

Large Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

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 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Build a Giant Bird Nest
2. Creation Memory Match
3. Let's Go Fishing

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "What God Made" and "All Good"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Out of this World Memory Verse
2. It's a Match
3. Beak Painting
4. Under the Water
5. Make a Mask
6. Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- Parent Cue App



Today's Bible Story

Sea Animals and Birds Genesis 1:20-23

On day five, God made the sea animals and birds.

Key Question

Who made everything?

Bottom Line

God made everything.

Memory Verse

God saw everything he had made. And it was very good. (Genesis 1:31 NIRV)



Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Story

① Worship

→ *Worship Leader enters.*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, friends! My name is [Your Name], and I'm SO excited to see you today!

"Can you spread your arms out REALLY wide like this?

→ *Holds arms out wide with flat hands.*

"Make yourself really, really big! (PAUSE.) Now, let's count to three and clap our hands together. Ready?"

CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER: "One . . . two . . . three!"

→ *Clap your hands together in front of you, then hold your hands flat together to make a fish.*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Wow, that was a big clap!

→ *Make your "fish" swim by moving your hands together back and forth.*

"Oh! (LOOK AT YOUR SWIMMING FISH.) Hey, look at this! My hands look like a little fish swimming in the sea. Can you make a fish with me? Show me how your fish can swim in the sea.

→ *Look at the children's fish as you continue making your "fish" swim.*

"Such good little fish! What other animals swim in the sea? (LISTEN.) Oh, those are great animals! Can you jump out of the water like a dolphin? Stand up and jump out of the water like a dolphin.

→ *Jump in place with your feet together and arms close to your sides.*

"Okay, my little dolphins, have a seat, please. Now, tell me what animal I am now?

→ *Flap your arms like the wings of a bird.*

"What animal flaps their wings? They fly high in the sky! (LISTEN.) Yes, birds! Can you flap your arms like a bird?

→ *Look at the children's birds as you continue flapping your arms like a bird.*

"You look like big, beautiful birds! Now can you move like a teeny, tiny hummingbird?

→ *Bend your arms at the elbows to bring your hands near your shoulders. Flap your hands in quick, short motions.*

"Oh, you make fantastic hummingbirds!

10 MINUTES

Worship

10 MINUTES

Story

"The Bible teaches us that [BOTTOM LINE] God made everything—fish, dolphins, birds, and even YOU! God made you (POINT), and [BASIC TRUTH] God made me! (POINT TO SELF.) So, let's worship and celebrate God together. Sing with me!

→ Lead children in singing "What God Made," this month's worship song.

"That's right! The Bible teaches us that: 'God (FLAT HAND WITH THUMB TO FOREHEAD, PULL DOWN) saw everything he had made. (BINOCULAR EYES.) And it was very good,' (TWO THUMBS-UP) Genesis 1:31. (OPEN HANDS LIKE A BOOK.)

"Let's learn our Memory Verse together. Are you ready? Watch me say the words from the Bible and do the motions, and then you can do them with me!

→ Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"Great job, friends! Let's sing one more song together.

→ Lead children in singing "All Good."

"Thanks for celebrating God with me! [TRANSITION] And now it's time to turn around (SPIN AROUND) . . . sit down (SIT DOWN) . . . shake the wiggles out (WIGGLE HANDS) . . . so we can hear (CUP HANDS BEHIND EARS) what the story's all about!"

→ Host enters as Worship Leader exits.

② Intro Sketch

→ A small table is in the storytelling area.

→ Host enters as Worship Leader exits. Host is walking slowly and carrying a spaceship built from MAGNA-TILES®.

HOST: "Oh! Almost there. Just a few more steps and . . . there!

→ Set the spaceship on the table.

"Whew! Hi, friends! Welcome to [Your Environment's Name or Story Time]! My name is [Your Name]. I was afraid I was going to drop my spaceship, and I really wanted to show it to you.

"Spaceships are so cool. Are you ready to blast off? (LISTEN.) Can you count with me? One . . . two . . . three . . . lift off!

→ Carefully fly the spaceship around, then land it on the table again.

"Can you imagine if you were in a spaceship? What would we see if we flew over the big, blue ocean?

→ Make a fish with your hands.

10 MINUTES

Story

"Yes, fish! Fish swim in the ocean. And what could we see flying in the sky?"

→ *Flap your arms like a bird.*

"Yes, birds! Birds fly high in the sky. Say, that reminds me of a Bible Story found in the book of Genesis. And [Storyteller's Name] is going to come tell you all about it. See you soon!"

