WEEK
ONE
AUGUST 2020

SMALL GROUP
K-1

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

There's no limit to God's creativity.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Lord, you are great.
You are really worthy of praise.
No one can completely understand how great you are.**
Psalm 145:3, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience
See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.
In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction
Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35 MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God
Welcome/Opener
Worship ("Live My Life" from Live *My Life* single and "Beautiful" from *This Love*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25 MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Bible Story Review: Creation Station
Application Activity: Move Like . . .
Memory Verse Activity: Indescribable
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience
Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App

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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Take a moment to praise God for His infinite creativity. Thank Him for the creativity that shows up in literally every aspect of our world. Ask God to guide you as you lead kids to discover that creativity today, and pray that kids would stand in awe of it as well.

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1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container; crayons, markers, and/or colored pencils; paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the container.
- Name some unique animals from creation and challenge the kids to use their imaginations to choose one to draw . . . without knowing what they look like!
- You might say: "If God made something called a red-lipped batfish, what might it look like?"
- Below are a few examples of unique animals. Feel free to add to the list.
  - Leafy sea dragon
  - Red-lipped batfish
  - Sparklemuffin (HINT: It's a spider!)
  - Blobfish
  - Mouse deer
- As kids work, spur more imagination by asking them to tell you where they imagine the animal lives, what it eats, or what it likes to do.
- Also, be sure to provide specific praise to encourage kids as they create. ("WOW! I love how you gave your red-lipped batfish giant, colorful wing-fins!")
- When kids finish, show them pictures of the actual animals. Below are a few links.
  - Leafy sea dragon: https://bit.ly/2RLtyDo
  - Red-lipped batfish: https://bit.ly/2RJ81uP
  - Sparklemuffin: https://bit.ly/3erpxha
  - Blobfish: https://bit.ly/2XFLxyQ
  - Mouse deer: https://bit.ly/3cso8Ff

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MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

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2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Animal Menagerie" and "Animal Adjectives" Activity Pages

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set the "Animal Menagerie" cards around your environment. Space them as far apart as possible.
- Hold up an "Animal Adjective" card, point to the word, and read it to the group.
- Tell the children to move like the adjective on the card and find an animal that matches that adjective. Ask them what animal they found.
- Continue with the remaining "Animal Adjective" cards.
- End the game by holding up a "calm" adjective, such as slow or shy.
- Close by leading kids to stand by their favorite animal.
- If time allows, invite them to come up with other words that describe the animal.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"This month, we're talking about creativity. You guys were SO creative during our game! You used your creativity to move like different animals, and you used your creativity to think of words to describe animals! ***[Transition]*** **In Large Group we'll hear about someone who's SO amazing that we can't even describe how amazing He is! Let's go learn more."**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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1. CREATION STATIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: A variety of supplies such as Play-Doh®; crayons with the wrappers removed; leaves; paper; construction paper or newspaper; and wax craft sticks *(Optional: vinyl or silicone mats, laminated paper, or other non-stick surfaces for kids to use when sculpting with Play-Doh)*

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you have a large group, create stations by setting the Play-Doh, crayons and paper, and wax sticks in separate areas.
- Invite kids to choose a station or a supply, and create something that God made.
  - They might use the Play-Doh to sculpt animals, the crayons and leaves to make leaf rubbings*, and the wax sticks to "draw" people.
  - Whatever they choose, encourage their creativity as much as possible.
- If time allows, invite kids to rotate through the stations or supplies as they choose.

** To make leaf rubbings, place leaves vein-side up on top of two or three sheets of construction paper (the padding helps the quality of the rubbings). Lay a piece of paper on top. While holding the paper with one hand, rub the side of a crayon over the paper, revealing the leaves.*

WHAT YOU SAY:

"In the beginning, God created everything! He is SO creative. He made light. He made the sky, land, and seas. He made plants, trees, and flowers. He made the sun, moon, and stars. He made birds that fly and fish that swim. He made all the animals that move on the ground. And then, God made His MOST amazing creation of all! What was it? *(Pause.)* Yes! God made people! God made Adam and Eve in His own image.

