

# Explore It

## FOR LEADERS



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### GOD CHOOSES TO CREATE THE WORLD

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#### Genesis 1 to 2:3 The beginning of the world

In today's session we take time to consider God's amazing creation. We'll look at each day of the creation story and think about everything God has made. On the seventh day God looked at the world and all the creatures in it and decided to take a break. In this session we will think about the example God set for us all and consider the importance of rest.

Each child will need:

- Bible verse wristband
- Pens/pencils
- Art materials (dependent on the activity that you choose)

You will need:

- Seven pieces of paper labelled with 'Day One', 'Day Two' ... (leave room for notes to be added)
- To enlarge the memory verse poster, for display

## Start It

● **Say:** There are millions of examples of God's amazing creativity.

**Ask:** What is your favourite thing that God created? Explain your choice.

● **Say:** We are going to see how much you know about God's creation. Have a go at a Beano geography quiz either together or individually and test your geography knowledge. (Tip – if you choose an alternative quiz, beware of the Fun Geography Quiz: it always seems to give a score of zero!)

Beano Geography Quiz

[www.beano.com/posts/world-geography-quiz](http://www.beano.com/posts/world-geography-quiz)

● **Say:** Name one new thing that you discovered from the quiz.

## Sing It

● **Say:** Today we will be thinking about the way God created our amazing world. As you sing along and join in with the actions, try and remember what God created each day.

'Motions' (creation song) by Saddleback Kids (2 mins 36 secs)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWgC62KGsKM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWgC62KGsKM)

## Tell It

Place the seven labelled cards on the floor in front of the children.

● **Say:** Today we are going right back to the beginning. The first book in the Bible is called the book of Genesis, which means the origin or root. It is in the first few chapters of Genesis that we read the story of God creating the world. The story is set over seven days, which some Christians believe is a poetic understanding of the time God spent creating the world.

🗨️ **Say:** We are going to watch a clip that tells us what God created on each day. After the clip we will jot down each creation on the sheets of paper on the floor.

## Video

*Creation (Genesis 1-2)* by Saddleback Kids (3 mins 47 secs)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=teu7BCZTgDs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teu7BCZTgDs)

## Discuss

Discuss with the children what God created on each day and write it down on the appropriate piece of paper on the floor. For each day ask the children what images come to mind when they think of that part of God's creation. This bank of ideas will help them in the 'Action It' section of today's session.

Here is a rough outline of each day:

**Day One:** God created the heavens and the Earth. He created light and divided the day and night.

**Day Two:** God separated the water of the heavens from the water of the Earth. He called the waters of the heavens, sky.

**Day Three:** God created dry land called the earth and collections of water called the seas. The land was filled with every kind of tree.

**Day Four:** God created the stars in the sky, the sun to light the day, and the moon for the night.

**Day Five:** God created animals that live in the water and the sky.

**Day Six:** God created all the animals that live on dry land, including humans.

**Day Seven:** God didn't create; he rested.

### Ask:

- ➔ How did God describe what he had created?
- ➔ After a busy time creating the world, what did God do?

🗨️ **Say:** As we look at the sheets on the floor, we see all the amazing things God created. The story of creation also teaches us the importance of rest. Throughout these sessions we are going to learn a memory verse that reminds us of the importance of rest.

Display a large copy of February's memory verse. Read through the memory verse together and give each child a wristband. When you have read through the memory verse, ask the children to create actions to help them learn the verse.

## Memory verse

**'God blessed the seventh day and made it a holy day. He made it holy because on that day he rested. He rested from all the work he had done in creating the world.'**

— (Genesis 2:3 ICB)

## Action It

Earlier in the session the children identified what God created or did over seven days. They also shared images that came to mind for each day. In this part of the session, they are going to create a piece of artwork to represent the seven days of God's creation. How you decide to do this will depend on your group. The finished artwork could be displayed in the room where you gather, on a church noticeboard, or through the corps' social media page.

## Creation artwork ideas

- ➔ Allocate a different creation day to each child.
- ➔ Create one large piece of artwork that celebrates each day of creation.
- ➔ Fold a piece of A4 paper three times to make eight smaller sections. Use the first box for the title and then represent each day of creation in the remaining spaces.

- Give each member of the group a paper plate to decorate to represent a day of creation.
- Follow the link to either use the creation hanging decoration printable or encourage the children to create their own version by Christian Preschool Printables:  
[www.christianpreschoolprintables.com/creation-preschool-printables/7-days-of-creation-craft-globe/](http://www.christianpreschoolprintables.com/creation-preschool-printables/7-days-of-creation-craft-globe/)

## Pray It

**Ask:** What does God encourage us to do when we have been busy creating?

- 🗨️ **Say:** You have been very busy with your artistic creations, and now we are going to have time to rest. You might want to try this at home too, to rest your mind and take away any distractions.

Ask the children to find a place to sit comfortably or lie on the floor. They can close their eyes if they would like to. Play the song 'Look at the world' by John Rutter and encourage the children to rest as the music plays. If you are playing the clip with a screen, then turn the video off so that it doesn't cause a distraction. You can fade out the music whenever you feel is best for your group and then say the prayer, based on John Rutter's lyrics, below.

## Video

'Look at the world' by John Rutter (4 mins 31 secs)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxr8QBPqIz0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxr8QBPqIz0)

- 🗨️ **Say:** Let's pray together.

**Praise to thee, O Lord for all creation,  
Give us thankful hearts that we may see  
all the gifts we share and every blessing;  
all things come of thee.  
Amen.**

**Ask:**

- What piece of music could you use to help you rest at home?
- What distractions would you need to take away so you can rest properly?
- 🗨️ **Say:** We live in a world where there is constant noise and distraction, but God encourages us to take time out to rest and spend time with him.
- 🗨️ **Say:** Let's finish our time together today by sharing our memory verse.

**'God blessed the seventh day and made it a holy day. He made it holy because on that day he rested. He rested from all the work he had done creating the world.'**

— (Genesis 2:3 ICB)

## Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

# Explore It

## IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.

FEBRUARY  
SESSION 01

## GOD CHOOSES TO CREATE THE WORLD

 Genesis 1 to 2:3 The beginning of the world

### FOR ME

### TOGETHER



#### Rest

In today's session we discovered the importance of taking time to rest. Choose a quiet piece of music to listen to, remove all the distractions, find a place to rest, and close your eyes.

At the start you might find it difficult to switch off and rest, but keep practising and see if you can rest for the whole song by the end of the week.



#### Watch

At the end of today's 'Explore It' session we listened to a beautiful song by the composer John Rutter. The song reminds us of all the amazing things God has created. Watch the clip with someone at home and discuss the pictures you see of God's creation.

'Look at the world' by John Rutter  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxr8QBPq1z0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxr8QBPq1z0)

Which is your favourite image from the clip?  
Which place would you most like to visit?



#### Song for the week

'Motions (Creation Song)' by Saddleback Kids

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWgC62KGsKM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWgC62KGsKM)



#### Memory verse

'God blessed the seventh day and made it a holy day. He made it holy because on that day he rested. He rested from all the work he had done in creating the world.'

— (Genesis 2:3 ICB)

#### KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

*Kids Alive!* The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!

