BIG IDEA: God made the heavens and the earth.

Week 1: Creation Intro

In the Beginning



This lesson is based on Genesis 1:1, 2 and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44-51.

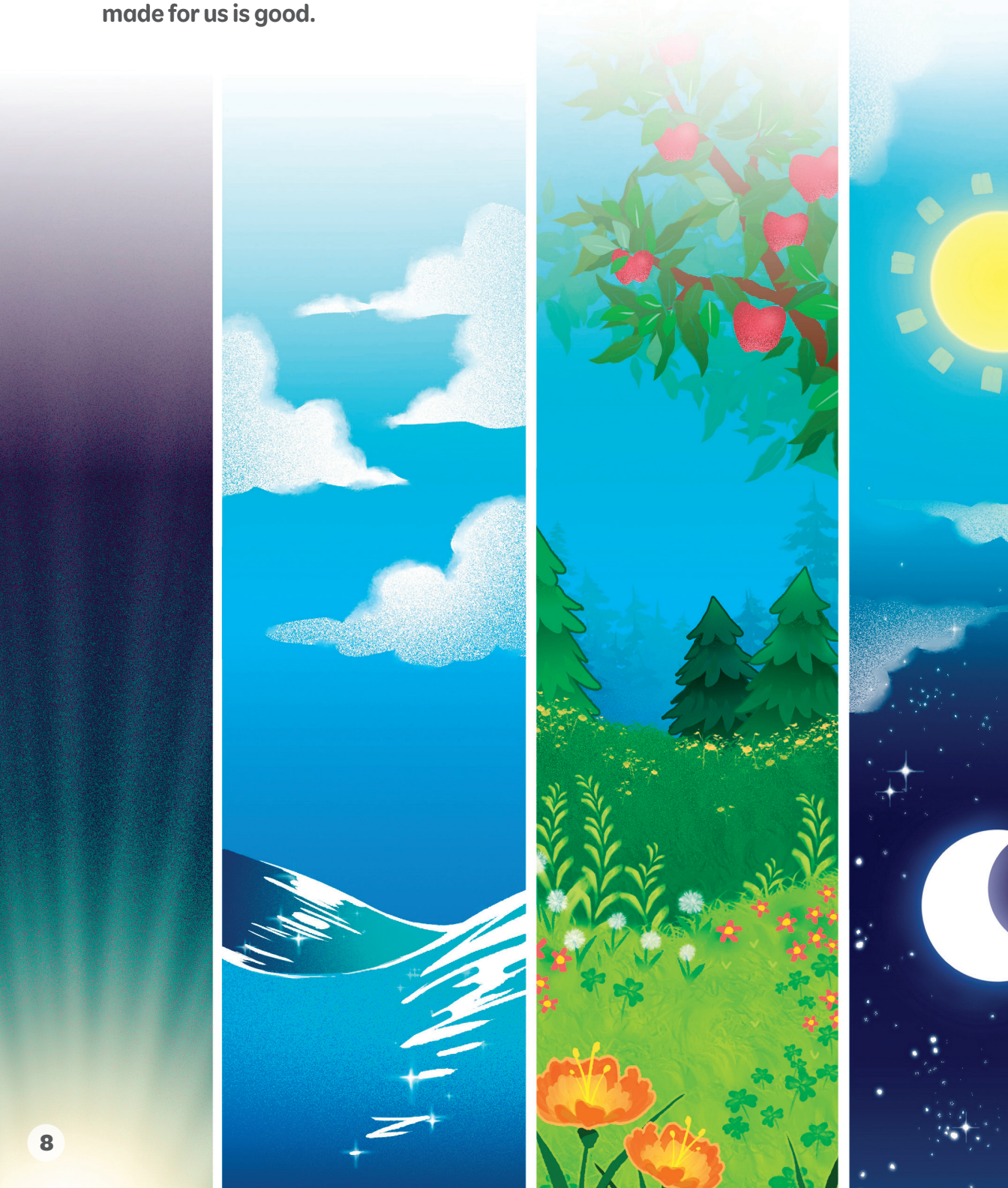


In the beginning, before there were white fluffy clouds or fuzzy caterpillars, there was God. Before there were twinkly stars or an ocean so blue, God created a special place for you. There was so much He would do. In *(count with your fingers to six)* one . . . two . . . three . . . four . . . five . . . six days the world would be perfect and new.



