

# It was good



### Bible verses:

Genesis 1:1-23

The beginning of the world



### Aim:

To learn the sequence of creation



In today's session the children will create their own jigsaw puzzle that reflects the wonder of God's world.

God's creation is like a beautiful, intricate jigsaw puzzle. On each day of the creation story the pieces were put in place to create our amazing world.

## Each child will need:

- *Memory verse* wristband
- Pens/pencils
- A blank jigsaw puzzle, scissors and an envelope or small bag – see Action it
- *Explore it ideas* handout

## You will need:

- Creation jigsaw pieces (one to five) ideally enlarged to A3 (and printed or backed on to card) and a way to display them, eg Blu-tak



## Start it

### Say:

We're going to have a very calm start to our *Explore it* session. This month we are exploring God's amazing creation of the world. Watch the clip and look for your favourite example of God's creation.

### Video

***Seven worlds, one planet* extended trailer (ft Sia and Hans Zimmer)** by BBC (stop at 3:40)

Share the children's response to the clip and open the session in prayer, thanking God for his amazing creation.



## Sing it

Give each member of the group a *memory verse wristband*.

### Say:

Our memory verse for this month is found in the book of Psalms. In our final session we will look at these verses in more detail, but for now, let's read the memory verses together.

## Memory verse

'I look up to the hills.  
But where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord.  
He made heaven and earth.'

(Psalm 121:1-2 *ICB*)

### Say:

Our song for today introduces us to the whole of Psalm 121.

## Song

'Psalm 121' ([lyric video](#)) by The Corner Room (4:13)



## Tell it

### Ask:

What is the name of the book in the Bible where we find the creation story?

### Say:

We discover the creation story in the first book of the Bible, Genesis. Like the pieces of a jigsaw, God created the different parts of the world. They all came together to make a beautiful creation. Let's watch a clip that shows us the whole story, and then each week we'll focus on one small part.

## Video

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

### Say:

Over the next few sessions we are going to put together our creation jigsaw as we learn about the way God made the Earth.

## Creation jigsaw

For today's session you will need *Creation jigsaw pieces* one to five.

For each piece of the jigsaw, read through the Scripture, discussing what God created on that day, and ask the children how that could be represented on the jigsaw piece.

You can do this in different ways. You could work as a whole group discussing the Bible passages together and then asking children to add their drawings around the Bible text. Alternatively you could give smaller groups of children responsibility for one jigsaw piece each to discuss and decorate. The aim is to have the first five pieces of the jigsaw in place by the end of the Tell it section.

### **Please note**

As you share the creation story, the children's questions may prompt a discussion about what different Christians believe about how the world was made. Some of the children may have the idea that science and the story of creation are not linked, but that isn't necessarily the case. Many scientists are Christians and believe that science explains our amazing world and the way it was created – and that God created the world.

## **Jigsaw piece number one**

### **God created the world**

**'In the beginning God created the sky and the earth. The earth was empty and had no form. Darkness covered the ocean, and God's Spirit was moving over the water.'**

*(Genesis 1:1-2 ICB)*

## **Jigsaw piece number two**

### **Day one: God created day and night**

**'Then God said, "Let there be light!" And there was light. God saw that the light was good. So he divided the light from the darkness. God named the light "day" and the darkness "night". Evening passed, and morning came. This was the first day.'**

*(Genesis 1:3-5 ICB)*

## **Jigsaw piece number three**

### **Day two: God created sky and water**

**'Then God said, "Let there be something to divide the water in two!" So God made the air to divide the water in two. Some of the water was above the air, and some of the water was below it. God named the air "sky". Evening passed, and morning came. This was the second day.'**

*(Genesis 1:6-8 ICB)*

## Jigsaw piece number four

### Day three: God created dry land and plants

‘Then God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered together so the dry land will appear.” And it happened. God named the dry land “earth”. He named the water that was gathered together “seas”. God saw that this was good.

‘Then God said, “Let the earth produce plants. Some plants will make grain for seeds. Others will make fruit with seeds in it. Every seed will produce more of its own kind of plant.” And it happened. The earth produced plants. Some plants had grain for seeds. The trees made fruit with seeds in it. Each seed grew its own kind of plant. God saw that all this was good. Evening passed, and morning came. This was the third day.’