"When we say that God made people in His own image, we mean that God made people to think, feel, and act a tiny bit like Him. Isn't that amazing? **There's no limit to God's creativity!**

"So, what's your favorite thing that God made? *(Pause.)* ***[Make it Personal] (Tell kids your favorite thing God made and why it's your favorite.)*** God made SO many things. He is amazing! **There's no limit to God's creativity."**

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*2. MOVE LIKE . . .

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Creation Die" Activity Page, *(optional)* music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Show kids the die and the different faces.
- Roll the die, or invite a volunteer to roll.
- When it lands, guide kids to pretend to be something God made on that day of creation.
- Comment on the kids' creativity and what they choose.
- When the die lands on the people side, lead kids to raise their arms triumphantly above their heads and call out, "People!"
- *Optional:* Add variety by playing music while kids pantomime the different days of creation. When you stop the music, kids freeze until the next item is rolled.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God made SO many things. **There's no limit to God's creativity!** He made *[name a few things that the kids pantomimed]*. But what was God's most special creation? *(Pause.)* Yes, people! And you know what? Since people were God's most special creation, that means that YOU are God's most special creation. Wow! And God didn't just create you. He made you to have a relationship with Him. He wants you to be His friend! That's why He sent Jesus, His Son, to be our Savior. YOU are special to God!"

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3. INDESCRIBABLE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, ball

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Bible.
- Guide kids to look up and "read" Psalm 145:3 using the tips below.

Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word "Psalms" at the top of the page as you say, "Psalms." Then, guide kids to find the big number 145 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 145 for the little 3; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

Finding verses with 1st graders: Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. *(Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show kids what the page looks like.)* When kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Psalms in the list under "Old Testament." You can help by telling them that Psalms starts with the letters P-S. When kids find Psalms, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Psalms. Help kids find the page. When they find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 145. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 3 in chapter 145. Read the verse aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

- Ask:
  - What does this verse tell us about God? (He is great and worthy of praise.)
  - What are some other words that describe God? (powerful, amazing, kind, good, loving, awesome, big, creative, etc.)
- Guide kids to sit in a circle.
- Give one kid the ball.
- Guide that kid to say the name of a friend, roll the ball to that person, then tell them a word that describes God.
  - *"Billy, God is _____."*
- Encourage a quick pace to keep interest high.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"You guys named some great words that we can use to describe God. One way that God is great is that He's creative. In fact, **there's no limit to God's creativity.** He showed us that when he made all the amazing things that we see in the world around us.
"But you know what? Even if the whole world was filled with books and books of words to tell us about God, we'd STILL need more words to describe how great He is! God's greatness is indescribable!"

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

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4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Animal Menagerie" cards from "Opening Activity"

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God's creativity is AMAZING. He made _____ *(hold up each 'Animal Menagerie' card, describing and naming the animal, e.g. graceful swans, slow turtles, fierce tigers)*. And even more importantly, He made YOU! He made _____ *(name each kid)*. He made you because He wants to have a relationship with you. He wants to be your friend! And that's why God sent His Son, Jesus, to be your Savior. Let's pray and thank God for how amazing He is."

Lead kids in prayer, thanking God for making each kid and praising Him for being indescribable!

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell parents today's Bottom Line. **There's no limit to God's creativity.**

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.
(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

Made to Imagine: *an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Paper
- A variety of drawing items such as crayons, markers, and colored pencils
- Phone or tablet with internet connection to view links during activity

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Move: *an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Animal Menagerie" Activity Pages on cardstock and cut apart; one set for each small group
- Print the "Animal Adjectives" Activity Pages on cardstock and cut apart; one set for each small group

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.
(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)
** If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #2.*

1. CREATION STATIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: *an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- A variety of supplies such as:
  - Play-Doh
  - Crayons with the wrappers removed
  - Non-toxic leaves with pronounced veins
  - Paper, at least two sheets for each kid
  - Construction paper or newspaper (for padding)
  - Wax craft sticks
- *Optional (but helpful):* vinyl or silicone mats (such as placemats), laminated paper, or other non-stick surfaces; one for each kid

*2. MOVE LIKE . . .