God would fill the earth with colors to see: red, yellow, blue, and green. There would be new sounds to hear and tasty food to eat. Best of all would be the friends He would meet. God is so good, and everything He made for us is good.

In the beginning the earth was covered in water. There were no playful dolphins or great big whales; no boats ready to set sail. God wanted to create a beautiful place for you to be, with animals big *(arms out wide)* **and small** *(hands close together)* **for you to see. He wanted to make people like you** *(point to child)* **and like me** *(point to self).* **So He did. God is so good, and everything He made for us is good.**



In the beginning the earth was empty and dark. There were no twinkling stars *(wiggle fingers)* **shining in the darkness; no owls hooting from their nests** *(hoo-hoo).* **God wanted to create a wonderful world for you to see, filled with light for both day and night. He wanted to make a special day for time with you. So He did. God is so good, and everything He made for us is good.**



In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth *(point up and down)* **for you and me. God filled the earth with grassy fields and honeybees and tumbling streams and crashing seas because He loves you. He made the heavens with the sun and moon to see. God wanted to create all this for you and me. What would God make on Day 1?** *(Point to the circle with number 1.)* **God is so good, and everything He made for us is good.**



play throughout the day



Create

Make a Creation Book with your child. Use loose sheets of plain paper to form the book, which can be bound together at the end of the quarter. Each week a new creation day will be added. This week, focus on the cover. Ask your child to think of some of their favorite things that God created. Find and print pictures of animals or plants, or draw these together on the front cover. Then write the memory verse on the front cover.

Explore

Use water play to learn about God's creation. Fill a plastic bin one-third full of water. Provide your child with a variety of items to design and create their own little world: driftwood pieces, aquarium plants, pebbles, twigs, flowers, leaves, and plastic fish and ducks.

Learn

Sing "God Is So Good" or another song that emphasizes God's love with your child.

Connect

Write out the memory verse on a piece of paper and then cut each word up separately. Draw a picture on the back of each word to help your child understand what it says. Hide the word pictures around the room and send your child on a treasure hunt to find them. Once they are found, help your child place the words in the right order and say the verse a few times to learn it. Isn't God amazing to create such a wonderful world!

Pray

Throughout the week, watch for the goodness of God and talk about it with your child. Explore your neighborhood or backyard for the good things God has made for us. As you discover God's goodness with your child, pause to say "Thank You" to God for each specific thing.

Extension weekly memory verse: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

For You, Parents

God really is so good, and everything God made is good. God took an empty, dark expanse and filled it with His goodness. He created the earth full of good things for you and your children! He wants you to know and see that He is good. God longs to fill your life with His goodness. In the busyness of each day, how easily this can be overlooked. "In singing bird and opening blossom, in rain and sunshine, in summer breeze and gentle dew, in ten thousand objects in nature, from the oak of the forest to the violet that blossoms at its root, is seen the love that restores. And nature still speaks to us of God's goodness" (Ellen G. White, *Child Guidance,* p. 47).

Ask God to reveal His goodness to you throughout your busy days. The more you seek Him in each moment, the more your eyes will be open to discover Him. Even when your day may seem dark or empty, you will begin to see that His goodness is there ready to fill the emptiness. Whether in a call from a friend or the sunrise each morning, God's goodness is all around you. Look for Him, and He promises you will find Him (Proverbs 8:17). Share His goodness with those around you, and they too will discover that He truly is good!

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever" (1 Chronicles 16:34).

"The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works" (Psalm 145:9).