

THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 18 January 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** The Creation / Days 4 and 5
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Genesis 1:14-23
- **CONCEPT:** God made everything

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise that God created the earth, and that Jesus was there in the beginning.
- To challenge kids to be thankful for their senses to appreciate the beauty of God's creation, and for His provision of the sun, moon and stars.
- To encourage kids to understand that if God takes care of the birds, then surely He will take care of us.
- To lead kids into a prayer time and help them understand that God listens.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Treasure chest with the stone and bulb inside (from last week's story)
- ✓ Bible
- ✓ Display board – as you tell the story, stick up pictures of the sun, the moon, a few stars, some sea creatures and some birds. Drawing pins / blu-tack.
Refer to last week's lesson for picture idea.
- ✓ Globe
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Name tag box

Optional: a food bag for each child containing some birdseed and nuts for them to put in their garden.

<p>A. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together (<i>Royalty / Super Strong God</i>). 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down. 	<p>You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (<i>Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God</i>)</p>
<p>B. Message 15 minutes</p> <p>1. Recap Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the stone and flower bulb you placed there last week. Ask for someone to explain the significance of the items and what they should remind you of. Ask a few follow-up questions to recap last week's story of the third day of God's creation – in the beginning there was nothing, except God; on the first day, God created the light and the darkness, or day and night; on the second day, God created the sky. On day three, God separated the dry land from the sea, and then He made lots of trees and plants and flowers. Finish by eliciting the concept: God made everything.</p> <p>If you have time, you could also recap last week's Bible passage, or refer to it if you displayed it in your room: <i>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. John 1:1-2</i></p> <p>2. Set the scene <i>If someone in your group has been away on a holiday or break, ask them a few questions about it – where they went, what they did, how the weather was, etc.</i></p> <p>We're just past half-way through the middle of January, right after our Christmas break from school. Did anyone go away on holiday over Christmas and New Year, or did you stay at home? How was the weather where you were? Imagine this – my cousin lives in Australia (<i>change this as appropriate</i>) and she had a salad for her Christmas dinner! No turkey and stuffing, no ham, no potatoes, just a cold green salad! You see, in December, in Australia, the weather is hot. The sun shines most of the time, and people like to go to the beach. They don't get snow, and they don't wear hats and scarves and gloves when they go Christmas carol-singing. Oh no! It's far too warm for all that! That would be a very strange Christmas for us, wouldn't it?</p> <p>Which is the best school holiday? I always liked summer best because it was the longest holiday! Plus, the weather was usually better, warmer and sunnier. Is anyone going on a foreign trip this summer? Did you go anywhere special last summer? What was your best holiday or trip away from home? Tell us about it.</p> <p>3. Tell the story Now, let's think about this. Let me go back to the Bible – the book of Genesis, right at the start. <i>Let kids see you follow the sequence in your Bible.</i> In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth. He made the light and the darkness; He made the sky; He made the dry land and the sea; He made all the flowers and plants and trees</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Treasure chest (with the stone and bulb you placed inside last week)</i></p> <p><i>Bible</i></p>

... but hang on, it doesn't say here that God made summer holidays and winter holidays. Let me check again. Ah! Wait a minute! Listen to this: (read Genesis 1:14-19)

And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day.

I see! (with a look of realisation) This says that God made two great lights, one for the daytime and one for nighttime. Can you tell me what they're called? That's right! God made the sun to look after the day, and the moon to look after the night (stick up picture of the sun and moon onto the display board you created last week). And the Bible says that God also made the stars to give us light on the earth (stick up a few pictures of stars onto the display). Did you get the important information though? Let me read it again to you. God made the two great lights – the sun and the moon – "as signs to mark seasons and days and years". Tell me what seasons you know. *Spring, summer, autumn and winter*. What season are we in now? *Winter*. In what season do we get a long holiday from school? *Summer!* So, boys and girls, God *did* make summer and winter holidays!

Did you know that our earth spins around? *Show kids how a globe spins on its axis*. It takes 24 hours for the earth to spin around once. How long is 24 hours? One day! That means from now (check the time) until the same time tomorrow, the earth will have spun around once ... And did you know that as the earth is spinning, it also travels around the sun? Is anyone clever enough to know how long it takes for the earth to move once around the sun? 365 days or a year! Sometimes we are closer to the sun, and sometimes we are further away from it because the earth is always moving ... and that's why we have different seasons – spring, summer, autumn and winter. So, the sun helps us to count the days, the years and the seasons, just like the Bible says. And that was the fourth day of God's creation of the world.

