

Session 1

Something from nothing: The Creation

Children have the opportunity to realize how wonderfully God created everything.

Scripture: Genesis 1:1–31

Supplies:

- Copies of the creation activity
- A completed activity to use during Word.



Welcome

Take a pillowcase and place inside it items that portray God's creation, eg. an apple, plastic animals, a leaf, etc. Give a few children the opportunity to put their hands inside the pillowcase and to guess what they're feeling (this is a game the children can take home and play with their parents. This is how they will make their parents aware of God's creation as well.)



Worship

Settle down ritual: Children become quiet and lie on the floor/grass, close their eyes, and listen to the sounds of a CD with nature sounds (or MP3 sound clip on the Kix website). While the children are quiet with their eyes closed, the group leader says: "God made everything. He made you and me as well. He loves me so much. He blew his breath into me." (Breathe deeply and blow it out slowly three times).



Word

In the beginning of the Bible we read: "Right at the beginning there was only God. Then He made the heavens and the earth. Just like that! Out of nothing! But no one could live on the earth. There was only water on the earth. It was very dark. But still only God was there, even though the earth was in chaos! Then God began to make everything. *(Take out your completed creation activity and use it to tell the story).* Let's see what God has in store for us! It went like this:

God said: "Let there be light!" And the moment He said it, there was light. God liked the light, that's why He wanted to separate the light and the dark. He named the light "day" and the darkness He named "night".

Second day (Gen 1:9–13)

God said: "I want to separate the heavens from the earth." Sometimes water comes from above, we call that "rain". Sometimes water bubbles up from below the ground, we call that a "fountain". God separated these two types of water. So God made the heavens above and the earth below.

Third day (Genesis 1:9–13)

On the third day there was still only water. There was no dry ground. Then God said: "I want all the water on earth to gather in one place so that there can also be dry ground." It happened immediately. God called the dry ground "land". The expanse of water He called "sea". God liked that there was sea and land.

Then God said: “Now all sorts of plants can grow. Plants like grass, bushes that give seeds and all kinds of trees.” And it happened as well. All sorts of plants started to come up out of the ground. God thought that the earth was good.

Fourth day (Genesis 1:14–19)

Then God said: “There must be a sun, moon and stars in the heavens. They can give light to earth. Then you can see clearly when it is day and when it is night. They also help us to know when it’s summer and when it’s winter.” God then made the sun. It gives light during the day. God also made the moon and the stars. They give light during the night. Now the heavens were good as well.

Fifth day (Genesis 1:20–23)

Afterwards God said: “In the sea there have to be many types of fish. Birds must fly in the skies.” God made big sea creatures and many, many types of fish. He also made many kinds of birds. Everything He made was good. He told the birds and the fish: “You must have babies and become many. There must be many fish in the sea and many birds on the land.” They were good.

Sixth day (Genesis 1:24–25)

God said: “There must be animals on the earth, all sorts of them. Animals like insects, tame animals and wild animals.” God made all these kinds of animals, and they were good.

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder how it felt to be alone in the dark, where there was nothing.
2. I wonder how you feel about what God created.
3. I wonder what you would have done differently if you had made everything.
4. I wonder how we can take good care of God’s creation.



Working and Playing

- Creation cube: Copy the template onto cardboard and colour the pictures. Cut it out. Use a ruler and a blunt knife to score the folding lines. Fold your activity into a cube. Glue the flaps on the inside of the cube. Use this cube to remind children what God created on the different days.

Prayer for younger children:

Leader says:

Children answer and do:

May we know where to walk

Step-step-step

May we know what to do

Clap-clap-clap

May we know where to look

Blink-blink-blink

May we know what to say

Praise the Lord!

All together:

Amen

Closing prayer: Close with an ABC-prayer. Give each child a letter of the alphabet until the entire alphabet has been used. The child who has the letter A, begins by thanking God for something that starts with an “A”, for example “apples”. The second child thanks Him for something starting with “B”, and so on. (Keep the prayer light and fun – the children may laugh during the prayer).

