



TEACHING OUTLINE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Unwritten Creation Genesis 1–2:3

WEEK 1

Key Question: **How are you creative?** Because we're created in God's image, every single person alive is creative. We're all just creative in different ways. We want kids to start thinking about the ways God made each of them creative. It might be that they're great at a skill like painting or dance . . . but they also might be quick on their feet to figure out how to help a friend. There are all sorts of ways people are creative. We pray that as kids discover how God made them creative, they'll also consider how they can use their creativity to show God's love to others.

We kick off this series in **Genesis 1-2:3** as we help kids discover something about the beginning of the universe. Looking around at creation, one can't help but notice God's creativity. From nothing, God spoke the universe into existence. With no detail left out, creation shows us the brilliant creativity of a God Who is big enough to create the world, and personal enough to love us no

Bottom Line: God created you so you can be creative.

We pray that kids will start looking at the world more closely and notice God's amazing creativity—from the uniqueness of animals to breathtaking landscapes throughout the world, not to mention the expansive universe filled with solar systems galore. We want kids to discover not only the wonder of creation, but also the way they reflect the image of God when they put their creativity into action.

TEACHING GUIDE:

KEY SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1-2:3

Looking at creation and how we God made us unique in his image.

The Idea that the creator created us to be creative and to create things.

This message should be 15- 18 min. More time for small group is key. Remember the lead small model.

"As we get ready to head to groups today, think about this question.

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"How are you creative? If you have no idea how God has wired you to be creative, that's okay! Ask God! Take time this week to ask God to show you some of the ways that you're creative. Then take it a step further. Ask God to give you opportunities to use your creativity to help others around you!

"Creativity can look like many different things! Whether you realize it or not, you are wildly creative. And we can't wait to see how you will use the creativity God has given you! Before we head to groups, let's pray and thank God for loving us so much and making such a beautiful creation for us to enjoy! Let's pray."

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God created you so you can be creative.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How are you creative?

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."
Ephesians 2:10, NIV



PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Unwritten
Creation
Genesis 1-2:3

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How are you creative?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God created you so
you can be creative.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Creativity—Using your
imagination to do
something new

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters eating cotton candy.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening (Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Mutant Mayhem, Haunted Mansion), a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: "I. (Pause to eat) LOVE. (Pause to eat) CANDY. (Pause to eat) WAHOO! And this cotton kind of candy could be my absolute favorite! And over the years, I've learned NONE of you like candy! So don't worry, (Pause to eat) you will not be eating any of THIS candy. (Pause to eat) You're welcome!

Host pause to eat cotton candy.

"What's up, everybody?! For many in this room, I haven't seen you in AT LEAST seven days, which is ENTIRELY . . . (Pause to eat) too long. I'm so excited to see each of you. My name is (Pause to eat) [Name of Host], and welcome to [Name of Environment]! This is my favorite place to learn and have a good time and (Pause to eat) eat candy!

"Because none of you would want to eat cotton candy, I thought we do something different with this delicacy. Today we will play with our food in a game we like to call 'Cotton Candy Kaboom!'



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SLIDE: "COTTON CANDY KABOOM!"

"Does anybody want to play a game? *(Allow response)* Great! To play this game, we need all of you to gather in your small groups. Once in your small groups, we need each group to nominate one person to be the 'Cotton Candy Kaboom!' carrier! That's a mouthful! This person will race to the stage, grab a ball of cotton candy off the table at the center of the stage, dunk the ball of cotton candy in the bowl of water, retrieve the top-secret instructions hidden within the ball, and return to their small group.

"Once your 'Cotton Candy Kaboom!' carrier brings your hidden instructions, your entire small group must read the instructions and be the first group to complete the task! And here's a hint: each group will use their rope to create a specific shape. Your secret instructions will tell you the shape! Make sense? *(Allow response)* Awesome! Let's get to it.

Host allows groups to nominate a 'Cotton Candy Kaboom!' carrier and gives each group a long rope. Host positions all groups to be a fair distance from the stage such as the back of the large group space. Host starts the game once all is ready. The first group to shape their rope wins!

AUDIO: UPBEAT GAME MUSIC

(After the game) "WOW! WOW! WOW! I'm even more hungry after watching all of you working together to make super-secret shapes with rope! Impressive job to all of the teams. However, there can only be one 'Cotton Candy Kaboom!' champion! Let's give a rowdy round of applause to the group who completed the task first! *(Allow response)*

"With that, I'm off to enjoy more cotton candy. Let's stand and welcome *(pause to eat)* . . . [Name of Worship Leader] to the stage! Let's get ready to worship our amazing God!"

Host exits as Worship Leader enters.



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WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "I'm so ready to praise God with all of you. Everything God created is good! All that God made is wonderful and beautiful. Let's have some fun as we sing and thank God for making this world—and each one of us. Come on!

