



START  
HERE

Mark off four areas of space and assign a tableau for each one. As you read the lesson, when the highlighted phrases are read, the kids must go to the corresponding space and create the tableau until they hear the next highlighted phrase (you'll have to pause in between).

- **"Then God said"**  
(Instructions being given)
- **"And God saw that this was good."**  
(Celebration)
- **"There was evening, and then there was morning."**  
(Sleeping/waking)

If the kids get the idea and are bored of the repetition after a few paragraphs, call them back to the circle and talk through the rest of the reading.

Follow the reading with a brief review and discussion. Suggested notes: **Emphasize the goodness of everything that God made. Did it stay perfectly good? No! What happened? That's for next week!**

# The Story of Creation

AN 'ACTIVITY' LESSON

(Genesis 1:1-2:3, Easy-to-read version, abridged)

God created the sky and the earth. At first, the earth was completely empty. There was nothing on the earth. Darkness covered the ocean, and God's Spirit moved over the water.

**Then God said**, "Let there be light!" And light began to shine. He saw the light, and **he knew that it was good**. Then he separated the light from the darkness. God named the light "day," and he named the darkness "night." **There was evening, and then there was morning**. This was the first day.

**Then God said**, "Let there be a space to separate the water into two parts!" So God made the space and separated the water. Some of the water was above it, and some of the water was below it. God named that space "sky." **There was evening, and then there was morning**. This was the second day.

**Then God said**, "Let the water under the sky be gathered together so that the dry land will appear." And it happened. God named the dry land "earth," and he named the water that was gathered together "seas." **And God saw that this was good**. **Then God said**, "Let the earth grow grass, plants that make grain, and fruit trees. The fruit trees will make fruit with seeds in it. And each plant will make its own kind of seed. Let these plants grow on the earth." And it happened... **And God saw that this was good**. **There was evening, and then there was morning**. This was the third day.

**Then God said**, "Let there be lights in the sky. These lights will separate the days from the nights..." And it happened. So God made the two large lights. He made the larger light to rule during the day and the smaller light to rule during the night. He also made the stars. God put these lights in the sky to shine on the earth... **And God saw that this was good**. **There was evening, and then there was morning**. This was the fourth day.

**Then God said**, "Let the water be filled with many living things, and let there be birds to fly in the air over the earth." So God created the large sea animals. He created all the many living things in the sea and every kind of bird that flies in the air. **And God saw that this was good**. God blessed all the living things in the sea and told them to have many babies and fill the seas. And he blessed the birds on land and told them to have many more babies. **There was evening, and then there was morning**. This was the fifth day.

**Then God said**, "Let the earth produce many kinds of living things. Let there be many different kinds of animals. Let there be large animals and small crawling animals of every kind. And let all these animals produce more animals." And all these things happened. So God made every kind of animal... **And God saw that this was good**. **Then God said**, "Now let's make humans who will be like us. They will rule over all the fish in the sea and the birds in the air. They will rule over all the large animals and all the little things that crawl on the earth." So God created humans in his own image. He created them to be like himself. He created them male and female. God blessed them... God looked at everything he had made, and **he saw that everything was very good**. **There was evening, and then there was morning**. This was the sixth day.

So the earth, the sky, and everything in them were finished. God finished the work he was doing, so on the seventh day he rested from his work. God blessed the seventh day and made it a holy day. He made it special because on that day he rested from all the work he did while creating the world.

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