→ *Storyteller enters as Host exits.*

③ Bible Story

→ *The six prepared construction paper garlands are hanging on the garment rack.*

→ *Storyteller enters as Host exits. Storyteller carries a Bible, the six sea animal and bird cutouts, and a roll of tape.*

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm [Your Name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

→ *Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.*

"Today's true story from the Bible begins in the very beginning. In the beginning, there was nothing. Nothing but God was there! Then He made the heavens and the whole, wide world!

"Can you hold up one finger?"

→ *Hold up one finger.*

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 1

"On Day 1, God made the light. Now can you hold up two fingers?"

→ *Hold up two fingers.*

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 2

"On Day 2, God made the sky above the water. Can you hold up three fingers?"

→ *Hold up three fingers.*

10 MINUTES

Story

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 3

"On Day 3, God made the land, plants, and seas. Can you hold up four fingers?"

→ *Hold up four fingers.*

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 4

"On Day 4, God made the sun, moon, and stars.

"So, when did God make the sea animals and birds? Can you do a drumroll with me like this? Drumroll please . . .

→ *Pat your legs.*

"God made all the sea animals and birds on Day . . .

→ *Hold up five fingers.*

"5! That's right! Can you hold up five fingers?"

SLIDE → Story Image W4 01

"On Day 5, God made everything that swims in the sea! God didn't just make one kind of sea animal. God made fish . . .

→ *Tape the fish cutout onto one of the royal blue sections of a construction paper garland.*

"And jellyfish . . .

→ *Tape the jellyfish cutout onto a royal blue section of a different construction paper garland. (So the fish and jellyfish are on different garlands.)*

"And dolphins . . .

→ *Tape the dolphin cutout onto a royal blue section of another construction paper garland.*

"And octopus and clown fish and giant whales! Did you know that God even made the pufferfish? A pufferfish is small . . .

→ *Scrunch your body super-small.*

" . . . but it can puff up really big!

→ *Make your body as big as you can and puff out your cheeks.*

10 MINUTES

Story

"Can you do that with me? Make yourselves really small like a pufferfish!"

→ *Scrunch your body super-small.*

"Now puff up really big!"

→ *Make your body as big as you can make it and puff out your cheeks.*

"God made pufferfish! God made every animal that swims in the oceans, rivers, and lakes."

"Can you make a fish face?"

→ *Demonstrate a fish face.*

"Great job! Now can you move your arms like fins of a fish?"

→ *Flap your hands near your sides like fish fins.*

"You look just like fish swimming in the sea!"

"Do you know what else God made on Day 5? God made . . . birds!"

SLIDE → Story Image W4 02

"And God didn't just make one kind of bird. God made hummingbirds."

→ *Tape the hummingbird cutout onto one of the light blue sections of an empty construction paper garland.*

"And God made owls."

→ *Tape the owl cutout onto a light blue section of a different construction paper garland.*

"And God made parrots!"

→ *Tape the parrot cutout onto the light blue section of the last remaining empty construction paper garland.*

"And God made bluebirds and flamingos and cockatoos! God made every bird there is!"

"Did you know that God made the owl so it could turn its head almost all the way around? God is so creative!"

"Birds are amazing with their wonderful colors and shapes and wings. All different, but all so special!"

"Can you pretend to fly like a bird?"

10 MINUTES

Story

→ *Flap your arms like wings.*

"Wow! What beautiful birds you are!"

SLIDE → Story Image W4 03

"God made the sea animals and the birds on Day 5. And when God looked at what He had made, God saw that it was good!"

→ *Give two thumbs-up.*

"Everyone, give me two thumbs-up and say: 'That's good!'"

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: (TWO THUMBS-UP) "That's good!"

STORYTELLER: "Now, let's see if we can remember all the things God made that we know so far!"

→ *Hold up one finger.*

"On Day 1, God made light and dark.

→ *Hold up two fingers.*

"On Day 2, God made the sky above the water.

→ *Hold up three fingers.*

"On Day 3, God made land, plants, and sea.

→ *Hold up four fingers.*

"And on Day 4, God made the sun, moon, and stars.

→ *Hold up five fingers.*

"On Day 5, God made sea animals and birds. Great job! But God wasn't finished yet . . . because **[BOTTOM LINE]** God made everything.

"Hey, let's see what you know!"

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 1

"What did God make on Day 1? (PAUSE.) That's right! God made light on Day 1.

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 2

10 MINUTES

Story

"Can you tell me what God made on Day 2? (PAUSE.) That's right! God made the sky above the water on Day 2.

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 3

"Can you tell me what God made on Day 3? (PAUSE.) Yes, God made the land, plants, and seas.

