



**Bible Passage:** Genesis 1—2:14  
(Creation)

## God Is Creator

### REMEMBER VERSE

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory  
and honor and power, for you created all things.

Revelation 4:11a

### Schedule

CONNECT

GATHER

RESPOND

BLESS

## SAMPLE LESSON

Includes links to related resources



## Leader Prep

Each week you'll find a list of resources along with encouraging articles that help you prepare your heart to present the lesson.

### Further Resources

Small Group Enhancements:

[Lesson 1 Discussion](#)

[TruWonder Timeline](#)

**Download the following resources to help you plan and lead TruWonder lessons:**

Customizable copy of Lesson 1

[TruWonder Cycle A Scope and Sequence](#)

[TruWonder How It Works document](#)

If you have questions about Tru curriculum or are looking for great training, blogs, and other support resources, visit [truminsty.com](http://truminsty.com).

## Inspire *Shares personal stories from fellow ministry leaders about how God has worked in their lives*

"Cristi! Cristi!" I could hear my name being called from some distant location. I was in my happy place in the backyard. As I lay in the grass, all that seemed to matter were the white clouds in the blue sky, the breeze, and the tops of the eucalyptus trees that danced above me. Here, I could dream. Here, I could listen to the trees seeming to talk to one another, their leaves making a whistling sound each time the wind blew through their branches. One moment I was blissfully unaware of the pressures of being four years old, and the next I was being called inside to take a bath.

This has been a regular rhythm of my life. I'm most happy, recharged, peace-filled, and alive when I'm surrounded by nature. The sound and feel of rushing water, wild winds, and a terrific rainstorm spark something within my soul. It's in these moments that I fall easily into conversation with my Creator. I can see Him in His creation. I can feel His presence and most easily hear Him when I'm surrounded by the things His hands made.

God has revealed Himself through His creation, but this is just the beginning of the story between God and mankind. He didn't just leave us with the revelation of Himself through His creation, but gave us so much more by revealing Himself in His Word, His incarnation, and His Spirit—all so we may know Him personally and become a part of His big story.

*Cristi Thomas*

Tru Team

## Equip *Offers perspective and context to the lesson's Bible passage*

With all the busyness and stress of everyday life, we can sometimes lose sight of how involved God really is in every aspect of our lives and our world. Some people think God "wound up the universe" and left it to run by itself. The beginning of the book of Genesis reveals the exact opposite. We see God present and active from the very first phrase of the Bible, "In the beginning God ..." Within the first few words in Scripture, we see God



moving to create a world and a people who He can love and bless.

Knowing God as Creator, we can envision the loving hands of an artist who passionately forms and fashions not only a magnificent masterpiece of a creation, but also creatures made in His own likeness, upon whom He can pour out His boundless love. In the very next verse we see God “moving” over the face of the waters. This same word translated *moving* is used elsewhere in Scripture for a mother bird brooding over her young. From this image we see a loving, caring, even “doting” parent.

Other words used of God in the creation part of The Big God Story reveal much about God. The Hebrew word translated “God” in chapter one of Genesis is *Elohim*. This word for “God” is often used when His power is being emphasized. Here we see the One who created the vast universe out of nothing, by simply speaking words. In chapter two, another term is added to *Elohim*—*Yahweh*—which is the name God told Moses to call Him. This emphasizes relationship. God is not only powerful but also wants to be in relationship with us.

God is Creator; God is *our* Creator. He is not only powerful, but also loving, caring, active, and involved\_\_\_ and He created us for relationship.

**Support** *Provides reflection and assessment through encouragement, prayer, and time in God’s Word*

Read Genesis 1 through 2:14 without pausing at any phrase or verse. After you’ve read it through once, read it again. This time note any phrase, verse, or section that stands out to you. Once you’ve finished, revisit the verses you noted in your second reading. As you do, pause over each section or verse and ask God to speak—in His deep and indescribable voice\_\_\_to your heart the things He wants you to ponder about who He is. Ask Him if He has anything to say to you about your part in this love story between Him and His creation. Allow yourself the time and quiet to linger in this space with the Lord.