(Genesis 1:9-13 ICB)

## Jigsaw piece number five

### Day four: God created the sun, moon and stars

‘Then God said, “Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night. These lights will be used for signs, seasons, days and years. They will be in the sky to give light to the earth.” And it happened.

‘So God made the two large lights. He made the brighter light to rule the day. He made the smaller light to rule the night. He also made the stars. God put all these in the sky to shine on the earth. They are to rule over the day and over the night. He put them there to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that all these things were good. Evening passed, and morning came. This was the fourth day.’

(Genesis 1:14-19 ICB)

## Action it

### Say:

When God created the world, it was like a dazzling jigsaw puzzle where all the pieces of his creation slotted together perfectly. Today we are going to create our own jigsaw representing God’s amazing world.

If they need ideas, you could re-play the *Planet Earth* clip from the starter activity. If necessary, the children could complete their jigsaw at home. Give them an envelope or small bag to take their jigsaw home in as they will need it for their *Explore it ideas* activity at home.

## Make your own jigsaw

– Video by Twinkl

The jigsaw pieces are drawn on one side of the sheet and the drawing on the reverse. Depending on the ability of your group, you may want to prepare the jigsaw side of the card in advance.

## Print out a blank puzzle

- [Templatelab.com](http://Templatelab.com)
- [Dltk-kids.com](http://Dltk-kids.com)

Choose puzzles that are easy to cut out.

## Buy blank puzzle pieces

- [Baker Ross](http://Baker Ross)
- [Amazon](http://Amazon)

If the budget allows, you may like to order jigsaw puzzle blanks so that the children can focus on their creation picture.



## Pray it

### Say:

As we look at God's creation, we have so much to be thankful for.

### Ask:

Which part of God's creation are you most thankful for?

Ask the group to stand in a circle. Start a thanksgiving prayer with the words, 'Dear God, thank you for your amazing creation.' Go around the circle asking each child to complete the sentence, 'I am thankful for (name a part of God's creation).'

When each child has had a turn, then bring the prayer time to a close. If you like, you could finish the session with the following song of thanksgiving.

## Video

'If I were a butterfly' (lyrics and music) 'The butterfly song' by Brian Howard, uploaded by Unreached Corners (3:09)



## Explore it

Remember to send home the *Explore it ideas* for children and families.



*Explore it* is produced by the Children and Youth Department in collaboration with Kay Moorby (soulwithaview)

## It was good

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.



**Bible verses:**  
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### **Discover**

Explore the *National Geographic* children's website: [www.natgeokids.com/uk/category/discover](http://www.natgeokids.com/uk/category/discover)

Find three fascinating facts about God's creation to share at the next Explore it session.

### **Solve**

See if someone at home can piece together your creation jigsaw. Share with them what you have discovered about the way God created the world.

### **Song for the week**

'Psalm 121' (lyric video) by The Corner Room

### **Memory verse**

'I look up to the hills.  
But where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord.  
He made heaven and earth.'

(Psalm 121:1-2 ICB)

**LIVING  
OUT FAITH**

*Kids Alive!* Online - [salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive](http://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!



Children  
& Youth

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## Memory verse

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## Sing It

'If I were a butterfly' (lyrics and music)  
'The butterfly song' by Brian Howard,  
uploaded by Unreached Corners (3:09)

'Wonderful Lord' by Doug Horley, uploaded  
by Springwood Kids (3:23)



## Start it

There are five special days at the start of the Bible where God was busy making things. Do you like making things?

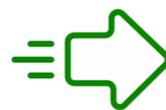


## Tell it

Share a child-friendly version of Genesis 1:1-23.

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share together:

- What is your favourite colour?
- What is your favourite animal?
- What might we see if we went walking in the woods?
- How many days do you think it will take God to make the world? Today we learn what he did in five days.
- Do you prefer the daytime or nighttime?



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- move like your favourite animal so that the rest of the group have to guess it
- finding objects of your favourite colour
- counting games to five
- making noises of the sea, the sky, birds, fish, night and day