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Imagine: *an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Creation Die" Activity Page on cardstock, cut out and assemble
- *(Optional)* Praise music

3. INDESCRIBABLE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: *an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles; for kindergartners, mark Bibles at Psalm 145
- Ball, such as a beach ball or spongy ball

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: *an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Animal Menagerie" cards from "Opening Activity"

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app.**

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TALL

HEAVY

FIERCE

GRACEFUL

What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one set for each Small Group.

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TINY

FAST

SLOW

SLITHERY

What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one set for each Small Group.

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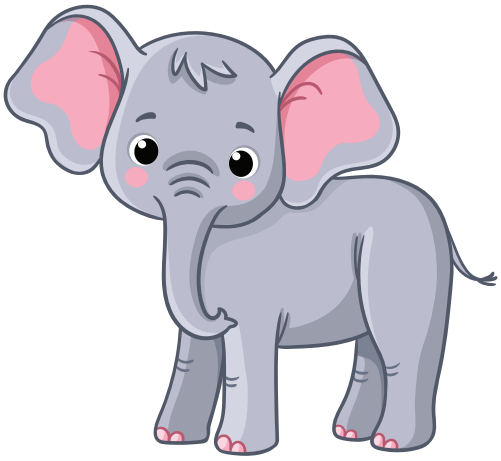
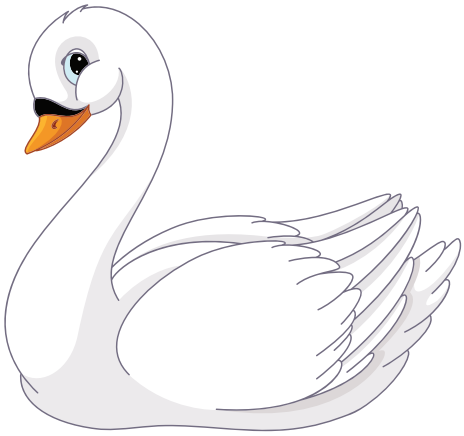
GIRAFFE



ELEPHANT

TIGER



SWAN

What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one set for each Small Group.

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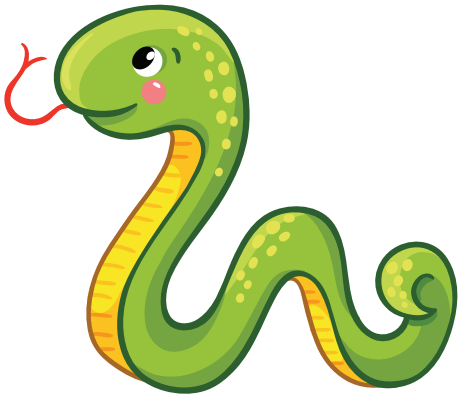
MOUSE

CHEETAH

TURTLE



SNAKE

What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one set for each Small Group.