AUDIO: "BEAUTIFUL" / TRACK 1 FROM THIS LOVE
OPTIONAL VIDEO: "BEAUTIFUL" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"That's right! Everything God makes is wonderful and good. Before we continue in worship, let's watch this.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL

"We have a new song today. It's called 'So Creative.' When you consider all that God has made, it's impossible to not say that God is creative. I hope this song inspires you to be the creative person God has made you to be. Sing along when you catch on!

AUDIO: "SO CREATIVE" / TRACK 6 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU
OPTIONAL VIDEO: "SO CREATIVE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"Nicely done! Now, listen to this from Psalm 90:1-2: 'Lord, from the very beginning you have been like a home to us. Before you created the whole world and the mountains were made, from the beginning to the end you are God.' (NIV) I smile when I think about the amazing love of our God. If you've experienced God's love, you have every reason to sing today. Let's worship God together."

AUDIO: "HOW AMAZING" / TRACK 6 FROM EVERYTHING TO ME
OPTIONAL VIDEO: "HOW AMAZING" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator enters carrying prop box full of candy as Worship Leaders exit.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “What’s up, everybody? It is great to have you join us today! Earlier [Name of Host] announced their favorite candy is cotton candy! It’s a solid, SWEET choice, but I’m curious about you. What is your favorite candy?”

Communicator calls on several kids and leaders eager to share their favorite candy.

“This room has great taste in candy! The other day I was in [Name of large town] when I stumbled upon a unique candy store. Their staff was more than mere candy-men or candy-women. Rather, they were a team of artists who used cotton candy to create all kinds of people, characters, and animals! I’d never seen sweets shaped so adorably! One might say it was art . . . at its SWEETEST! Let’s see a few of these cotton candy creatures. If you recognize the creature, I want you to shout it out. Make sense? *(Allow response)*”

When talking about each cotton candy creature, share your experience with seeing the large candy creations—either seeing them in person or online.

SLIDE: COTTON CANDY PIG

Communicator allows the audience to shout out pig.

“That’s right! You’re looking at something spectacular! Someone has sculpted cotton candy to look like a darling, delectable pig! Amazing. What about this next image?”

SLIDE: COTTON CANDY PENGUIN

Communicator allows the audience to shout out penguin.

“A penguin! Look at the details! Someone managed to take spun sugar and shape it into a charming, waddling seabird! This is so creative! How about the last image?”

SLIDE: COTTON CANDY ELEPHANT

Communicator allows the audience to shout out elephant.

“Yes! A candy artist has been able to create a sugary model of the largest land mammal on earth! Look at those ears and tusks.

“I can’t help but smile at the imagination required to dream up these confectionery creatures!”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “When I see these SWEET creatures, I’m reminded that there’s so much creativity all around us. Do you ever pause to think about all the creativity surrounding us? We live in a fast-paced world, and sometimes we



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don't stop to think about the diversity and beauty in our world. However, every single day we interact with objects created by others to help the world function!"

"The cars you rode today weren't harvested from farms around the country. Rather, people dreamed up the possibility of automobiles, designed them, and created them in massive factories. The clothes you are wearing didn't fall to your front porch in a t-shirt storm! People designed fabrics, had them created, and sewed the fabric together to make you look good. Even the building where we gather is a result of architects and engineers planning and building a great space for people like us to gather! When you pause to think about everything we interact with every day, it's plain to see that people can be really creative.

"But where does all the creativity in the world come from? Do people gain it from reading a book or watching YouTube, or attending cotton candy school? In fact, when you consider the cotton candy animals, people created them to look like REAL animals. Although this is creativity, each cotton candy animal was based on the real thing—something already created and living! The cotton candy pig was modeled after a real pig!

SLIDE: REAL PIG/COTTON CANDY PIG

"The cotton candy penguin is based on birds with a much higher tolerance of cold weather than I have!

SLIDE: REAL PENGUIN/COTTON CANDY PENGUIN

"And the cotton candy elephant is based on the giants that roam parts of Africa and Asia.

SLIDE: REAL ELEPHANT/COTTON CANDY ELEPHANT

"Today, how about we explore the ultimate source of our creativity? The animals and people and beauty in this world all come from somewhere! And I am excited you opted to join us today as we explore the SWEET origin of creativity and how it can affect our own creativity."

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "The Bible is a collection of sixty-six books that are broken down into two large sections. There's the Old Testament, which contains 39 books, and the New Testament, which contains 27 books. We will be learning from the very first book of the Old Testament, Genesis. The word Genesis means 'beginnings,' which is exactly where we need to go to best understand creativity.

"In Genesis we read about the point at which the universe was empty. No time. No light. No space. Simply nothing existed EXCEPT God! However, God began to create everything out of nothing. Let's check out Genesis 1.

Open Bible to Genesis 1:1-3 (NIRV) and read.

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth didn't have any shape. And it was empty. . . . God said, "Let there be light." And there was light."

