

Session Plan Overview

Faith Link. This statement provides direction and focus for the session.

At-A-Glance. This chart lists all the materials needed for the session.

The Bible Story.

Interactive ways to share the Bible story and involve children in the telling. Children read the Bible story using *The Peace Table: A Storybook Bible*.

God's Story.
Questions for reflection and discussion that help children imagine themselves in the story and see the story in new ways.

My Story. Questions to help children connect the story to their experiences and think about how it might impact what they do and say.

Media Connections. Books, art, music, websites, or other resources that can be used to extend and enhance the session.

Prepare. A Bible essay, reflection questions, and a prayer support the teacher in session preparation and personal spiritual growth.

Connect to Each Other. The session begins with welcome activities that help children get to know each other and build relationships.

CareNotes. Space for writing observations, notes for other teachers, and prayer concerns for children and their families.

Session 1

God Creates

Genesis 1:1–2:3

Story Summary

The Genesis creation story begins with the wind and voice of God. God separated light from dark, earth from sky and water from dry land. God spoke into being plants of every kind and set the sun and moon to rule the sky. God created a multitude of fish, birds, and other animals. Finally, humans were created in God's image. God saw that all of creation was very good. On the seventh day, God rested.

Faith Link

God celebrates the goodness of creation.

	Shine Materials	Supplies
Prepares Have your heart be quiet in listening and learning.	• The Peace Prayer: A Storybook Bible (see page 1) and reflection questions (p. 6)	• Bible
Connect Discuss the story together in your friends, God, and a Bible passage.	• Fall 2026 Playlist (CR code) • Psalm 136 (healing) Prayer • "Praying in Heaven": Teaching Prayer • "Thank and Grate": Game (p. 46) • HippoAlphabet (CR code)	• Internet-connected device • Parents' tape • Connection paper • Markers
Encounter Encourage children in the Bible story. Discover what's new in the story.	• "Story Prayer": A Storybook Bible • The Peace Prayer: A Storybook Bible	
Explore Give children the Bible story with children's activities.	• See supply lists on Explore page.	• See supply lists on Explore page.
Bliss Show children the world with a Blessing.	• Fall 2026 Playlist (CR code) • Flicker Family Magazine or Flipbook - Access Cards (one per family)	• Internet-connected device

The Flicker Family Magazine is a resource for children and their families to use at home. The magazine contains stories connected to the Bible story in this unit. Simple daily prompts guide families as they engage with scripture, connect with each other, and connect with God. **Digital teaching aids** include Flipbook Access Cards so families can access the magazine in a flipbook with a QR code.

Fall 2026 Unit A

Session 1 (August 30, 2026)

Elementary 5

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Connect to the Bible.
Engaging activities help children explore and practice the Bible memory passage.

Connect to God. Music and prayer practices provide ways for children to connect with God.

Teaching Tips. Identify challenges and gifts that the Bible story has for children and give developmental information to guide you as you teach and worship with children. Found on multiple pages.

Encounter

The Backstory

Display the "Story Path" Teaching Poster. Say:

Close your eyes and imagine what it was like before anything existed before the sun and moon, before the earth and planets, before the animals and plants and people. Now open your eyes. *(Place a picture of the Story Path at the beginning of time—and the beginning of the Bible—in the first chapter of Genesis.)*

The Bible Story

Display the illustrations as you read today's story on pages 20–21 in The Peace Table (provided before teacher preparation). The story leads back toward creation. Encourage children to participate by creating their own hand motions for each of the things that God made in the story is read. Older children may wish to listen to the story with eyes closed to imagine the story as if it unfolds. Encourage older children to count the action words they hear to keep them focused on the story.

When beginning, God created in the dark.
Earth and sky had no shape. God Spirit fluttered over the water. Then God said, "Let there be light!"
Light arose. God saw the light was good.
God called the Light Day, and the darkness Night.
There was nighttime and morning, the first day.
Then God said, "Let there be a dome."
A dome appeared, like a ceiling over the water.
God called the ceiling Sky.
There was nighttime and morning, the second day.
Then God said, "Let land appear."
And it did. God saw the land was good.
God called the dry land Earth, and the waters around it Seas.
Then God said, "Let the Earth sprout grass and fruit trees." Up sprouted every plant and tree. God gave seedpods in what grew.
There was nighttime and morning on the third day.
Then God said, "Let there be fish in the sky."
The sun, moon, and stars arose and God saw goodness.
There was nighttime and morning, the fourth day.
Then God said, "Let there be birds in the water, and birds in the sky."
Sea creatures swam. Birds soared across the sky.
Then God said, "Let man be born."
There was nighttime and morning, the fifth day.
Then God said, "Let there be people on the land."
Wild animals came and animals walked. God called them folk.
Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image to care for the earth's life."
Adam and Eve were created and blessed them.

Giving the Conversation

Demonstrate children often connect to God through the telling and hearing of stories. One way to go deeper into this learning process is to "share" about how those stories connect to their own experiences. Look at the illustration in *The Peace Table* as you share thoughts and ideas.