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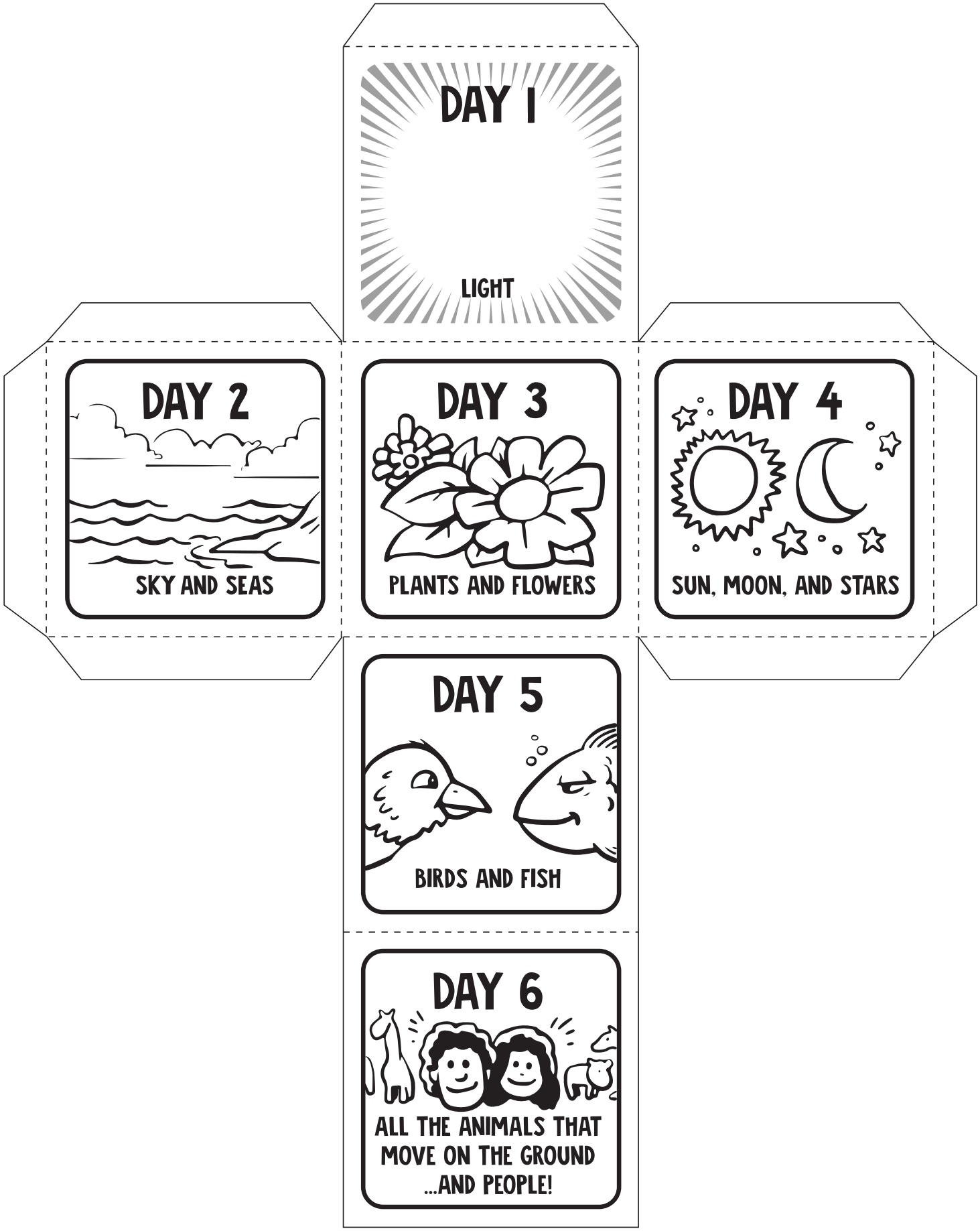

What to Do:
Print on cardstock, cut out, and assemble. Provide one for each Small Group.

"Creation Die" Activity Page
August 2020, Week 1, Small Group K-1

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WEEK
ONE
AUGUST 2020

SMALL GROUP
2-3

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Early Arriver
Opening Activity

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WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God
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Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

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25 MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Bible Story Review: Story Sculpting
Application Activity: Limitless Creativity
Memory Verse Activity: Creatively Great
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1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, LEGO® blocks

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to put their offering in the offering container as they arrive.
- Gather kids in a circle.
- Place a container of LEGO blocks in the center of the circle.
- Challenge kids to use the blocks to make an object.
- Encourage kids to be creative or make something from the list below.
  - A tree
  - Something that flies
  - Something using only six blocks
  - A food item
  - A star
  - A dragon

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2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Creative Creation Pictures" Activity Page or *(optional)* mobile device to search and show pictures of the animals, paper, markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Hand out the paper and markers.
- Choose a few animals from the list below and call them out to the group.
- Encourage kids to take their best guess as to what those animals look like and choose one to draw.
- Tell them there's no wrong answer! They should just draw whatever pops into their mind when they hear the name of the listed animals.
- After a few minutes of drawing, let kids show the group their drawings and the name of the animal they attempted to picture.
- Then, show kids what the animals actually look like via the "Creative Creation Pictures" page.
- Creatively created animals:
  - Venus Fly Trap (if possible, search the internet for a video of this animal in action!)
  - Brown Eye Moth
  - Platypus
  - Pointed Saw Fish
  - Blue Poison Dart Frog
  - Seahorse
  - Bush baby
  - Stick Insect
- If time allows, ask kids if they can think of other examples of weird, crazy, or cool things in nature.

