

## THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 04 January 2009
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** The Creation / Days 1 and 2
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Genesis 1:1-8
- **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 sight to see the beauty of God's creation.
- To lead kids into a prayer time and help them understand that God listens.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Bible
- ✓ Large black sheet of fabric (e.g. a bed sheet)
- ✓ A flashlight
- ✓ Memory verse slide (John 1:1-2)
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Treasure chest
- ✓ Oreo cookies (one for each child)

<p><b>A. Worship through Music (with puppets)</b> <b>10 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing.</li> <li>2. Sing 2 songs together (<i>Royalty / Super Strong God</i>).</li> <li>3. Open in prayer.</li> <li>4. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down.</li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b>  <i>DVD player / projector</i>  <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God)</i></p>
<p><b>B. Message</b> <b>15 minutes</b></p> <p><b>1. Set the scene</b>  Boys and girls, when I was in the kitchen making my breakfast this morning, I heard a lot of noise. It was coming from the direction of the garden. Not a pleasant sound – it was a kerfuffle of squawking! Squawk! Squawk! Squawk! Was there something wrong? Was there a fight taking place on the grass? I rushed to the window to see what was happening. Ah! No need to worry. I started to laugh when I saw about 12 birds fighting over the nuts and seeds we had left out for them on the bird table. Silly birds! I stood there watching them for a while, and then I noticed the lovely green fir trees behind them. Those trees have been growing there for 25 years! Then I looked up at the sky and thought about how big and beautiful and far-reaching it is, that I could never see the beginning or the end of the sky! And I said, "Good morning, God. Thank you for reminding me of the wonderful things you have made, right here in my little garden!" Tell me, boys and girls, tell me something you have seen around you that you think is beautiful. <i>Allow for feedback and discussion to develop.</i> Let's say a prayer and thank God for those beautiful things we have seen (<i>Pray or ask someone to pray, thanking God for His creation</i>).</p> <p><b>2. Tell the story</b>  Boys and girls, today we're going to hear about God's wonderful world that He created for us long, long ago. The Bible tells us, "Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made." (John 1:3) God made everything! Everything! So let's go back to the beginning and find out what happened.</p> <p>Back to the beginning means back to the start of the Bible; back to Genesis, the very first book. And the word <i>genesis</i> means, <i>the beginning or the start</i>. Let's see what the Bible tells us about the beginning of the world. <i>Turn to Genesis 1 and keep your Bible open as you tell the story.</i></p> <p>In the very beginning, before God made anything at all, there was absolutely nothing, except for God. Can you imagine a big empty world with no shape? Let's all sit under the sheet together. We'll try to make it as dark as possible and imagine how it was in the beginning.</p> <p><i>Turn off the lights in the room. Have adult helpers hold the corners of a large black sheet of fabric like a canopy that you can sit under with the children to make the room seem as dark and formless as possible. Take a flashlight with you for later in the story. Continue your story as you sit under the sheet with the</i></p>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b></p> <p><i>Bible</i></p> <p><i>Large black sheet of fabric</i></p> <p><i>Flashlight</i></p>

*kids.*

In the beginning, there was nothing. No mountains or rivers, no places or things, no plants or animals or people? Absolutely nothing! Completely empty! Can you imagine it? No day and night, no yesterday and no tomorrow because there was no time! Just a big, dark, empty space. God was the only thing that was there because God has no beginning and no end – He has always existed and always will! The very first words in the Bible say, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

Now, God didn't just clap His hands together and the beautiful earth appeared with everything there, all in an instant! Oh no! God had a plan. God thought carefully about how He would make things in the best way possible. You see, God is perfect, and so He wanted to make a perfect world. He made everything in His special order. Let's go back to the Bible and see what happened first.

'And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. *Flick on your flashlight.* God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day", and the darkness he called "night". And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.'" (Genesis 1:3-5)

*Flick off your flashlight.* What did God say on the first day? *Encourage kids to answer, 'Let there be light!' Flick on your flashlight.* (Repeat this a few times, having the kids shout out 'Let there be light' louder and louder each time.)

