

**GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM**  
**Primary Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 1**  
**First Day of Creation (Genesis 1:1-5)**

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. The Lord is the beginning of everything. He created heaven and earth.
- B. The Word is the Lord's revelation to us of all that we need to know about our Creator and our relation to Him.
- C. The whole Word is a parable written in the language of correspondences.
- D. "The laws of order prescribed for man are that man should acquire for himself truths from the Word, and think of them naturally, and *so far as he can*, rationally, and thus procure for himself natural faith. The laws of order on the part of God then are, that He should approach, fill the truths with His Divine light, and thus fill with the Divine Essence man's natural faith, which is only knowledge and persuasion. Thus, and not otherwise, is saving faith produced" (TCR 73:2).

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the Story
  - 1. The Word is different from all the other books in the world. Do you know why? (The Lord is the Author, the One who wrote it.)
  - 2. Why did the Lord give us the Word? (So He could tell us all about Himself and about the things we need to know so we can go to heaven when we die.)
  - 3. The first book of the Word is called (does anybody know?) Genesis, which means "the beginning."
  - 4. Our lesson today is from the book of Genesis and it is about "the beginning" of something. Listen while I read it to you.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
  - 1. Genesis 1:1-5.
- C. Ideas to Discuss
  - 1. Who made the heavens and the earth? (The Lord)
  - 2. When did He make them? ("In the beginning")
  - 3. What book of the Word tells us about the beginning of the world? (Genesis)
  - 4. What does "Genesis" mean? (The beginning)
  - 5. What was the earth like when it was first created? ("Without form, and void")

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6. Why do you suppose the Lord made the light first? (We can't see without light; nothing grows without light)
7. Why do you think the Lord separated the light from the darkness? (We need the light, the day, to do our work and play; we need the nighttime, too. It's a time to rest, to think about what we have done or what we should do.)

### D. Further Ideas

1. Do you think the Lord made the heavens and the earth all at once? (No, He made them in steps, or stages; and each one of these steps or stages of creation is called a DAY.)
2. When we are born, are we fully grown? No, we grow in steps, or stages - in our bodies, and in our minds:

Newborn infant  
Toddler  
Child  
Youth  
Young adult  
Older adult

3. Is each one of these stages just 1 day long? Just as the steps or stages of our lives take more than one day each, so the stages or days of creation were long periods of time.
4. The story of creation is really a parable. Do you know what a parable is? (A story with a hidden meaning) What do you think the hidden meaning might be?
5. Each day in the creation story really describes a new step in growing up. The 6 days of creation picture 6 steps or stages in our spiritual growing up: the first day is when we are in complete ignorance (darkness) about spiritual things, and the last day is when we are finally able to know and worship the Lord (like the angels).

## III. Enrichment Activities

### A. Music

1. "And God said, 'Let there be light,'" FIRST SONGS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN, p. 24 (first verse)
2. "This is the day that the Lord has made," LAUREL SONGBOOK #50 (copy attached)
3. "This is the day that the Lord hath made," FIRST SONGS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN, p. 22
4. "The Lord created you and me," LORI'S SONGS II (tape). Side 2

### B. Activities

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- C. Projects for the First Day of Creation
  - 1. Night and Day Spiral (see enclosed description)
  - 2. Night and Day Picture (see enclosed description)
  
- D. Cumulative Projects (*continued over 7 Sunday School lessons on Creation*)
  - 1. Creation Poster: As students learn about each day of the creation story, they picture what was created on individual posters or a group mural. With the final lesson, the poster will be filled with the Lord's creations. (See detailed explanation, attached.)
  - 2. Creation Collage Book: This project is described in the enclosed excerpt from *Art in Education* by Beth Johns. Each page of the book is a collage representing one day of creation.
  - 3. Folding Screen: Same as collage book, but tape the pages together to create a folding screen-like decoration. (See attached "Variations on Creation Project".)
  - 4. Diorama
    - a. Backdrop on poster board with play dough/salt ceramic/plasticine figures of animals and people set in front.
    - b. Diorama that can be taken apart and then used again to act out the 7 days of creation one day at a time. (*See following lessons on 7 days of creation.*)

### IV. Teaching Aids

### V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's Bible Study Notes, Vol. I, "The Creation - A General View," Genesis 1; 2:1-3; "The Creation - The First Four Days," Genesis 1:1-19.
  