What You Say:
"Just look at all the different things we can see in nature—things that seem ordinary and things that seem extraordinary. ***[Transition]*** **Let's head to Large Group to hear what the variety of things in the world shows about God."**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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1. STORY SCULPTING

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Play-Doh®

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids together.
- Give each kid a ball of Play-Doh.
- Ask kids to sculpt something with the Play-Doh that relates to the story.
- Allow kids to create more than one object, if they choose.
- Work alongside kids as they sculpt, and consider sculpting something related to "On the seventh day, God rested" like a pillow or a bed.
- With each Play-Doh creation, challenge the group to identify the sculpture and how it relates to the story.
- As a group, put the sculptures in order of the story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Creation is the greatest work of art of all time and all of you are part of it. We look at the world, and we see that God is creative because of everything He made. From nothing, He made everything. All we have to do is look at the different types of plants, the variety of animals and fish, or the vastness of the sky to know **there's no limit to God's creativity.** And look at each of us. God made all of us in His image, and none of us are exactly the same—not even identical twins! Everywhere we look, we can see **there's no limit to God's creativity."**

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MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

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BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

2. LIMITLESS CREATIVITY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Creation Category Cards," pencils, timer or mobile device

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a pencil and a "Creation Category Card" page.
- Give kids two to three minutes to write an example for each category.
- Encourage kids to be creative with their answers.
- Start with the first category and allow kids to take turns sharing their example with the group.
- If kids provide an example that matches no one else's example for that category, award them a point.
- Emphasize the variety of answers for each category.
- The kid with the most points wins.
- To increase the challenge, play again, but all examples must start with the same letter which you choose.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"When we look at the world, we see that God is creative. God didn't make just one slimy thing. He didn't make the world one color. He made so many different things that we can't even count them all. **There's no limit to God's creativity.** God's creativity doesn't end with the world He made either. God's creativity shines through each of you. God made each of you in His image. God made you to think, feel, and act just a bit like Him. Imagine what you could do because you're made in His image.

[Make It Personal] (Share about a time you were struck by God's creativity. Maybe you were star-gazing and you were amazed at the number of stars in the sky. Or you volunteer at an animal shelter and seeing all the different types of dogs reminds you of God's creativity.) "What's something in the world that reminds you of God's creativity?"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

There's no limit to God's creativity.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Lord, you are great.
You are really worthy of praise.
No one can completely understand how great you are.**
Psalm 145:3, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

*3. CREATIVELY GREAT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, butcher paper with memory verse, markers, tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Bible.
- Look up Psalm 145:3 using the tips below and read it together.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. *(Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.)* When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Psalms in the list under "Old Testament." When the kids find Psalms, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Psalms. Help the kids find the page. When they find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 145. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 3 in chapter 145.

- Tape butcher paper with the verse to the wall.
- Underline the word "GREAT" in the verse and emphasize that there is no limit to how great God is.
- Divide the group into three teams and instruct them to line up across the room from the memory verse.
- Assign each team a color of marker and give the correct color of marker to the first person in each line.
- When you say, "Go," each team sends one teammate to the mural to write one word that could replace the word "great" in the memory verse.
  - For example, "LORD you are wise . . . No one can completely understand how wise you are."
  - Other examples include: wonderful, faithful, joyful, forgiving, amazing, patient, loving.
- As it becomes challenging to think of words that haven't been written already, allow teammates to help each other.
- The first team to have everyone on their team write a word on the paper, wins!
- After the game is over, review and read through the words as a group.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Only God is worthy of our praise. We can praise Him because He is great. We can praise Him because He is creative and *(words from the mural).* We can't even begin to understand how great God is. God's greatness has no limits just like **there's no limit to God's creativity.** When I look at the words you wrote to describe God, it reminds me how much God wants us to know Him. God wants us to know Him so much that He sent Jesus so we have a

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(*3. CREATIVELY GREAT, CONTINUED)

way to be with Him, now and forever. God wants us to know Him so much that He gave us the Bible so we can read about Him. God wants us to know Him so much that He gave us creation. When we look around, we can see Him and His creativity in everything."

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

There's no limit to God's creativity.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Mirror, dry erase marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Encourage kids to take time this week to look around at all the things God has made.
- Pass the mirror and a dry erase marker around the circle.
- Instruct kids to write their name on the mirror, look in it, and say, "Thank You, God, for making me in Your image."
- When the mirror returns to you, close in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are great! And You alone are worthy of our praise. We can't even understand how great You are. When we look around at all the things You made, we can see that there's no limit to Your creativity. Thank You, God, for making each one of us in Your image. God, remind us every time we look in the mirror that we were made to reflect a bit of You to the world. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show their families the mural they created together during the "Creatively Great" activity.

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.
(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

Made to Create: *an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- LEGO® blocks

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Imagine: *an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Creative Creation Pictures" Activity Page, one for each group
- *(Optional)* Mobile device to search and show pictures of the animals

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.
(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)
** If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #3.*

1. STORY SCULPTING

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: *an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Play-Doh®; enough so each kid can make one to two sculptures

2. LIMITLESS CREATIVITY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: *an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Creation Category Cards" Activity Page and cut in half; one for each kid
- Pencils
- Timer or mobile device

*3. CREATIVELY GREAT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: *an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Large piece of butcher paper with your preferred translation of Psalm 145:3 written on it ahead of time
- Markers
- Painter's tape

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: *an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Hand mirror *(check other ministries in your church that may use mirrors that you could borrow.)*
- Dry erase marker, at least one for each Small Group

Note: Mirrors are also used in Weeks Two and Three.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app.**

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VENUS FLY TRAP

MOTH

PLATYPUS

SAW FISH

What to Do:
Print one for each Small Group.

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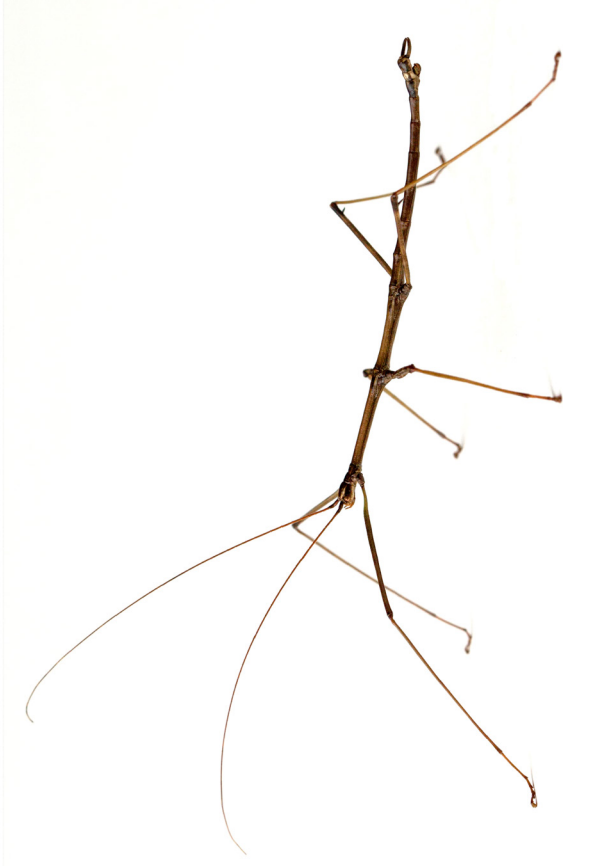
BLUE POISON DART FROG

SEAHORSE

BUSH BABY



STICK INSECT

What to Do:
Print one for each Small Group.

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What to Do:
Print and cut apart. Provide one for each kid.