May your life be transformed and infused with the depth and power of His Holy Spirit. And may your interaction with the children this week be filled with the passion that comes from knowing you’ve been given a unique part to play in this story that began with creation.

# SUPPLY LIST

## Lesson 1

### Kinder

#### CONNECT::

##### Jungle Jury


- [Jungle Jury cards](#)
- Card stock
- Scissors

#### GATHER::

##### Remember Verse

- [Remember Verse cards](#) and [image](#)
- Gizmo puppet
- Bible
- Treasure Trunk

#### The Big God Story

- Boxes with lids (7)
- Marker
- Mini flashlights (1 per child and 1 for leader)
- Storage container with watertight lid (small enough to fit inside a box)
- Water
- Cotton balls (10–12)
- Washcloth or towel (small)
- Zip-top bags (1 per child)
- Grapes (several per child) 
- Scissors
- Knife
- Glow-in-the-dark star and/or space stickers (may be purchased at toy store or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))
- Feathers (1 per child)
- Toy fish (1 per child, small)
- Stuffed animal (small)
- Handheld mirror

#### Wonder Questions

- [Wonder Question strips](#)
- Small bag with drawstring

#### Prayers & Praises

- Prayers & Praises book
- Index cards
- Pen or marker
- Treasure Trunk
- Pictures of creation or blanket (large)

#### RESPOND::

##### Engage: Animal Scramble

- [Jungle Jury cards](#)
- Card stock
- Scissors
- Blindfolds (1 for every 2 children)

#### Create: Worshipping the Creator

- Paper rolls (1 per child, 3 ½"; suggestions: cut from paper towel tubes or wrapping paper tubes, or purchase craft rolls at [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com))
- Markers
- Stickers and adhesive jewels (6–12 per child)
- Wax paper (3" square per child)
- Scissors
- Rubber bands (1 per child)
- Pen
- Optional: upbeat worship music (suggestions: "Everybody, Everywhere" and "Thank You," TruWorship *Sincerely Yours*)

#### BLESS::

- [Remember Verse cards](#)
- [At Home Weekly](#)
- Handheld mirror



## CONNECT:: 10 min.

*Children develop relationships with their leaders and one another through simple activities and conversation starters.*

### Jungle Jury

#### SUPPLIES

- [Jungle Jury cards](#)
- Card stock
- Scissors

#### PREPARE AHEAD

Print enough Jungle Jury cards onto card stock for each child to have one, and then cut them out.

#### RELATE

Welcome children and invite them to take a seat. **Today in The Big God Story, we're going to hear how God created the world! Can you tell me some things God created?** Allow kids a moment to respond; interact with their responses. **Good thinking. I heard some of you mention that God created animals\_\_\_ that's true! Let's play a game that allows us to pretend to be different animals. If you could be any animal, which would you be? Why?** Give children a chance to respond. **Now, let's get started playing pretend!**

**Who would like to volunteer to help me teach the class how the game works?** Choose a child and have her come to the front of the room. Invite her to pick one of the *Jungle Jury* cards, but don't let her see which animal is on the card. Explain to the rest of the class that they'll see what the animal is, but they can't shout it out. Instead, the whole class must pretend to be the animal displayed until the volunteer is ready to guess what animal is on her card. When the child guesses correctly, she may sit back down. Then choose another volunteer until all the cards have been used.

### Developmentally Speaking

Dramatic play is a wonderful tool for the kindergarten-aged child. This is a time when kids are becoming more adept at using their imaginations to explore problem solving. Encouraging children to really think and use their imaginations as they enact the characteristics of the different animals will help develop this wonderful skill.

### Transition Tool

["The Cleanup Song"](#) from TruBlessings Worship may be a helpful tool to cue children it's time to transition into another activity or portion of the service.