* * *

(If you have time, play a game with the kids based on seasons. Assign one season to each corner of the room – you could make labels to stick on the walls. Ask kids to stand in the middle of the room. When you shout out an item, they should run to the appropriate corner of the room. The last kid to get there is out and should sit by you in the middle of the room until you are done. Examples of items you could call: sunglasses, ice-cream, Santa Claus, snow, Easter, falling leaves, etc.)

* * *

Take a look at our display. God made a beautiful world between day

*Pictures of the sun, moon and stars
Blu-tack or drawing pins*

Globe

<p>one and day four. There are still a few things missing though, don't you think? God hadn't finished yet. Let's go back to the Bible to see what happened on day five. <i>Read Genesis 1:20-23.</i></p> <p><i>And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." And there was evening, and there was morning – the fifth day.</i></p> <p><i>(Stick pictures of sea creatures and birds onto your display as you speak.)</i> God made all the great creatures of the sea – fish, sharks, whales, octopus, crabs, and many more – and then He made all the birds that fly in the sky – little red robins, sparrows, blackbirds, crows, ducks, eagles, swans ... God made them all. What an imagination our God has! He didn't have a book to help Him come up with all the different designs of sea creatures and birds. He thought of them all Himself. God looked at everything He had made so far, and He was happy with it.</p> <p>4. Explain Boys and girls, God didn't just make everything and then leave it alone. He looks after His creation. He provides rain to help the flowers and trees grow. He makes the plants and trees grow so that animals have something to eat. He gives us enough heat and light from the sun so that we don't die from the cold. Really, why do we need to worry about things when the super-strong God, who made the universe, looks after us and wants to be our friend? The Bible tells us that God looks after the birds (<i>Matthew 6:26, Luke 12:24</i>). He knows when one of His little birds is in trouble or when it doesn't have enough to eat. The Bible also says that you and I are much more important to God than the birds. So, think about it. If God takes care of the birds, He's sure going to take care of us! When we're in trouble, or when we don't have enough to eat, or when things all seem to be going wrong, we can ask the God of the universe to help us ... and we know that God always hears our prayers and that He always keeps His promises to help us.</p>	<p><i>Bible</i></p> <p><i>Pictures of sea creatures and birds</i> <i>Blu-tack or drawing pins</i></p>
<p>C. Prayer Net</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a child to explain what it means when we <i>pray</i> – We talk to God and He listens. 2. Explain that prayer / talking to God is very important because that's how we get to know Him. 3. Choose a child to retrieve the prayer net. Lift out the prayer cards you put there last week. Ask the kids for updates on those situations. 4. Explain that when we have something to be thankful for, or something we worry about, like our world, we need to tell God about those things. 5. Tell kids that we are going to make a note of some special prayers today and put them in the prayer net. Next week they will tell us what happened in those situations. 	<p>10 minutes</p> <p>You'll need ... <i>Net (with last week's prayer cards)</i> <i>Small cards / postcards</i> <i>A pen</i></p>

THE ISLAND cont'd

LEADER	DATE (pm) 18 January 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce today's Bible concept by learning a related Scripture verse.
- To consolidate today's Bible story and concept by making a Creation mobile.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Memory Verse Task: Slide (John 1:1-2)
Empty plastic soft drink bottle (decorated if you like)
- ✓ Activity: Tables
 - Pre-made Creation mobile (see Activity section below for instructions and photos)
 - Paper plates (one for each child) with holes already punched (one in the top centre; five around the bottom)
 - Memory verse labels (one for each child) (label template included in materials)
 - Glue sticks
 - Lengths of wool or ribbon (one for each child)
 - Pre-cut card shapes (each child needs: 1 sun / 1 moon / 2 stars / 1 bird) with lengths of wool or ribbon already attached (using a stapler is the quickest and easiest method)
 - Colouring pens/pencils
 - Other materials for decoration – use whatever you have (e.g. stickers, feathers, sequins, glitter glue, etc.)
- ✓ Small prizes (selection of bookmarks, stickers, pencils, etc.)
- ✓ Name tag box