"Creation Category Card" Activity Page
August 2020, Week 1, Small Group 2-3

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CREATION CATEGORIES

A color

_____

Something bigger than a car

_____

Something smaller than a dime

_____

Something chewy to eat

_____

Something that makes sound

_____

Something slimy

_____

Something used to move things

_____

Something fuzzy

_____

Something squishy

_____

Something hot

_____

CREATION CATEGORIES

A color

_____

Something bigger than a car

_____

Something smaller than a dime

_____

Something chewy to eat

_____

Something that makes sound

_____

Something slimy

_____

Something used to move things

_____

Something fuzzy

_____

Something squishy

_____

Something hot

_____

WEEK
ONE
AUGUST 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Where do you see God's creativity?

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Lord, you are great.
You are really worthy of praise.
No one can completely
understand how great you are.**
Psalm 145:3, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience
See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.
In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction
Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35 MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God
Welcome/Opener
Worship ("Wonderful" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*, "Beautiful" from *This Love*, and "Good Good Father" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 6*)
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25 MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Review and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience
Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App

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WEEK
ONE
AUGUST 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE | SOCIAL | STORY | WORSHIP | GROUPS | HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray and thank God for His creation and what it reveals to you about His character. Pray that you would have the patience needed to lead your group and help them to engage in the truth they're going to hear about today and how they can apply it in their lives.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Sit** in a circle.
- **Explain** that you will call out a color and within three seconds, the person on your left must name something that is that color.
- **Continue** around the circle, naming things that are the correct color until someone misses the 3-second mark and is out.
  - During each round, kids may not repeat something someone else has said.
- **Play** until only one kid is left and then repeat with another color.

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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Glass jars or cups, food coloring, warm water, oil, measuring spoon, disposable bowls, table covering

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Pair up students** and give partners a jar filled about 3/4 full with warm water.
- **Assist** kids in measuring three tablespoons of vegetable oil into their bowls.
- **Direct** them to carefully add several drops of each color of food coloring into the oil.
- **Take turns** watching each team pour their oil mixture into their jar of warm water.
  - The oil will stay at the top of the water for a moment, and then the colored drops will sink down into the water and mix together creating a fireworks-like design.
  - (The drops won't explode like fireworks, but they'll fall into the water quickly and disperse into different patterns and designs.)
- **Prompt** kids to observe the limitless variety of designs that were created.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"If we repeated this experiment every day for the next 10 years, we'd see a different 'firework' design each time. There's an unlimited, never-ending amount of ways the colors in the oil will move through the water. ***[Transition]*** **As amazing as that is to consider, it doesn't compare to the boundless creativity of God. He is the author of creativity and we can read about it in the Bible. Let's go to Large Group and discover where creativity all began."**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

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BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Note cards, pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Give** each person a note card and pen.
- **Assign** one of the categories below to each kid.
- **Ask** kids to write five important (yet simple) facts they feel people should know about that specific topic. Their answers should be kept secret for now.
  - trees
  - cats
  - people
  - God
  - creation
  - dirt
  - the sun
  - water
  - light
  - broccoli
- **Form** two teams, after kids have finished writing their facts.
- **Ask** a player on one team to challenge the other team to guess all five things listed on his card, within 10 guesses.
  - The guessing team gets a point for each correct guess.
  - The other team gets a point for each item on the list that is not guessed.
  - **Switch** roles and keep score until all the cards have been guessed.
  - **Declare** a winner.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You've obviously been paying attention in science class! Nice job naming important information about the world around us. No matter how much we already know, there is so much more we can learn about creation and the God who made it all. We have an amazing God with limitless power, love, and creativity. And get this—He created us in His image! That's exciting to think about, which is what we will do this month as we focus in on creativity and discover what we can do just because we're made in God's image!"