## GATHER:: 20 min.

*Children experience and learn more about God through memorizing Scripture, storytelling from The Big God Story, prayer, and discussion.*

For detailed information on the GATHER section, including how to prepare the Treasure Trunk and where to purchase Gizmo, please refer to the [How It Works](#) document for TruWonder Classroom Edition in Resources.



Begin GATHER with a Welcome Song. You can enhance this time with the [Welcome Song pieces](#). Refer to the [How It Works](#) document for instructions for this resource.

## Remember Verse

### SUPPLIES

- [Remember Verse cards](#) and [image](#)
- Gizmo puppet
- Bible
- Treasure Trunk

### SET UP

After placing the Remember Verse cards in the Bible, set the Bible in the Treasure Trunk.

### RELATE

**Friends, the Bible is such a wonderful book! It's one of my favorites. Gizmo, what's your favorite book?** Gizmo whispers in your ear. Smile brightly. **Really? Who can raise her hand and tell me what she thinks Gizmo's favorite book is?** Interact with a few responses. Gizmo nods in affirmation. **Yes! Gizmo's favorite book is the Bible!** Gizmo nods with enthusiasm and whispers again. **Oh, Gizmo, you make me smile! Gizmo loves the Bible because it tells us all about The Big God Story. God's story is so special because it includes you and me. The Big God Story starts with the very beginning of our world and continues until today. Gizmo, would you please get the Bible for us?** Gizmo retrieves the Bible. **I can't wait to share a special verse with you!** Open the Bible to the Remember Verse and read aloud.

### REMEMBER VERSE

**You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory  
and honor and power, for you created all things.  
Revelation 4:11a**

### REMEMBER VERSE DEFINITIONS

**Worthy:** Deserving; only God is worthy of worship

**Glory:** Brilliant, radiant beauty that brings praise to God

**Honor:** Worship, exalt

### REMEMBER VERSE MOTIONS

**You are worthy:** Point to sky then place hands on heart.

**our Lord and God:** Make letter "L" with right index finger and thumb at left shoulder. Move "L" diagonally down to right hip.

**to receive glory:** Hold out open, bent arms, palms up.

**and honor:** Keep arms out and tilt head back to face up to sky.

**and power:** Make strong arms.

**for you created all things:** Cross arms over each other in front of body and then open arms up and out.

### THE REMEMBER VERSE GAME

Gather kids in a circle and ask them to have a seat. Explain that they'll be playing a game with Gizmo in which

all the children must repeat everything Gizmo says. Start out with funny phrases or tongue twisters to get the kids laughing and involved. For example, make silly animal noises or try a sentence like, “The great Gizmo rides galloping gazelles.” After a few rounds, encourage Gizmo to practice the Remember Verse with children. Explain to kids that sometimes Gizmo forgets or mixes up the words in the verse, and they’ll need to help him when he says something wrong. Practice together, encouraging kids to help Gizmo when he says the verse incorrectly. Repeat the verse several times to help the class memorize it.

[Remember Verse cards](#) are available to print and send home with parents along with the [At Home Weekly](#).

# The Big God Story

**Genesis 1—2:14**


**God Is Creator**

**Storytelling Technique: Interactive Sensory Storytelling Boxes**

## Prayer of Release

The **Prayer of Release** is a time for children and leaders to pause, be still, and ask God to quiet their hearts and minds. As you pray, encourage children to hold their hands out in front of them as if releasing their worries and distractions. This posture also shows they’re open to receive what the Holy Spirit might have for them.

## SUPPLIES

- Boxes with lids (7)
- Marker
- Mini flashlights (1 per child and 1 for leader)
- Storage container with watertight lid (small enough to fit inside a box)
- Water
- Cotton balls (10–12)
- Washcloth or towel (small)
- Zip-top bags (1 per child)
- Grapes (several per child) 
- Scissors
- Knife
- Glow-in-the-dark star and/or space stickers (may be purchased at toy store or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))
- Feathers (1 per child)
- Toy fish (1 per child, small)
- Stuffed animal (small)
- Handheld mirror

## PREPARE AHEAD

Gather the supplies and place them in the seven individual boxes. Label the boxes DAY ONE through DAY SEVEN, and prepare them according to the list below, closing the lid on each once prepared:

DAY ONE: Fill with mini flashlights, one per child.