Communicator pulls out a box of LEMON DROPS to represent the light and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.



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"Lemon drops are good, but God's creation was even better. The brightness flooded the emptiness as the light separated from the darkness. The light was named 'day,' and darkness was named 'night.' The day faded into night and then back to the next morning—the very first day. God saw that it was good.

"From there, God separated the waters. God called the huge space 'sky.'

Communicator pulls out COTTON CANDY to represent the sky/clouds and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.

"As great as cotton candy is, God's creation was even better. There was evening, and there was morning. It was day two, and God saw that it was good.

"And then God ordered the water to gather and called them 'seas.' Dry land and rocks POPPED up out of the water.

Communicator pulls out POP ROCKS to represent the dry ground and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.

"God surveyed all the creation and saw it was good. It was even better than Pop Rocks. On the land, God directed diverse vegetation to sprout from the earth. Flowers, ferns, trees, vegetables, and of course, plants bearing fruit rose from the dirt.

Communicator pulls out FRUIT SNACKS to represent the vegetation/fruit trees and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.

"God saw it was good—even better than fruit snacks. And there was evening, and there was morning. It was day three. Let's see what happened next.

Open the Bible to Genesis 1:16a (NIV) and read.

"God made two great lights. . . the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night."

"What do you think those are? (Get response.) Right! The Sun and Moon! On top of that, God also made stars spread out throughout the entire universe and light burst through the darkness.

Communicator pulls out STARBURSTS to represent the stars and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.

"God looked over creation and saw it was good—even better than Starbursts. There was evening, and there was morning. It was day four."

"On day five, the oceans and lakes became filled with living creatures big and small—including fish.



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Communicator pulls out SWEDISH FISH to represent the water creatures and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.

“Although Swedish Fish are great, they pale in comparison to our aquatic creatures like sharks, whales, crabs, shrimp, and real fish. Next, God placed birds of all kinds in the air! Some small like hummingbirds and others large like an eagle. God surveyed creation and saw it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning. It was day five.

“On day six, God created animals, of all kinds, for the land. Wild animals and every kind of livestock were formed.”

Communicator pulls out ANIMAL CRACKERS to represent the land animals and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks it is good.

“Although animal crackers are amazing, they are nothing compared to all the critters God created. In fact, God looked over creation and saw it was good!

“God was almost done. But there was something—someONE—special that God wanted to place in the world.

Open Bible to Genesis 1:26-27 (NirV) and read.

“Then God said, ‘Let us make human beings so that they are like us. Let them rule over the fish in the seas and the birds in the sky. Let them rule over the livestock and all the wild animals. And let them rule over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created human beings in his own likeness. He created them to be like himself. He created them as male and female.’

“God encouraged the people to have kids and to use the vegetation for food! God made people to reflect a little bit of who God is to the world. To show the world God’s compassion and joy and creativity.

Communicator pulls out SOUR PATCH KIDS to represent the people and shows it to the audience. Invite one volunteer without allergies to come to the stage to try it. Communicator confirms the volunteer thinks the candy is good.

“Sour Patch Kids may be delicious to many, but they’re nothing compared to God’s crowning achievement—people! God looked over everything, and check this out.

Open the Bible to Genesis 1:31b (NirV) and read.

“‘And it was very good.’

“God had created the heavens and the earth in six days. Everything was perfect. On the seventh day, God rested from all that amazing, brilliant, creative work!”



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APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “Isn’t that incredible?! God’s power and creativity are beyond anything that we can imagine. Out of nothing, God created EVERYTHING! Your favorite vacation spot, shade tree, mountain, animal, and person all came from God! Each creation is unique, special, and beautiful. However, none of God’s creation is quite as special as you! And even though God created the entire universe, God deeply cares for each one of us!

“In fact, God cares for us so much that we are made in God’s image! No other creation was made to reflect the characteristics of God! You were made in the image of God to reflect a little piece of who God is to all those around you! God is endlessly creative, which means that whether or not you feel like it, you are creative, too!

“When you create, you are able to create things out of the world God made! Using a pen and paper, you can write a hand-written note to encourage a friend who is upset! With your musical ability, you can bless the entire nursing home with a weekly performance. When your friends disagree, you can leverage your warm personality to bring peace between the two.

“Looking around the world, it’s plain to see God’s endless creativity. Likewise, there are countless ways we can use our creativity.”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “As we get ready to head to groups today, think about this question.

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

“How are you creative?” If you have no idea how God has wired you to be creative, that’s okay! Ask God! Take time this week to ask God to show you some of the ways that you’re creative. Then take it a step further. Ask God to give you opportunities to use your creativity to help others around you!

“Creativity can look like many different things! Whether you realize it or not, you are wildly creative. And we can’t wait to see how you will use the creativity God has given you! Before we head to groups, let’s pray and thank God for loving us so much and making such a beautiful creation for us to enjoy! Let’s pray.”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP