i>)
looked at	(<i>Put hand above eyes</i>)
everything	(<i>Arms open wide.</i>)
he had made,	(<i>Jump with arms open wide.</i>)
and it was	
very good.	

G. God Made Animals and Me

You Need:

- live pet
- toy stuffed animals
- hand mirror

Say: **God wasn't finished with making things. He wanted to make more pretty things, because He loves us. On the sixth day He made animals.** Bring in a small pet, such as a cat, dog, rabbit, hamster, etc., for the children to look at and touch. Remind children to be gentle with the animal.

Say: **I see some toy animals hiding around our room right now. Can you find an animal that God made? While you take an animal back to your seat, let's sing "Animals, Animals"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 67).

Sing with a loud deep voice for the "great big animals" and a soft small voice for the "little tiny animals."

Animals, animals, Jesus made the animals—

Great big animals, little tiny animals—

Animals, animals, Jesus made the animals;

Here is an animal that I know . . .

—Janet Sage

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Say: **Look at all the animals you found! I see lots of different kinds of animals. Animals make lots of noise. Can you make a noise like the animal you are holding?** Allow time for sounds. **Since we're pretending to be animals, would you like to stand up and be a kangaroo with me? Put your animal down, and let's hop**

and sing "God Made the Kangaroo" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 72).

Kangaroo, kangaroo,
Kangaroo-oo-oo,
(hold hands like paws and hop),
Can I hop with you?
(repeat)
God made the kangaroo
(point upward),
And He made me too
(point to self).
I love (fold arms over chest) my great
big God (arms up pretending to
flex muscles).
He makes all things new
(lift hands high in the air).
Kangaroo, kangaroo,
Kangaroo-oo-oo,
Can I hop with you?

—Janine Max

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Say: **God was happy with all the animals, but next He made the best thing yet. Do you know what that was? Look in my mirror and see.** Hold mirror up to each child as you sing "I'm Special" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 97).

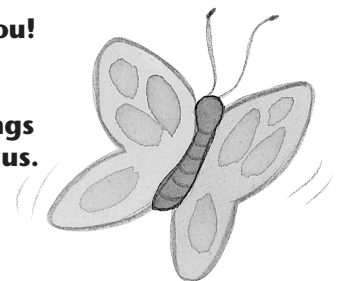
I'm special, so special,
I'm special as can be.
I am special, I am special,
God made me.

—Edwina Grice Neely

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Say: **That's right, God made you! You are a very special person.**

Say: **God made wonderful things for us to enjoy because He loves us. Remember:**



God (Point upward.)
looked at (Put hand above eyes)
everything (Arms open wide.)
he had made, (Jump with arms
and it was open wide.)
very good.

H. God Made Sabbath

Say: **God was finished making our world. It was perfect! The very next day was the seventh day, and God gave us a very special gift. He gave us Sabbath. Sabbath is the day we come to Sabbath School. Sabbath is a day to spend with our families. Sabbath is a day to rest from our work. I'm so glad God made Sabbath. Let's clap and sing "Happy Sabbath"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 235).

Sabbath is a happy day, happy day,
 happy day,
 Sabbath is a happy day, I love ev'ry
 Sabbath.
 —Margaret Kennedy. Adapted.

Say: **I'm so glad God made the wonderful world for us.**

I. Thank You, God

Say: **God loves us. He made a pretty world for us. I'm so glad He did! Let's show that we are happy for the pretty world He made as we march around singing "I Am Happy as Can Be!"** (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 214). You may want to sing this a few times.

I am happy as can be!
 I am happy as can be!
 For ev'rything that
 Jesus made for me!

—Janet Sage

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J. God Made Everything

Say: **God made pretty things because He loves us. Everything God made was good. Let's sing about everything God made.**

Families may do the motions while they sing "God Made Everything" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 162).

God	(Point upward.)
made ev'rything	(Arms outstretched.)
big	(Hands outstretched sideways.)
and small,	(Bring hands in close.)
tiny	(Hands close together on top of each other.)
and tall.	(Move hands far apart.)
God	(Point upward.)
made ev'rything,	(Arms outstretched.)
yes,	(Clap.)
He	(Clap.)
made	(Clap.)
them	(Clap.)
all.	(Clap.)

—Doris I. Black

K. God Made It So

Say: **God made the world so pretty because He loves us.**

Remember:

God	(Point upward.)
looked at	(Put hand above eyes)
everything	(Arms open wide.)
he had made,	(Jump with arms open wide.)
and it was	
very good.	

Let's sing about how the world is full of pretty things. Use the song "God Made It So" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 163).

This world is full of pretty things,
 Pretty things, pretty things;
 This world is full of pretty things.
 God made it so.
 God made it so, God made it so.
 This world is full of pretty things.
 God made it so.

—Charles M. Fillmore. Adapted.

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MAKE AND TAKE (Optional)

Have the parents sit around small tables. Parents or other adults should assist children to do one of the following each week as you review the story.

Week 1

Handprint Flowers

You Need:

- paper
- pom-poms OR something similar (optional)
- glue OR glue sticks (optional)
- floral-scented air freshener (optional)
- crayons

Have parents trace their child's hand on paper, and make either a single-hand flower or a four-hand flower (see illustration on page 68). The parent draws stems and leaves. Help the children color the flower with crayons. Option: Spray pom-poms with floral-scented air freshener and glue onto the center of flowers.

Week 2

Bird on a Stick

You Need:

- photocopy of bird pattern
- cardboard OR heavy stock paper
- scissors
- glue OR glue sticks
- crayons (optional)
- craft sticks (OR tongue depressors)

For each child, photocopy the bird pattern (see page 69) on colored card stock paper or on thin cardboard, or trace the pattern on cardboard and help the child color it. Draw in the bird's eye. Cut out the bird. Glue a craft stick to the back. Write "God Made Birds" on the bird.

Week 3

Fuzzy Bear

You Need:

- photocopy of bear pattern
- black OR brown construction paper
- black OR brown pom-poms
- scissors
- glue OR glue sticks
- crayons, markers

Photocopy the bear pattern (see page 70) onto black or brown construction paper. Cut out the bear. Glue on pom-poms for ears, feet, and nose. Eyes may be cut from black construction paper and glued on, or drawn with a dark-color crayon or marker. Write "God Made Animals" on the bear's stomach.

Week 4

Creation Paper Plate

You Need:

- paper plates
- stickers/magazine pictures
- other nature items
- picture of each child (optional)
- glue OR glue sticks
- scissors
- markers

On a paper plate families put stickers, glue pictures cut from magazines, or draw pictures of things God made: cotton ball for clouds, leaves, flower, bird, fish, animal stickers, etc. Option: In the center of the plate, glue the child's picture you collected earlier in the month. Write the memory verse on the bottom of the plate: Everything God made was good. See illustration on page 71.

Week 5 (or optional activity)**Footprints Plaque****You Need:**

- colored construction paper
- pencils
- markers

Parents can trace their child's footprints on the paper and write:

*Thank You, God,
for my little feet
with 10 little toes
that make them
complete.*

(See page 68.)

Snack Center (Optional)

A simple snack that relates to the lesson can be provided each week—goldfish crackers, banana slices, apple juice, or animal crackers are appropriate for this month. Be aware of any food allergies your students may have.

Bible Activities

If there is still time, families may choose from a variety of activities that reinforce this month's Bible story. Those activities listed as Arrival Activities may be used again. In addition, you may want to provide a snack at one table.

Closing

Say: **Let's say our memory verse one more time together.**

God	<i>(Point upward.)</i>
looked at	<i>(Put hand above eyes)</i>
everything	<i>(Arms open wide.)</i>
he had made,	<i>(Jump with arms</i>
and it was	<i>open wide.)</i>
very good.	

Say a short prayer thanking God for our pretty world. Close with singing "Sabbath School Is Over" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 46).

Our Sabbath School is over,
And we are going now.
Goodbye, goodbye,
Be always kind and true.
Goodbye, goodbye,
Be always kind and true.

STUDENT LESSON

God Made My World

References

Genesis 1:1–2:3;
Patriarchs
and Prophets,
pp. 44–51

Memory Verse

"God looked at everything he had made, and it was very good" (Genesis 1:31, ICB).

The Message

God made pretty things because He loves us.

Can you make a picture? Do you want to show your pictures to somebody? Long ago God made something special.

God made our wonderful world. First, God made light. *(Let your child switch lights or flashlight on/off.)* God called the light "day." He made day and night.

The next day God made the beautiful blue sky with clouds and wind. Can you blow like the wind?

The third day God made the dirt. God made soft, green grass. God made pretty flowers. *Can you point to the flowers? God made tall trees. Can you reach up like a tall tree?*

"This earth is very nice!" God said. He was happy. *(Go outside and name things God made to grow.)*

On the fourth day God made the bright sun. We see the sun in the daytime. God made the round moon. *(Hold hands in a circular shape.)* He also made the twinkling stars that we see at night. *(Open and close your fists so your fingers can "twinkle.")* God put stars in the sky. *(Make your hands "twinkle up high.")*

The next day God filled the waters with fish. *(Put your palms together and wiggle your hands.)* Then God filled the air with flying birds of all colors. *(Flap your arms as if flying.)* He gave the

birds pretty voices to sing happy songs. *(Imitate a birdsong.)* God saw everything He made. God said, "This is good."

On the sixth day God made all the animals. He made tall giraffes and furry caterpillars. *(Walk your fingers across your child's arm.)* God made horses *(make galloping sounds)* and barking puppies *(bark)* and cute little kittens *(meow)*.



God saw the animals He made. And God said, "This is good."

And then God made the most special creation. He made people.

God took some mud and made a man. The man had strong legs *(pat your child's legs)* and smiling lips *(smile at your child)*. God blew into the man's nose *(blow air out)*. He opened his eyes *(blink your eyes open)*. He was alive! God called the man Adam.

Then God made a woman. He made Eve to be Adam's wife and friend.

On the seventh day God looked at everything He had made. It was very good. So God rested from His work. "This is a special day," He said. "This is a day of rest."

And so God made the Sabbath, a special day to spend with us. God made our world because He loves us.

Do & Say

1. Cut animal pictures in half and mix them up. Help your child put the halves back together again.

2. Walk barefoot in the grass, and talk about how it feels. Then while wearing shoes, continue your walk and collect nature items.

3. Talk about light while your child turns on/off a light or flashlight.

4. Sit in the sunshine and sing your very own "sunshine" song. "Sunshine, sunshine! God made the sunshine."

5. Take a "listening" walk. What sounds do you hear?

6. Look at pictures of animals. Make the animal sounds. Do the animal actions.

7. Name a color, ask your child to point to something that is that color, or point to all the blue (red, green) things in the room. Say: "God made the colors."

8. Blow up a balloon, and bat it around with your child. Talk about how God made air for us to breathe and to enjoy.

Study these suggestions for something to do each day with your child. Select those that are appropriate for your child's developmental stage and repeat them often.

9. Trace your child's body with sidewalk chalk. Compare your size with your child's. Talk about how God made the first people big and tall.

10. Pretend your fingers are wiggle worms and "crawl a worm" up your child's arm, tickling as you go.

11. Pretend your fingers are bees. Buzz to your child and tickle him or her.

12. Help your child make a cloud picture by gluing cotton balls on a blue piece of paper.

13. Collect leaves to make a leaf rubbing. Put a leaf under a piece

of paper and help your child rub a crayon over the paper.

14. Collect rocks and help your child wash them. Then sort them by color, size, or shape.

15. Show your child how to blow a Ping-Pong ball or dry leaf across a hard surface, or blow a feather out of their hand. Talk about how God made air.