WEEK 1

A Brand-new World



Big Idea: God is loving. He created our world.

Memory Verse
***"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"* (Genesis 1:1).**

Word of the Week
"Create" - To create is to make something new.

This week's lesson
is based on **Genesis 1** and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 44-51.

Sunday

"Let There Be . . . Light!"

Do you like making new things? Maybe you like to paint beautiful pictures or build fun machines out of boxes or LEGO bricks. Did you know that God loves to create things too? The Bible tells us that "in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

It all started when God looked out over a deep, dark space covered with dark water.

The Spirit of God was there too, moving over the waters. God had been planning to create something very special here. He knew the very first thing He wanted to make. What was it? Read **Genesis 1:3**.

God said the words out loud and . . . *shimmer! glimmer!* Light was there! Just—like—that!

"God saw that the light was good" (Genesis 1:4, ICB). He was happy.

But He wasn't finished yet. The Bible says, "God divided the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness He called Night" (Genesis 1:4, 5). There was an evening, and there was a morning. It was the first day ever in God's new world!

How amazing that God could create light by saying words out loud!

I Wonder

» Can you finish this sentence? "God saw that the light was . . ." (Genesis 1:4)._____

» Why do you think God thought the light was good?

» What do you love about light?

Do

Drape blankets over chairs to make a playhouse. Invite a family member inside and tell them the story. Turn on a flashlight when you say, "God saw that the light was good!" (Genesis 1:4).

Pray

Pray inside your blanket playhouse. Thank God for making light so you can see everything He has made.

Monday

More Making

On the first day of Creation, God said, "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3). And there was!

The next day, beautiful light shone brightly over the waters. It made the waters shimmer and sparkle.

God knew exactly what was needed next. He spoke out loud again. *What did He say?* Read **Genesis 1:6**.

God created a wide band of sky the Bible calls "the firmament" (Genesis 1:8). The firmament split the water into two parts. Lots of little water droplets floated above the sky—and the rest of the water splished and splashed in the sea down below. Now fresh air filled the sky.

God made the wide band of sky on the second day because He knew that the plants, animals, and people He would soon create would need air to live. How creative and loving is our God!

Parent Faith Talk

Share with your child one of your favorite things that God has made. If possible, show pictures.

I Wonder

» Have you ever tried to hold your breath? We can't do it for very long—our faces get red and our eyes get watery after just a little while. God created our lungs to need air. He created air on the second day of Creation.

» How powerful is God's breath? Read Psalm 33:6 to find out.

Prayer Idea

Take a big, deep breath, hold it for a moment, then thank God for air to breathe.

Do

Have fun with the air that God made.

1. Blow up a brightly colored balloon to play with, or
2. Make a simple kite to fly on a windy day, or
3. Blow bubbles and watch them float.

Memory Verse

Tuesday

Color Splashed Everywhere!

In two days God's powerful voice had created light, split the water in two, and made fresh air.

On the third day God had more amazing things to create with His words. "Let the water under the sky be gathered together so the dry land will appear," God's voice commanded (Genesis 1:9, ICB). And it happened—just like that! God called the dry land "earth" and the water "seas."

But God wasn't finished yet. He had something else to do. What did He create next? Read **Genesis 1:11**.

When God spoke those words, lush green grass suddenly spread out like a carpet across the ground. Beautiful flowers, all shapes and colors, uncurled and nodded gently in the breeze. Tall, majestic trees towered above the short, plump bushes that dotted the land.

Peaches, bananas, mangoes, apricots, and oh, so many other fruits all hung on trees, ready to be picked. Broccoli, sweet peas, and crunchy carrots grew together. The smell of fresh, green mint and basil filled the air.

The Bible says that "God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:12). God must have loved what He had made. It was beautiful. It was colorful. It all worked perfectly together. The light slowly disappeared, and the darkness returned. It was the end of the third day.

I Wonder

» Can you finish this sentence? "God saw that it was . . ." (Genesis 1:12)._____

» God could have made only one type of fruit, vegetable, and flower. Why do you think He made so many different plants?

Prayer Idea

Thank God for creating a tree, flower, vegetable, and fruit that you love.

Do

If possible, go outside and collect different-colored flowers that can be pressed in a book. Use these flowers to create a card to give to someone and tell them about God, our wonderful Creator.

Memory Verse





Wednesday

Lights to Shine All the Time

Water swirled and daffodils nodded. Branches swayed and tall grass swished in the breeze. So much had changed in just three days! What would God create next in His special world?

On the fourth day God spoke again. The Bible tells us that He said, "'Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night. . . . They will be in the sky to give light to the earth.' And it happened" (Genesis 1:14, 15, ICB). What did God create next? Read **Genesis 1:16**.

God made the big, blazing sun appear in just the right place to keep the earth warm during the day. God knew the sun couldn't be too close to the earth or it would be too hot. It couldn't be too far away, or everything would freeze. The brightness from the sun would help plants to grow strong and colorful and help people to stay healthy too.