DAY TWO: Fill storage container with water, close watertight lid, and place inside. Set a washcloth or small towel on top of the container before sealing the box. Wait to add the cotton balls until instructed.

**DAY THREE:** Slice the grapes in half to make them easier for eating. Put a few grapes in each zip-top bag, one bag per child. Place the grape bags in the box.

**DAY FOUR:** Using scissors, cut a hole (large enough to look into) in the side of the box. Place glow-in-the-dark stickers all over the inside of the box. Just before viewing, shine a flashlight into box to activate stickers.

**DAY FIVE:** Place feathers (one per child) and toy fish (one per child) inside.

**DAY SIX:** Place the small stuffed animal and handheld mirror inside.

**DAY SEVEN:** Leave empty.

### **RELATE**

After you're finished with the Remember Verse game, invite children to get their wiggles out, return to their Story Spots in the GATHER circle time area, and have a seat.

**Hi, friends! I'm so happy to see you! God is Creator, He has a big story, and He has invited us to be a part of it. In a minute we're going to take a look at the very beginning of The Big God Story, but before we get started, let's pray to God and ask Him to help us understand what He wants to teach us. Lead children in a Prayer of Release.**

**Hmmm ... I wonder what's in these boxes. What do you think? Allow answers. Good guesses. We're going to use these boxes to learn about God's creation. Who would like to see what's inside the first box? Let's take a look!**

**We'll start with the box that says DAY ONE. It must have a clue inside to help us learn about God's first day of creation. Open box and pass out one flashlight to each child. Ooh, this box is full of flashlights! Hmmm ... Did God make flashlights on the first day? Allow answers. No, not quite! On the very first day, nothing had been created. God spoke and said, "Let there be light!" Just like that, light appeared! Help kids turn on flashlights and encourage them to experiment by turning lights on and off once or twice. You may even want to momentarily turn off overhead lights. Then collect flashlights and put them back in the box. God created the light and the dark and saw that it was good.**

**Let's look at the box that says DAY TWO. Open box and set washcloth or small towel nearby. Then remove container of water, take off lid, and add cotton balls to water. On the second day, God created the sky and also all the seas. These little cotton balls remind me of clouds in the sky. Let's work together to separate the sea and the clouds. Invite children to pull out cotton balls and put them on the washcloth or towel. Great job separating the clouds! God created the sky and the seas and saw that it was good.**

**This box says DAY THREE. What do you think is inside? Interact with responses. Well, let's check it out. Peek inside. Look excited and build the suspense. This box is full of grapes! Who would like to try some? Give one bag to each child. Based on this clue, can anyone guess what God made on day three? Wait for response. Those are great guesses! On the third day, God filled the land with plants and trees. What are some of the different plants and trees God made? Pause. Exactly! He made them all—including grape vines that give us yummy grapes. God created the plants and trees and saw that it was good.**

**Hey, I just noticed the DAY FOUR box has a hole in it. Look through hole. Wow! You need to see this!**





Take turns passing box from child to child, allowing each one to look. **That must mean God created the stars, moon, and sun on day four\_\_just like we saw in our box! God created the sun, the moon, and all the stars, and saw that it was good. Wow, there are only three more boxes left. I wonder what could be next!**

**Let's take a look at DAY FIVE.** Open box and pull out feathers, letting each child hold one. **Feathers! Where do feathers come from?** Interact with responses. **That's right! Feathers come from birds. God created all the birds in the sky on the fifth day. But there's something else in the box too.** Let each child hold a toy fish. **On this day, God created all the birds of the air and fish in the sea, and saw that it was good.** Give children a moment to study feathers and fish before collecting them and placing them back in box.

**Let's move on now to our next box\_\_DAY SIX.** Open box and remove stuffed animal and mirror. **Hmmm ... I found this animal** (hold up stuffed animal) **and also a mirror in here** (look in mirror). **What could that mean?** Pause for a moment, and pass the stuffed animal and the mirror from child to child. **Oh, I know! God created animals and people on day six! That's right\_\_even you and I are a part of The Big God Story! And after He created people, God looked at all He had created and said it was very good.**

**I can't wait to see inside box seven!** Open box, looking surprised. Reveal empty box to children. **There's nothing in here! It's completely empty. Why do you think that is?** Interact with responses. **That's right! On the seventh day, God was finished creating so He decided to rest and enjoy what He had made. He was so full of joy because of it all. God is Creator, and we can tell others His amazing story!**

## Wonder Questions

### SUPPLIES

- [Wonder Question strips](#)
- Small bag with drawstring

### RELATE

**I wonder ... What's my favorite part of God's creation?**

**I wonder ... Why did God create people last?**

**I wonder ... How can I praise God for all the wonderful things He made?**

## Prayers & Praises

### SUPPLIES

- Prayers & Praises book
- Index cards
- Pen or marker
- Treasure Trunk
- Pictures of creation or blanket (large)

### PREPARE AHEAD

If you plan to go outside, scout out a comfortable spot to lay a large blanket. If you plan to remain inside, gather pictures of creation.

### SET UP

Place the Prayers & Praises book in the Treasure Trunk.



### RELATE

After your time discussing the Wonder Questions, you'll have the opportunity to pray with and for each of the children in your group. **I just love God's creation. It's big, grand, and wide, and yet there are so many itty-bitty details in all the things He has made. I feel loved when I think of God's creation. How does it make you feel?** Interact with responses.

**Let's take a look at God's creation.** Either show pictures of creation, or take children outside and let them explore and look at different aspects of what God has made. **God's creation tells a story! It tells us about God's love. When we see God's creation, we're reminded that He made everything! God is Creator. He cares about every little detail of every piece of creation. That means He even cares about every little part of your life!**

**Let's close our eyes. Now think of one thing in the world that you want to thank God for. When you've thought of something, you can say "thank You" to God.** Allow time for kids to pray. **Now, with your eyes still closed, you might want to thank God for creating you and for letting you be a part of The Big God Story.**

Invite kids to turn to a neighbor and share what God brings to mind that makes them feel afraid or sad. Encourage them to take a moment to pray a simple prayer (such as, "God, be with my friend when he's afraid of the dark") over their buddy after they've shared. After children have prayed for one another, encourage them to sit in a circle again. **What are some things that make you feel afraid?** Pause and allow kids to respond. After a few moments, consider sharing some age-appropriate things that make you feel afraid. **Even at my age, I get scared sometimes too! What are some things we can do when we feel afraid?** Encourage kids to share their answers with the group. **That's right! We can pray and talk to God. We can also lean on our family and community for support. And guess what? When our friends come to us and they're afraid, we can share God's story with them. We can encourage them to remember that God is Creator, and He's always with His creation.**

Open the Treasure Trunk and take out the Prayers & Praises book. Ask children to share updates on the things they previously asked the class to pray with them about. Celebrate the praises and recommit to praying for things not yet answered. You may want to give children a chance to share what makes them feel afraid or sad, and add those requests to the book. Pray for the praises and requests mentioned, and let children know you'll continue to pray for them in the coming week.

## RESPOND:: 20 min.

*Children reflect on what the Holy Spirit is teaching them and respond through creative activities and games.*

## Engage: Animal Scramble

### SUPPLIES

- [Jungle Jury cards](#)
- Card stock
- Scissors
- Blindfolds (1 for every 2 children)

### PREPARE AHEAD

Print the Jungle Jury cards onto card stock and cut them out.