<p>E. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. (<i>Royalty / Super Strong God</i>) 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to lift a mat and sit in a circle for the following activity. 	<p>You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (<i>Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God</i>)</p>
<p>F. Memory Verse (with puppets) 10 minutes <i>"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." (John 1:1-2)</i></p> <p>*This is a theme passage for the current series. We will add verse 3 later.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a few questions to recap the series so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Which book of the Bible tells us about how God made the world? <i>Genesis</i> - Where do we find Genesis? <i>At the beginning – it's the first book of the Bible</i> - The Bible tells us that in the very beginning, there was nothing – no mountains or seas, no trees or flowers, no earth or sky, no animals or people, nothing. Only one thing existed – what was it? <i>God</i> 2. <i>Explain:</i> God was the only thing that was there because God has no beginning and no end – He has always existed and always will! 3. <i>Explain:</i> Boys and girls, do you remember how we have been learning that Jesus was with God in the beginning too, helping God to make the world? The same Jesus who came to earth as a tiny baby at Christmas, and who grew up to be a man who died on a cross to save us and make a way for us to get to heaven. We know this because the Bible tells us: (<i>Show verses on screen and read aloud</i>) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." John 1:1-2 ... The Word is Jesus – God's Word of hope to the people on earth. 4. Have the kids repeat the verses a few times with you, as a group and individually. 5. When they are ready, take the verses away and have the kids recite them once or twice altogether. 6. The kids should still be sitting in a circle. You should sit in the middle of the circle to demonstrate the game. 7. <i>Explain:</i> Look at my special memory verse bottle! <i>Show kids an empty plastic soft drink bottle.</i> I'm going to spin the bottle here on the floor in the middle of our circle. When the bottle stops, we will look to see who it's pointing to. Whoever the bottle is pointing to must say the memory verses. Then that person gets to sit in the middle of the circle and spin the bottle. 8. Spin the bottle yourself to show the kids how it's done. Help the child the bottle points at to say the memory verses, and then tell them to move into your place in the centre of the circle. Repeat the game until most, if not all, your kids have had a chance to say the verses. 9. Finish with a group repetition of the verses. 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Memory verse slide (John 1:1-2)</i></p> <p><i>Empty plastic soft drink bottle (decorated if you like)</i></p>

10. Ask kids to put their mats away.	
<p>G. Activity 15 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up tables as workstations. Ask kids to find a space around the tables. 2. Ask kids: What did God make on the fourth day of His creation of the world? <i>The sun, the moon and the stars.</i> What did God make on the fifth day? <i>All the creatures that live in the sea, and all the birds that fly in the sky.</i> 3. Explain: Today we're going to make something that we can take home to remind us of the fourth and fifth days of God's creation of the world. It's a Creation mobile! <i>Show kids your pre-made mobile in demonstration of what they are going to make today.</i> When you take your mobile home today, you can hang it up in your room. It will be an excellent reminder to us that God made the sky, the sun, the moon and the stars, and the birds. 4. Give each child a paper plate with five holes already punched around the bottom of the plate, and one hole already punched in the top centre. 5. Give each child a pre-printed memory verse label. Help kids to stick the memory verse label onto the paper plate. 6. Give each child a length of wool or ribbon and help them tie it through the top centre hole on their plate. This will be the hanging thread. 7. Give each child pre-cut card shapes of the following: 1 sun / 1 moon / 2 stars / 1 bird. The shapes should already have lengths of wool or ribbon attached to them with a staple. 8. Help kids to attach each shape to the paper plate by tying each length of wool or ribbon through each of the five holes around the bottom of the paper plate. 9. When everything has been assembled, encourage kids to colour and decorate the five shapes, as well as the verse on the paper plate. Refer them to your pre-made demonstration model as an example of what they should do. Provide colouring pens and pencils, and any other materials you have, e.g. stickers, feathers, sequins, glitter glue, etc. 10. Have kids hold up their mobiles and admire their work. Ask kids: What did God make on the fourth day of His creation? <i>The sun, the moon and the stars.</i> What did God make on the fifth day? <i>All the creatures that live in the sea, and all the birds that fly in the sky.</i> God made the day and the night, He made the beautiful sky, He made the dry land and the sea, He made all the flowers and plants and trees, He made the sun, the moon and the stars, He made everything that lives in the sea and all the birds of the air ... and He saw that they were good! 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p>Tables</p> <p>Pre-made Creation mobile</p> <p>Paper plates with holes already punched</p> <p>Memory verse labels Glue sticks Lengths of wool or ribbon</p> <p>Pre-cut card shapes with lengths of wool or ribbon already attached</p> <p>Colouring pens/pencils Other materials for decoration</p>
<p>H. Conclusion (with puppets) 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask one boy and one girl if they can recite the memory verse. The puppets / another leader will judge if they deserve a prize. Award the prizes. 2. Sing a song in closing. (Super Strong God) 	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p>Small prizes – bookmarks, stickers, etc.</p> <p>DVD player / projector Song DVD (Hillsong Kids –</p>

3. Close in prayer. Remind kids to come back next week!
4. Make sure kids leave their name tags in the box before they leave.

Super Strong God)

Name tag box