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MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

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BASIC TRUTH

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2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Choose** partners.
- **Review** the days of creation by naming things God made.
  - A few suggestions are listed below.
  - Add others as needed.
- **Tell** partners to work together to indicate the day on which it was created by using the fingers of one hand combined with the hand of their partner.
  - (For example, one partner holds up two fingers and the other holds up three to indicate Day Five of creation.)
    - stars (Day Four)
    - people (Day Six)
    - fish (Day Five)
    - sea (Day Two)
    - light (Day One)
    - plants and seeds (Day Three)
    - birds (Day Five)
    - moon (Day Four)
    - trees (Day Three)
    - land animals (Day Six)
    - sky (Day Two)
    - land (Day Three)
    - sun (Day Four)
    - night and day (Day One)
- **Ask:**
  - When you think about the order in which God made things, what do you notice? Why do you think God created the world in the order He did?
  - What does it mean to be created in God's image? What characteristics and qualities do we have that God also has?
  - Why do you think God chose to create us in His image?
- **Encourage** kids to share things they are thankful for in God's creation and what attribute or characteristic of God they see in it. If needed, suggest some of the following qualities:
  - loving
  - powerful
  - sense of humor
  - kind
  - creative
  - all-knowing
  - all-seeing
  - all-present
  - limitless

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MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Everywhere You Look
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MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What is the most interesting thing you can think of in all of God's creation? *(Use a mobile device to pull up a picture of a "Bird Poop Moth" by way of an example of an unusual creation. https://bit.ly/2RGxaGG)*
- What questions do you have about the way the world began or how people were first created?
- Name some ways that all people are created in God's image.
- If we believe everyone is made in God's image, how should that impact the way we treat others?

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MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Creation
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(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Make sure** each kid has a Bible.
- **Invite** kids to look up and read Psalm 145:3. If anyone needs help finding the verse, remind them that Psalms is in the middle of the Bible.
- **Ask** someone to read the verse aloud as everyone follows along.
- **Lead** kids in focusing on areas of praise based on who God is and what He has done.
  - When you say, "Lord, you are great," what comes to mind? What makes God GREAT?
  - Name some reasons why God is worthy of praise.
  - Why are we not able to completely understand how great God is?
  - If we can't fully understand the greatness of God is, why should we try?
- **Challenge** the group to memorize Psalm 145:3 by saying it together using the following game:
  - Without telling them why or how you're choosing them, choose a specific group of kids to lead the others in reciting Psalm 145:3. (For example, pick kids wearing red, or all 5th graders, or all kids with brown hair, etc.)
  - Ask that group of kids to quickly come up with a creative way to say/sing/sign/motion the verse and teach it to the rest of the group.
  - After they've said the verse together, challenge the group to figure out how you choose the first group.
  - Repeat using different criteria for selecting those who will lead the others in saying the verse. (Or let the someone from the first group choose the next group and see if the kids can guess the criteria for the new group.)
- **Encourage** kids to keep their Bibles marked at Psalm 145:3 and use it as a prayer of praise to God every day over the next week.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Creation
Genesis 1–2:3
(supporting: Genesis 2:7, 21-22)

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MONTHLY LIFE APP

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you're made in God's image

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Read** Psalm 145:3, pausing after each phrase to let kids echo in response, "There's no limit to Your creativity."
- For example, if using NIrV you might follow this pattern:
  - "Lord, you are great." There's no limit to Your creativity.
  - "You are really worthy of praise." There's no limit to Your creativity.
  - "No one can completely understand how great you are." There's no limit to Your creativity.
- **Allow** a brief moment in between phrases for kids to offer prayers of praise (either silently or out loud) thanking God for who He is and what He has done.
  - As they pray, encourage them to think about the unlimited power, love, wisdom, and creativity of our amazing Creator.

"Dear God, You are the greatest creator of all. You made everything we see around us and even the things we cannot see with our eyes. You deserve our best praise and we offer it to You now. Thank You for being a God of love, power, grace, and creativity. In Jesus' name, amen."

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.
(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. JUST FOR FUN

Made to Play: *an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Explore: *an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Clear glass jar or drinking cup; one for every two kids
- Food coloring (red, yellow, blue, green)
- Warm water
- Three tablespoons of vegetable oil; one for every two kids
- Tablespoon
- Disposable bowl; one for every two kids
- Table covering

To view this experiment, go to: https://bit.ly/3ac7Tuv

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.
(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: *an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Note cards; one for each kid
- Pens

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: *an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Connect: *an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: *an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles; one for each kid

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: *an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app.**

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