- B. The Sower, Vol. I, "The Five Books of Moses," (pp. 1-4); "The Creation," Genesis 1 (pp. 5-12).

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 1

### Creation Projects for the First Day

#### I. Night and Day Spiral

##### A. Materials needed for each child:

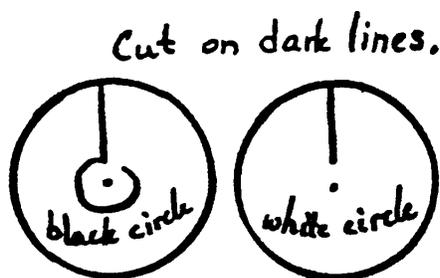
1. construction paper, black and white
2. paper fasteners
3. scissors
4. text slip: "God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night."

##### B. Motivation:

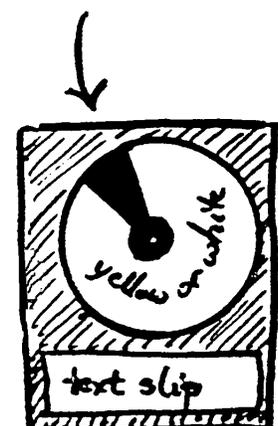
1. We are going to make a night and day spiral to represent the first day of creation when the Lord divided the light from the darkness.

##### C. Procedure:

1. Cut identical circles of white and black construction paper. (You might want to use plates, bowls or large lids to help make the circles.)
2. Put the dark circle of paper over the light circle. Fasten the circles together in the center with a paper fastener.
3. Cut slits in both circles. (See diagram) Now cut part way around a small circle drawn around the center of the dark circle. This will allow the "day" to cover the "night" and back again, to represent the division of night and day.
4. Show students how to make the spiral work.
5. Glue text slip on the back of the white circle.



Could also  
be mounted  
on 9"x12"  
paper.



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### II. Night and Day Picture

#### A. Materials needed for each child:

1. a piece of construction paper, 9"x12" or 12"x18".
2. tissue paper or construction paper of light and dark colors appropriate for "night" and "day".
3. glue sticks
4. text slip: (see above)

#### B. Motivation:

1. The Lord made the night and the day, dividing light and darkness. Let's make a beautiful picture of light and darkness, divided.

#### C. Procedure:

1. Draw a line on your paper to divide the space in half.
2. Glue torn dark paper or tissue to color the half that represents darkness. Use the light colors of paper or tissue for the light half.
3. Glue text slip on front or back of project.

**Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 1**

*From Art in Education by Beth Johns*

**THE DAYS OF CREATION**

A Collage Book

(each page representing one day)

*Optional: Tape the pages together to create a long, folding screen-like book or decoration.*

- First Day: Torn paper bits of many toned light and dark papers. The children actually separate the light from the dark, and then paste them to the background.
- Second Day: Torn paper bits of metallic and tissue papers for sky and water, separated and pasted as before.
- Third Day: Torn paper pieces in earth tones and greens creating scene for dry land and growing things.
- Fourth Day: Gold paper sun, silver paper moon cut and pasted on black with many sticker stars added.
- Fifth Day: Bright paper, birds and fish cut out and pasted against pale blue. Blue cellophane covering lower part of page for sea.
- Sixth Day: Many cut-paper shapes of animals and people.
- Seventh Day: Simple red and white background representing Love and Wisdom at rest. Suitable quotation carefully copied in best printing.
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**Creation Story Mural**

Rendered in collage materials similar to the above on several large panels for a school decoration. It is much more elaborate detail by older children.

Note: the above projects are deliberately described in very sketchy terms to give plenty of latitude for development by individual teachers. Very often, especially for the Christmas projects, glitter, sequins, and other bits of special material have been offered. This adds an exciting touch and makes the product seem more worthy as a gift. It should be emphasized once more that all of these projects work only when the children's affections are aroused so they relive the episode almost as if it were their own experience. "Let's show how the Wise Men held their gifts with both hands because they were the most precious things they could bring to the Lord." "Think how desperate Peter must have felt when he began to sink in the water and how the Lord's strong arms reached forward to help him." "Just imagine the magnificence of that shining golden city coming down from God out of heaven!" If the inspiration is vivid and immediate the children's work will powerfully show their response.

“God divided the light from the darkness.  
God called the light Day, and the darkness  
He called Night.” (Genesis 1:4-5)

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