God also made the softly glowing moon and more stars than you can count. They twinkled and blinked in the dark night sky. God's nighttime lights remind us that He will always love us! The Bible says, "He made the moon and stars to rule the night. His love continues forever" (Psalm 136:9, ICB).

Fun Fact

When the sun shines on our skin, it makes vitamin D, sometimes called the sunshine vitamin. Our bodies need vitamin D to help our bones and teeth stay strong.

I Wonder

» Can you finish this sentence? "God saw that it was . . ." (Genesis 1:18)._____

» What do you enjoy the most, the warm sun or the moon and stars? Why?

Prayer Idea

Thank God for giving warm sunshine during the day, and the glow from the moon and stars as a night-light when you go to sleep.

Do

Play "Creation Catch." As you throw a ball back and forth to each other, say something that God created in the sky. After a while, switch to water, then land. How fast can you go?

Memory Verse

Thursday

Brand-new Life! Brand-new Sounds!

The sounds in the new world were restful. Soft breezes gently rustled the leaves in trees. Ocean waves curled and gently crashed onto sandy beaches. They were peaceful sounds.

But God wasn't finished yet! The best was yet to come. On the fifth day God called out in a powerful voice. What did He say? Read **Genesis 1:20, 21**.

As soon as God spoke, fish and creatures of every kind appeared in the sea! Striped clown fish darted through coral, giant octopuses with their sticky tentacles blobbed and floated gracefully, friendly gray dolphins leaped playfully, and crabs scuttled along the ocean floor. All were happy together.

But that wasn't all! God kept speaking! "Let birds fly above the earth" (Genesis 1:20). Suddenly the sky was filled with thousands of birds of all colors, shapes, and sizes. Tiny, speckled sparrows flitted here and there. Pink flamingos stood tall in shallow waters. Rainbow parrots and big-beaked toucans perched high in the trees.

There were squawks, chirps, whistles, and hoots on the land. There was splashing, diving, and swishing in the ocean. The earth had come alive with lots of different sights and sounds as amazing new creatures swam deep in the water and flew high in the sky.

God looked at His creation and saw that it was good. He was so very happy. The sun dipped behind the trees and gently turned the sky orange, then pink, then purple as the fifth day came to an end.

I Wonder

» Imagine swimming with friendly whales, sharks, and dolphins and not being scared. What ocean animal would you want to play with the most? Why?

Prayer Idea

Thank God for your favorite birds and fish.

Do

Play a Creation memory game. Collect 12-20 natural objects. Spread them out and try to memorize what's there. Cover them up and see how many objects you can remember.

Memory Verse





Friday

Five Days of Delight

Every place, every sound, every beautiful living thing, was perfectly created by our loving God. When did this happen? Read **Genesis 1:1** (memory verse).

God made all things in the whole universe and in our world too. Can you make up an action for each thing God made, as we list them off?

- God gave *light* so we could see His creation.
- God gave *air* so we could breathe.
- God gave *land*, where we can live and play, and *plants* for us to eat.
- God gave the *sun* to keep us warm and healthy, and the *moon* and *stars* to be lights in the night sky.
- God gave *fish* in the sea, and *birds* in the sky, just for us to enjoy!

The Bible says that "every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the Creator of the sun, moon, and stars" (James 1:17, ICB). All that God made in these five days was to be a perfect gift for us, for God's work of creating wasn't finished yet. He already had YOU in mind. The sixth day was coming, and everything was ready.

I Wonder

» Can you remember what God created each day?

» How can you look after all the precious gifts God gave us at Creation?

Prayer Idea

Thank God for His love and for giving you such special gifts at Creation.

Memory Verse

Family Journal

Choose a blank book that can serve as a family journal for this quarter. This journal will help your family think back on what you have learned from your lesson each week.

» Look at some nature books, then invite each family member to choose something to thank God for and write a short sentence about it in your family journal.

» What special facts can you find out about some creatures God made?

For You, Parents

"God has bound our hearts to Him. . . . Through the things of nature, and the deepest and tenderest earthly ties that human hearts can know, He has sought to reveal Himself to us" (Ellen G. White, *Steps to Christ*, p. 10).

Search-and-Find Adventure

Send your children on an outdoor Sabbath search-and-find adventure.

Can you find things that remind you of God?

- ◯ Something awesome . . .
- ◯ Something grand . . .
- ◯ Something powerful . . .
- ◯ Something too big to hold in your hand . . .

- ◯ Something soft and tender. . .
- ◯ Something to "love" . . .
- ◯ Something beautiful . . .
- ◯ Something that has come from "above". . .

Can you find things that God made?

- ◯ Something shiny . . .
- ◯ Something blue . . .
- ◯ Something tiny . . .
- ◯ Something new . . .

- ◯ Something patterned . . .
- ◯ Something up close . . .
- ◯ Something yummy . . .
- ◯ Something that floats . . .

- ◯ Something alive . . .
- ◯ Something rare . . .
- ◯ Something that tricks you . . .
- ◯ Something "special" to share . . .