Alright kids, so we know what God made on the first day of the creation of the world – light and darkness, daytime and night time. But He didn't stop there! What happened next? Let's go back to the Bible. 'And God said, "Let there be an expanse (or a big space) between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse (or the big space) and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky". And there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.' (Genesis 1:6-8)

*Have your adult helpers take away the sheet they have been holding over you and the kids.* God made the sky! The same sky I was looking at this morning when the birds were fighting in my garden! Have you ever really looked at the sky? Really looked at it? Can you see the beginning and the end of the sky? Can you reach up and touch it? Have you seen the different colours that the sky can change to? Have you looked at the clouds and tried to make shapes from them? Can you tell what the weather is like by looking at the sky? How? *Initiate some discussion. If the weather is suitable, take the kids outside for a few minutes to look at the sky. If the weather is unsuitable, allow kids to go to a window and look at the sky. Bring them back inside and let them tell you what they could see.*

What did God make on the first day of the creation? Light and



darkness, or daytime and night. What did God make on the second day? Sky. And before that, there was nothing, except for God.

### 3. Explain

Boys and girls, the Bible tells us that Jesus was there with God in the very beginning, helping Him to make the world. How amazing is that? Look at these verses. *Show John 1:1-2 on the screen.* "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." The Word is Jesus, and this tells us that Jesus was with God in the beginning. Thousands of years later, when God's timing was just right, Jesus came to live on earth at Christmas as a little baby who grew up to be a man. Then Jesus went to die for us on a cross to save us from our sin, all the bad things we think and say and do. And that means, if we believe in Jesus that He loves us and saves us, and if we promise to live for Him, then we can live with Him in heaven, forever! How amazing! Jesus was right there in the beginning, He came to live on the earth, and now He's in heaven waiting for us.

Kids, if you haven't made that promise to live for Jesus already, then you know you can do it any time you want to. You just have to say a simple prayer, tell Jesus you're sorry for the bad things you think and say and do, and that you want to have Him as your best friend. If you're part of God's family, then you will go to live with Him in heaven too. I asked Jesus to come and live in my heart a long time ago when I was just a kid, and He's still with me now. So, if you want to live for Jesus, make sure you talk to me, or one of the leaders, today before you go home.

*Memory verse slide (John 1:1-2)*

### C. Prayer Net

**10 minutes**

1. Ask a child to explain what it means when we *pray* – 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.
6. Encourage kids to thank God for creating day and night so that we can work, go to school and learn, and sleep. Thank God too for making the sky – for the colours, for the sun, for the rain in the clouds that makes our plants and trees grow. Thank Jesus for going to the cross to save us.
7. Ask a few kids if they have a prayer to put into the net. As they tell you, write their name and the topic of their prayer on a small card. Ask the child to say a prayer aloud (help them

### **You'll need ...**

*Net (with last week's prayer cards)  
Small cards / postcards  
A pen*

<p>to do so) before they place their card into the prayer net.</p> <p>8. Finish by leading a prayer for the whole group.</p>	
<p><b>D. Conclusion (with puppets) 5 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What did God make on the first day? Day and night. What did God make on the second day? Sky. Let's put the flashlight into the treasure chest to remind us of the first and second days of the creation of the world.</li> <li>2. Ask kids to put their mats away.</li> <li>3. Sing a closing song. <b>(Super Strong God )</b></li> <li>4. Give each child an Oreo cookie. Show them how to separate the cookie carefully. Explain that the side with the cream on it reminds us of how God created the light, while the other plain side reminds us of the darkness.</li> <li>5. Challenge kids to remember to be thankful for their eyes that they can see the light and the dark, the sea and the sky, the beauty of God's creation.</li> <li>6. Remind kids to come back this evening.</li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b></p> <p><i>Flashlight</i></p> <p><i>Treasure chest</i></p> <p><i>DVD player / projector</i></p> <p><i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p> <p><i>Oreo cookies</i></p>

## THE ISLAND cont'd

<b>LEADER</b>	<b>DATE (pm)</b> 04 January 2009
<b>HELPERS</b>	<b>TIME (mins)</b> 40 minutes
<b>PUPPETEER</b>	<b>No. of KIDS (m/f)</b>

### 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 CD sun-catcher.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / laptop / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Memory Verse Task: Slide (John 1:1-2)  
10 large squares of paper/card, each printed with  
a section of the verses (see the Memory  
Verse section below)  
Blu-tack or tape
- ✓ Activity: Tables  
Pre-made sun-catcher (see Activity section below for  
instructions and photos)  
CDs with string/ribbon hangers pre-attached  
CD labels pre-printed with 'Let there be Light' (label template  
included in materials)  
Colouring pens/pencils  
Glue sticks  
Sequins, metallic confetti, stickers, etc  
Craft glue
- ✓ Small prizes (selection of bookmarks, stickers, pencils, etc.)
- ✓ Name tag box