### RELATE

After you put away the supplies from Prayers & Praises, bring your children into an open area in your room and invite them to sit down. **In The Big God Story, we heard about how God created everything in the whole wide world! What are some of the things He made?** Interact with responses. **Exactly! Well, we're going to play a game with some of our favorite parts of God's creation. Who's ready to play?**

Help kids form pairs. Then assign each pair one Jungle Jury card. Explain that each group will have to make the noise of the animal drawn on the card. Give them a moment to practice making that particular animal noise with their partner. After practicing, split up the pairs and have them line up on opposite sides of the room. Give children on one side of the room blindfolds and have them stand in place. After the blindfolds are on, mix up kids on the other side of the room. Explain that children without blindfolds must help their partners find them by using the animal noises they practiced earlier. The team that's able to reunite first wins. Continue playing until all the kids have successfully found their partners!

## Create: Worshipping the Creator

### SUPPLIES

- Paper rolls (1 per child, 3 ½"; suggestions: cut from paper towel tubes or wrapping paper tubes, or purchase craft rolls at [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com))
- Markers
- Stickers and adhesive jewels (6–12 per child)
- Wax paper (3" square per child)
- Scissors
- Rubber bands (1 per child)
- Pen
- Optional: upbeat worship music (suggestions: "Everybody, Everywhere" and "Thank You," TruWorship *Sincerely Yours*)

### PREPARE AHEAD

If you're using paper towel or wrapping paper tubes, cut them to make smaller tubes, each approximately three and a half inches long. Use the pen to poke a hole near the end of each paper roll. Cut the wax paper into three-inch squares, one per child.

### RELATE

Invite children to walk using big steps to baby steps as they move to the activity area. Encourage children to get slower and quieter with each step. **Friends, God is Creator, and He made the entire world. What are some things God created?** Interact with their responses. **Good thinking, everyone! You're right. God made all those things. Isn't that incredible? God is so powerful. That makes me want to worship Him! What are some ways we can worship God because He is Creator?** Give children a moment to think and respond. **Wow, those are all great thoughts.**

To exercise the kids' storytelling skills, invite them to turn to a friend and share something about God's creation that they find amazing. Give the class a few minutes to listen and share with one another. **Psalms 96:1 says, "Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth." As we've shared about the things God has created, how does that make you feel about God right now? What would you like to tell Him?** Pause. **We're going to make kazoos and use them to play songs of praise and worship to God. Have**

**you ever used a kazoo before? They make a fun and silly noise, don't they? Let's make our very own kazooos!**

Pass out a paper roll to each child. Encourage kids to use the markers and other decorations to design their kazoo. Be sure not to cover the pre-punched hole. When they're finished, assist them in placing a square of wax paper over the end closest to the punched hole. Use a rubber band to secure the wax paper to the base. When ready, invite them to play a song on their kazoo by humming a tune into the open end. You may choose to play a song or two and encourage children to "play along" by humming together into their kazooos as an act of worship to God. Encourage children to take home their instruments and continue to praise God this week.

## **BLESS::** 5 min.

*Children receive a blessing from their leaders and sometimes one another. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.*

### **SUPPLIES**

- [Remember Verse cards](#)
- [At Home Weekly](#)
- Handheld mirror

### **RELATE**

Have children form a circle on the floor. **Today we heard that God is Creator. He made the entire world. He made the stars, the oceans, and the forests. He made all the animals and sea creatures. Above all, God made you, and He loves you so much! Isn't that good news? We can share that good news with others! God invites us to share His love and His story with others.**

Invite each child up individually to receive his blessing. As he walks up, encourage him to look at himself in the mirror while you speak a blessing over him.

(Child's name), **God made you special. May you know how deep and wide His love is for you, and may you share His love with others.**

After each child is blessed individually, invite kids to stand together while you say the following blessing over them as a group:

**Children, may you know the Lord your Creator who loves you. May you praise God and share His story with others.**

### **Note**

Remember to give children a Remember Verse card before they leave so they'll have a chance to memorize the verse during the week with their parents.

[At Home Weekly](#) is provided as a parent resource with each week's lesson and can be emailed to parents or printed and distributed. This preteaching tool encourages families to spend time in God's Word together before children arrive at church. The best part is that parents are the first to introduce their kids to the Bible content they'll hear at church. In this way, the church is supporting families as they spiritually nurture their child.