Share several questions to help children reflect on the Bible story and connect it to their own experiences. Look at the illustration in *The Peace Table* as you share thoughts and ideas.

God's Story

- I wonder what our world would be like if God left something out of creation.
- I wonder what God is still creating today.
- I wonder how God rested on the seventh day.

My Story

- Talk about a time when you enjoyed nature and all that God created.
- God made each of us the same yet different from anyone else. Name something that is unique about you.
- God made people to help take care of the earth's wonder house you take care of God's world.

Engaging activities help children explore and practice the Bible memory passage.

Teaching Tip

- Another option for story interaction is to alternate singing and praying for each day of creation.
- Remind children to respect each other's space if using hand motions. Seat younger children further apart as needed.



PEACE TABLE
pages 20–21
Genesis 1:1–2:3

Exploring Connections

Art	Creation Story mural by Nungunigalla College
Book	<i>When God Made You</i> by Matthew Paul Turner
Music	"The Creation Song" by The Seamenraos (YouTube)
Videos	"God's Story: Creation" by Crosswalk Kids (Kids' version); "First Sounds Spectacular: Morning Bird Sound" by David Doremy (both on YouTube)

Student Page Solutions

Student page 10A

CREATE

Imagine children to create a garden seamounter using gears, beads, and acrylic mirror tiles. Use a least one or two at the end of the fishing wire to find younger children may need assistance. Invite children to thread beads onto the fishing wire and attach or glue the wire between matching gears and mirrors to create a one-of-a-kind original creation to celebrate all the ways God made our world so beautiful. Play the video "God's Story: Creation" in Media Connection as children work. Give children all blocks are played. Check to see if there are any duplicate words and encourage them to which is the tallest tower.

Supplies

- Saltwater acrylic mirror tiles, 1 in./2.5 cm square
- Clear or colored fishing line, 24 in./61 cm long (one per child)

Student page 10B

PLAN & BUILD

Children will plan and build their own creation. They will use the supplies listed above to create their own creation. They will use the supplies listed above to create their own creation. They will use the supplies listed above to create their own creation.

Supplies

- Saltwater acrylic mirror tiles, 1 in./2.5 cm square
- Clear or colored fishing line, 24 in./61 cm long (one per child)

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Explore. Activities that allow children to process and respond to the Bible story.

Bless. A scriptural benediction or prayer of blessing to offer at the close of the session.

Explore

Create

Invite children to create a garden similar to yours using game boards and acrylic marker tiles. Tie a knot or two at the end of each string to start. Younger children may need assistance with the fishing wire and thread, or glue the wire between matching grids and nixtamers to create one of a kind, original creation to celebrate all the ways kids around the world play the game. Give the kids "Garden's Story: Creation" in Spanish. Let them take the work of an "Artist" to play children a concrete time to finish their project and clean up.

Supplies

- Adhesive acrylic marker tiles, in 3 x 3 cm square
- Card or colored fishing wire, 2m (61 in) long (per pair of children)
- Acrylic, flat-backed games (assorted colors and shapes)
- Acrylic beads, assorted colors and shapes
- Glue, as needed
- Thread, assorted colors

Move

Play a creation story relay. To act out the stories, students, parents, crier, biker, animals, people to be seen blow mud from wood, cardboard, or sheetboards for each relay group. Place blocks in a pile and a pile of grapes at the opposite end of your space where each tower is to be built. Children will run to the center pile, grab a block, place it on the table, and run back to the opposite end to place the next member which they would use. Continue until all blocks are played. Check to see if there are any duplicate words and measure to see which is the tallest tower.

For younger children: Work in a group to build the tallest tower in two minutes.

Supplies

- Clay blocks, assorted sizes
- Paper
- Tape
- Measuring tape measure

Retell

Introduce the Bible stories to the unit using the "A Walk in Creation" Game. Follow the instructions for preparation, set up, and play for the game using the QR code. Up to six children can play the game.

For a larger group: Have them play in pairs.

Supplies

- "Story Path," Touching Poster
- "A Walk in Creation" Game Instructions (QR Code)
- "A Walk in Creation" Game Story Tiles (QR Code)
- Items to use as game pieces (per player)
- Die

OTHER IDEAS

Discover

Give each child a pencil and a piece of white paper. Go outside (leave permission) and invite children to draw a variety of textures of things that God made to create a rubbing picture (like on a tree, vines or a stick, a small flower, blades of grass).

Student Pages

Invite children to complete the Creation Word Search on Student Page 1A (young) or the Creation Action Search on Student Page 1B (older). Answers are located on the previous page.

Bless

Children and adults say, "In This Together," in the 2018 Playbook (QR code).

Pray:

God, give us as we live our lives together in peace. Now and forever, Amen.

Scissors, glue, and a Prayer Book or a Prayerbook, across your face (child) and any Student Pages, credits, or projects.

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Fall 2018 U.S.A.

Session 1 (August 30, 2018)

Emmanuel