<p><b>E. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing.</li> <li>2. Sing 2 songs together. (<i>Royalty / Super Strong God</i>)</li> <li>3. Open in prayer.</li> <li>4. Kids should remain standing for the following activity.</li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b>  <i>DVD player / projector</i>  <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Super Strong God)</i></p>
<p><b>F. Memory Verse (with puppets) 10 minutes</b></p> <p><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."</i>  <i>(John 1:1-2)</i></p> <p>*This will be a theme passage for the current series. We will add verse 3 later.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ask a few questions to recap the series so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which book of the Bible tells us about how God made the world? <i>Genesis</i></li> <li>- Where do we find Genesis? <i>At the beginning – it's the first book of the Bible</i></li> <li>- 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></li> </ul> </li> <li>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!</li> <li>3. <i>Explain:</i> Boys and girls, do you remember last week we learnt 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.</li> <li>4. Have kids repeat the verses a few times with you, as a group and individually.</li> <li>5. When they are ready, take the verses away and have the kids recite them once or twice altogether.</li> <li>6. Stick 10 large squares of paper or card to the floor with blu-tack or tape in a random pattern around the room, but close enough for the succeeding word card to be reached in a step. On each square should be a pre-written section of the verses as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In the beginning</li> <li>- was the Word,</li> <li>- and the Word</li> <li>- was with God,</li> <li>- and the Word</li> <li>- was God.</li> <li>- He was</li> <li>- with God</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p><b>You'll need ...</b></p> <p><i>Memory verse slide</i>  <i>(John 1:1-2)</i></p> <p><i>10 large squares of paper/card, each printed with a section of the verses</i>  <i>Blu-tack or tape</i></p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- in the beginning.</li> <li>- John 1:1-2</li> </ul> <p>Instruct kids, one at a time, or in pairs, to step on one word card at a time in the correct order, reciting the verses as they step on each card. Repeat until each child has stepped on and recited the verses.</p> <p>7. Finish with a group repetition of the verses.</p> <p>8. Remove word cards from the floor.</p> <p><b>Idea:</b> After the session, you could write the memory verse onto a sheet of card to make a poster for your room. This will add to your decoration as well as reminding kids of the Bible concept. Then you can also refer to it in later sessions of this series.</p>	
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<b>G. Activity</b>	<b>15 minutes</b>	<b>You'll need ...</b>
<p><b>Sun Catcher</b> idea adapted from craft at <a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com">www.daniellesplace.com</a></p> <p><i>Before the lesson, glue a length of string or ribbon to one side of a blank, unprinted compact disc. Make one for each child. The string or ribbon will act as the hanger for the sun-catcher decoration.</i></p>		
1. Set up tables as workstations for kids to stand around.		Tables
2. Ask kids: What did God make on the first day? <i>Light and darkness, or daytime and night, and the sky.</i>		
3. Explain: Today we're going to make something that we can take home to remind us of the first day of God's creation of the world. It's a sun-catcher! Show kids your pre-made sun-catcher model in demonstration of what they are going to make today. When you take your sun-catcher home today, you can hang it up in your room. When the sun shines through your window, the light will bounce off the CD and make lots of beautiful colours in your room. It will be an excellent reminder to us that God made the light and darkness, and the sky.		Pre-made sun-catcher
4. Give each child a CD with the string or ribbon hanger already attached.		CDs with string/ribbon hangers pre-attached
5. Give each child two small pieces of paper pre-printed with the words, 'Let there be Light!'		Pre-printed CD labels
6. Provide colouring pens and pencils and encourage kids to colour the CD labels.		Colouring pens/pencils
7. Help kids to stick their labels with glue to the centre of the CD, one label on each side of the disc.		Glue
8. Set out some dishes of sequins, metallic confetti and stickers. Allow kids to decorate their sun-catchers. Help them to stick the decorations with craft glue (you may need to have adult helpers apply the glue if it is strong adhesive).		Sequins, metallic confetti, stickers, etc Craft glue
9. Have kids hold up their sun-catchers and admire their work. Ask kids: What did God say on the first day of creation? <i>Let there be light!</i> God made the day and the night, and then He		



made the beautiful sky ... and He saw that they were good!		
<b>H. Conclusion (with puppets)</b> 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. Ask kids to hold hands and sing <i>Jesus Loves Me</i> (first verse and chorus) <i>a cappella</i> , or with an instrument if preferred. 3. Close in prayer. Remind kids to come back next week to find out what God made next! 4. Make sure kids leave their name tags in the box before they leave.	<b>5 minutes</b>	<b>You'll need ...</b> <i>Small prizes – bookmarks, stickers, etc.</i>  <i>Name tag box</i>



