

WEEK 3 - Sept 2019 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: On day four, God made the sun, moon, and stars.

Sun, Moon, and Stars • Genesis 1:14-19

Memory Verse: "God saw everything he had made. And it was very good." Genesis

1:31, NIrV

Key Question: Who made everything? **Bottom Line:** God made everything.

Basic Truth: God made me.

Summary: When was the last time you really looked at everything God made? Taking a moment to walk outside or search for the wonders of the world online will totally change the way you share this month's Bible stories with preschoolers.

We need that WONDER dial turned way up! ALL the way up! And the best way to do that is to experience some of that wonder!

When we take the time to look at this amazing world God made, we are filled with awe and wonder. It's that feeling of wonder we want our preschoolers to have as they learn about God's creation.

9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:40 | 12:00-12:10 - FREE PLAY

9:10-9:25 | 10:40-10:55 | 12:10-12:25 - MAKE IT FUN

3. Sun, Moon, and Stars

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

What You Need: A large blanket

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set up the tent (the large blanket of the table) in the activity area.

During the Activity: Gather the children around the tent. If you have a small number of children, allow everyone to enter the tent together. If not, ask a few children to enter the tent at a time. Call out a time of day, and ask what they might see in the sky using the dialogue below as a guide. Repeat so that every child has a chance to enter and come out of the tent.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's gather here around the tent. I'll call on three or four friends to enter the tent and then come back out. Everyone will have a chance to go into the tent!"

During the Activity: "It's morning! Time to stretch and wake up. Everyone come on out and greet a new day. Tell me, what do you see rising in the sky in the morning? It warms everything up! (Pause.) The sun. Okay, it's getting darker outside. What do you see in the sky when the sun sets and it's dark outside? (Pause.) The moon! And what else? (Pause.) The stars! Have you ever tried to count the stars? There are so many!"

After the Activity: "Let's all come out of the tent. That was so fun. In our Bible story today, we'll hear all about how God made the sun, moon, and stars on day four. I can't wait!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by naming times of day as the children respond with "sun" or "moon and stars" based on what would appear in the sky at that time of day.

9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE

Large Group Overview:

During week three, preschoolers will hear about day four of creation.

Story Focus: On day four, God made the sun, moon, and stars. God created the sun to keep us warm during the day and the moon that we can see at night. He created every twinkling star in the sky.

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 MAKE IT STICK

1. Count with Me

Talk About God | Bible Story Review

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

What You Need: blue paper plate with no dividers, yellow or white circle stickers, glue sticks, scissors, yellow construction paper, wall tape, clear tape, a permanent marker, and star stickers (enough for each child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: You will need one plate per child today. Draw a line down the plate to divide it in half. Cut the construction paper in the shape of a circle about two inches in diameter. This will be the sun.

During the Activity: Decorate the plate. Help the children glue the "sun" on one side of the plate. Help the children place the star and circle stickers on the other side of the plate.

After the Activity: Retell the Bible story.

LEADERS KEEP ONE PER SERVICE PER ROOM

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "God made everything! Do you remember what He made in our Bible story today?"

During the Activity: "Yes! He made the sun, moon, and stars! We are going to make a picture of everything God made on our wall! (*Point.*) (*Do activity.*) Way to go! God made the sun, moon, and stars on day four. Can you find the FOUR on the picture on the wall? (*Pause.*) YES!

After the Activity: "Great job! We have day one, day two, day three, and now day four! God loves us so much, and He made everything for us. On the first day, God made the light and the dark. (Point.) On the second day, God made the water and the sky. (Point.) On the third day, God made the land, plants, and the sea! On the fourth day, God made the sun, moon, and stars! (Point.) WOW! God is so great that He made these things just for us! Who made everything? [Bottom Line] God made everything!"

2. Sun

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

What You Need: yellow ball or yellow bean bag

What You Do:

During the Activity: Encourage the children to work together to toss the ball to eachother

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "God made the sun!"

During the Activity: "Let's work together and pass the sun around to our friends

After the Activity: "WOW! Our sun looks SO cool! God made the sun on day four! He also made the moon and the stars. God made everything! Who made everything? [Bottom Line] God made everything!"

3. Parachuting Stars

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: A parachute and yellow glitter pom-poms

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the parachute out flat in your activity area.

During the Activity: Gather the children to stand around the parachute. Guide them to bend down and grab the sides with both hands and stand up so they're the parachute waist high. Encourage the children to move their arms up and down slowly to make the parachute move. Then toss a few pom-poms onto the parachute to represent stars. Lead the children in singing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Let's pick up the parachute with both hands. (Pause.) Great job. Now slowly move your arms up and down! Let's add some stars and sing 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." (Sing the song as many times as you wish.)

After the Activity: "That was so fun! I love looking up at a star-filled sky. Who filled the sky with stars? God did! He made the sun, moon, and stars on day four! **Who made everything?** [Bottom Line] God made everything."

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Genesis 1:31, NIrV. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time. Today we are going to pretend the sun is making it so hot we have to fan ourselves while we're walking to our Small Group spot. Use your hand like this to fan yourself. (*Demonstrate.*) There you go! Okay, follow me!

(Pretend the sun is making you very hot while you fan yourself with your hand as you lead the children to your spot.)

"Whew! The sun sure was hot! Thanks for pretending with me. Let's sit down now and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

"Can you imagine being SO powerful you could make the sun, moon, and stars? WOW! The sun, moon, and stars are HUGE! And today we learned that on day four *(hold up four fingers)*, God made the sun, moon, and stars. And God just didn't make the sun, moon, and stars. God made the whole universe! *[Bottom Line]* God made everything! Who made everything?"

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] "God made everything!"

SGL: "And the Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that **[Bottom Line]** God made everything. It says this.

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

"God saw everything he had made. And it was very good, Genesis 1:31.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Stand up with me and let's say that with the motions. Here we go!"

CHILDREN and SGL: "God (point both hands up) saw everything he had made (binocular hands to eyes and look around). And it was very good (two thumbs up and out), Genesis 1:31." (Open hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Yay! (Give fists bumps) Let's sit down now so we can write in our journal and pray.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"When I say your name, I want you to tell me something fun you like to do when the sun is out or something fun you like to do when the moon and stars are out. Got it?

"Okay, when I say your name, tell me something you like to do when the sun is out or when the moon and stars are out. I will write what you say in our prayer journal. Then when we pray, we can thank God for what you say!

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"These are some fun things! Now we can use our list to thank God for making the sun, moon, and stars. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: "Dear God, it is SO amazing to think about You making the sun, moon, and stars. You are incredible! Thank You for making the sun so [child's name] can (say action child listed) and . . . (repeat this with each child that listed a sun activity). Also, thank You for making the moon and stars so [child's name] can (say action child listed) and . . . (repeat this with each child that listed a moon and stars activity). We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."