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 4

"Can you tell me what God made on Day 4? (PAUSE.) Yes, God made the sun, moon, and stars!

SLIDE → Creation Numbers Day 5

"Can you tell me what God made on Day 5? (PAUSE.) Yes, God made the sea animals and birds. You are so smart!

"Now when you look around at the great big world and see fish and birds, you can say, 'Wow! (BOTTOM LINE) God made everything!' Who made everything?"

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: (BOTTOM LINE) "God made everything!"

STORYTELLER: "Yes, (BOTTOM LINE) God made everything. (TRANSITION) Our story time is over (PICK UP AND CLOSE BIBLE), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

④ Prayer

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for this amazing world You created. Today, we really want to thank You for the fish and the birds. They are amazing, and so are You! Help us to remember You made everything. In Jesus' name. Amen.

"I'll see you next time. Bye!"

→ Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.

10 MINUTES

Story

⑤ Outro Sketch

→ Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "Wow! God made the sea animals and the birds! [BOTTOM LINE] God made everything."

"I think I [POINT TO SELF] got the story. Did you [POINT TO CHILDREN] get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" [CUP ONE HAND BEHIND EAR.]

CHILDREN and HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: [GIVE TWO THUMBS-UP.] "Good!"

[TRANSITION] "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

→ Host dismisses small groups and exits.

Getting Ready: Worship

Note

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive Worship and the Bible Story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

What You Need

- ☐ Instruments or music player
- ☐ "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page

Music and Sound Effects

- ☐ This month's worship song, "What God Made," available on [Store.ThinkOrange.com](#)
- ☐ "All Good," available on the *All Good* album from [Store.ThinkOrange.com](#)

Optional Videos

(available for purchase)

- ☐ Dance Moves Music Video for "What God Made," available on [Store.ThinkOrange.com](#)
- ☐ Dance Moves Music Video for "All Good," available from [Store.ThinkOrange.com](#)

Worship

A Worship Leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

What You Do

1. Prepare all songs and have them ready to use.

APlay

Get the most out of your curriculum with APlay! [JoinAPlay.com](#) is an all-in-one media organization and presentation tool. Experience all of your Orange Curriculum media assets, now pre-built and fully customizable. No more sorting through multiple download folders.

APlay is free with your curriculum subscription and packed with features to help your weekly experience run smoother. APlay gives you more time to focus on what truly matters — more ministry, less media management with Apple TV-based media solutions.

Getting Ready: Intro/Outro Sketch

What You Need

- ☐ Small table
- ☐ MAGNA-TILES®

What You Do

1. Before group time, build a simple spaceship out of MAGNA-TILES®

Getting Ready: Story

What You Need

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ "Sea Animals and Birds" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Garment rack, such as pin.it/4KKacfb0c
- ☐ Light blue and royal blue construction paper
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ *Option: Cardstock*

Large Group Visuals

- ☐ Story Image W4 01
- ☐ Story Image W4 02
- ☐ Story Image W4 03
- ☐ Creation Numbers Day 1
- ☐ Creation Numbers Day 2
- ☐ Creation Numbers Day 3
- ☐ Creation Numbers Day 4
- ☐ Creation Numbers Day 5

Story

Choose an adult or teenager who relates well to preschoolers to tell the Intro Sketch. If possible, use the same person for an entire month, as the Host role stays the same each month.

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible Story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advance preparation is necessary.

What You Do

1. Copy "Sea Animals and Birds" Activity Pages on cardstock and cut, one set per Large Group.
2. Cut construction paper into even strips about an inch wide.
3. Make six construction paper chain garlands that are light blue on the top half (for the sky) and royal blue on the bottom half (for the sea). (The garlands should be large enough to hold the cutouts from the "Sea Animals and Birds" Activity Pages, one cutout on each garland—a bird in the light blue "sky" portion and a sea creature in the royal blue "sea" portion.)
4. Hang the six empty construction paper garlands on the garment rack. (You will tape on the cutouts from the "Sea Animals and Birds" Activity Page during Bible Story time.)
5. Download the Large Group Visuals to display on a device or screen or copy on cardstock.

Supplemental Resources

WONDER! LOOK AT GOD'S STORY

First Look offers weekly videos to engage preschoolers with the Bible Story. Join our Bible storytellers, Clubhouse friends, and, of course, Ollie the Owl to discover the wonder in God's story. Available in the First Look Media Package or can also be purchased monthly at the Orange Store.

[STORE.THINKORANGE.COM](https://store.thinkorange.com)

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

[BIT.LY/FL_TOTHEMOONANDBACK](https://bit.ly/fl_tothemoonandback)