

KID'S

ministry



Community of Christ

SACREDNESS OF CREATION - Activities

PURPOSE:

- Identify the Divine in creation
- Examine the creation poem of Genesis 1
- Identify ways to help creation

ACTIVITY	TIME (ESTIMATES)	RESOURCES
Section 1: Creation/Nature	5 min	
Section 2: Creation (Genesis 1-2)	4 minutes	YouTube video 'Creation (Genesis 1-2)', something to play the video on
Section 3: Dioramas	20 minutes OR	Option 1: Shoe boxes (1 per participant), Coloured paper or paint, scissors, glue, either little plastic animals, plants, people or magazines with pictures of animals, plants, people, cardboard, bibles Option 2: same as option 1, only 6 shoe boxes
Section 3: Pictures	20 minutes	Option 3 & 4: Plain paper, coloured paper, magazines with animals, plants, people and glue
Section 4: Noticing God*	15 minutes	
Section 5: Nature Helpers	15 minutes	Butcher's paper or white board, A4 card/paper, craft supplies (coloured paper, textas, glitter, glue)
Section 6: Conclusion	3 minutes	

LEADING INSTRUCTIONS:

Read through materials before you start and ensure that everything is printed, and activities prepared ahead of time

Parts in bold are to tell or ask the group or children. Some answers are provided in case the group doesn't get there. Italics is instruction for the leader

There are two Section 3, do what is best for your group

**Good as a whole congregation activity*



Section 1

CREATION/NATURE

DISCUSSION:

1. WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE IN NATURE? WHY? WHEN DO YOU GO THERE?

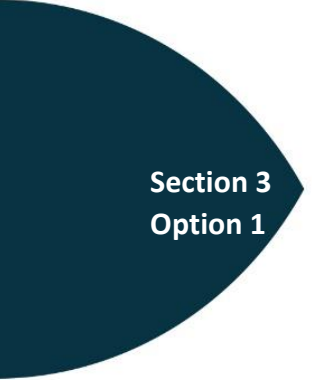


Section 2

CREATION (GENESIS 2-1)

VIDEO: Creation (Genesis 1-2) by Saddleback kids https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ1Fd_SPC18

Watch the video depicting the creation of the world in Genesis 1.



Section 3
Option 1

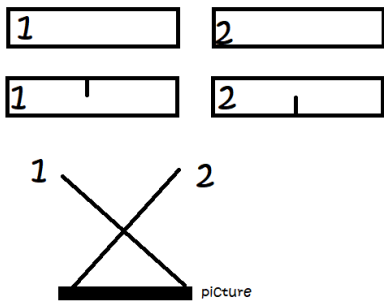
DIORAMAS

ACTIVITY: To create dioramas depicting the creation story

Diorama making tips

1. *Put the box on its side*
2. *Make backgrounds first (paint or cover the back, bottom, sides and top with either paint or paper)*
3. *Use either plastic figures or make your own using magazines. This can be done by sticking an image onto some cardboard to make it firmer and making a cross stand. (Get two small pieces of card. Cut*

halfway down in the middle of both pieces. Insert one over the other to form a small stand. See picture below)



4. Holes can also be placed in the top and items hung from the 'roof' with dental floss

Option 1: Each person (or small group) gets their own box. Using coloured paper or paint, either plastic animals or magazine pictures they will create the entire 6 days. Give each a bible so that they can check with Genesis 1 as they are creating. (Starting with sky, then land and water, vegetation, sun/moon/stars, fish and birds and animals and people).

Option 2: Break group into 4 groups. Give each a bible so that they can check with Genesis 1 as they are creating.

Group 1 has 3 boxes: responsible for a box of light and dark, a box of waters above and below (sky), a box of water and land (with vegetation)

Group 2 has 1 box: responsible for a box of water and land (with vegetation), with the sun, moon and stars

Group 3 has 1 box: responsible for a box of water, land (with vegetation), (sun/ moon/ stars), fish and birds

Group 4 has 1 box: responsible for a box of water, land (with vegetation), (sun/ moon/ stars), fish, birds, animals and people

Section 3
Option 2

PICTURES

ACTIVITY: To create pictures depicting the different days in the creation story

Option 1: Each person gets their own piece of paper. Using coloured paper and magazine pictures they will create the entire 6 days. Give each a bible so that they can check with Genesis 1 as they are creating. (Starting with sky, then land and water, vegetation, sun/moon/stars, fish and birds and animals and people).

Option 2: Create a picture representing each day. See Section 3: Option 1: Option 2 above for break down options with a large group.



Section 4

NOTICING GOD

Good as a whole congregation activity

ACTIVITY: To find something in the natural world that makes you think of God.

Have the group go outside for 10 minutes to look around. As they walk get them to think about where they see and find God. Get them to bring back one thing that makes them think of God. When everyone returns get them to put their collected items in one pile.

DISCUSSION:

1. WHAT DID YOU BRING BACK THAT MADE YOU THINK OF GOD? WHY DOES THIS ITEM MAKE YOU THINK OF GOD?



Section 5

NATURE HELPER

DISCUSSION:

1. WHAT ARE SOME THINGS WE CAN DO TO HELP LOOK AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT? (Write responses down on a piece of butcher's paper or white board)

Recycle, put a timer on during showers, turn power off things, take public transport/walk, use reusable bags compost/worm farm, filling a cup of water to brush your teeth,

ACTIVITY:

Choose one item of the white board that you are willing to commit to do for a whole month. Something that you will make your priority, not your parents or someone else, that you will take responsibility for.

For example, if you choose using reusable bags, you need to make sure that they are always taken when you go to the shops, or returned to the car so they are ready for next time.

Make a poster for this activity to pop somewhere at home to help you to remember that you are going to help the environment in this way for a whole month. Make sure you put the date on it so you can keep track of how long you have done it for.



Section 6

CONCLUSION

CLOSE IN PRAYER:

Creator God,

When we look at all that you have created, God, we are blown away in awe. You have fashioned the delicate butterfly wing that is so thin we can see through it and yet strong enough to carry the butterfly from flower to flower. You have stored in an apple seed all the potential of a great tree that can bare fruit to feed so many. You create the smallest bacteria and the biggest blue whales and to you all of it was good.

Us to, you have made each of us exactly the way we are. Made different to the person next to us, with different interests and gifts, and in all this diversity that you have made, it is good.

We are sorry God that we don't always look after the beautiful world that you asked us to care for. Sometimes we are forgetful and selfish and don't share the resources available with everyone and everything. Help us to do better, to find ways that we can help the environment and find your sacredness in all creation.

Amen