

# GCG - Sunday School - 3rd September 2023

## Lesson Outline



**Series:** Three-part series in Genesis 1-3  
**Passage:** Genesis 1:1 – 2:3  
**Big Idea:** God created the whole world and everything in it from nothing, by speaking words.  
**Main Aim:** Trust that God alone made everything and that it was good.

### Before starting prep

Please pray for the lesson preparation, for yourself and for the children, that we would all be built up by the amazing truth we'll see in God's word.

### Laptop Check

Unless you are at the Greenwich service, you will need to bring a laptop to play the videos and songs in this lesson outline. If needed, Jonny can provide a laptop.

**Additional resources:** [Mustard seeds lesson plan](#), [GCG Sunday School Google Drive](#)

### Welcome the children and pray

- This is a good time to connect with the children briefly.
  - You could ask them a simple question: What was the best thing they ate/did this week?
- Begin the lesson with a prayer.
  - Let's listen to what God has to say to us today.

### Introductory idea

*What sort of things does God make?*

We're going to think about where everything came from: you, me, rocks, plants, animals, everything!  
God created the whole world and everything in it from nothing, by speaking words.

Ask the following questions as you like:

Have you ever made something, like a drawing, a cake, or a sandcastle?

How did you make it? How long did it take?

Was it easy or hard? Do you still have it at home, or has it gone?

Do you think you could make something out of nothing?

Do you think you could make something by speaking?

Shall we try now? Say: "Make a cake!" It doesn't work very well...

And yet that is what God did.

In the Bible, God's word, it describes how God made everything.

God created the whole world and everything in it from nothing, by speaking words.

Using a laptop, show this video:

▶ Planet Earth II: Official Extended Trailer | BBC Earth

Wow! The Earth and everything in it is amazing!  
We're going to see how God did it in today's true story.

### Main teaching - Teaching the Big Idea and Main Aim.

Have a Bible open throughout, and feel free to read portions of it out word for word or paraphrase, so they see that the story comes from God's word, and not from our heads.

Repeat the Big Idea throughout.

- Sailors

*Tell the creation story.*

Start with the story summary: Genesis 1:1

Problem: Genesis 1:2, formless and void. But the Spirit was there.

Cycle through the 6 days emphasising:

- Incredible power of God speaking creation into existence.
- God alone does the making, nothing/no one else.
- What God made was (very) good.

Place the images provided into a line or grid-like pattern on the floor/ board.

Day 1: Light and dark.	Day 2: Waters below and waters above.	Day 3: Waters and land + plants.
Day 4: Lights to fill light and dark.	Day 5: Creatures to fill waters below and waters above.	Day 6: Animals, man and woman to fill and keep the land.

Day 7: Genesis 2:1-3

A fun quiz for the children:

On which day did God make the... fish!? The plants? The moon?

Repeat the Big Idea and Main Aim.

- Officers - Mini Bible study. Read through the Bible text with them, draw up this grid on paper, and have them fill it in.

How did God make the earth and everything in it then? Let's look at the Bible.

Have a child/children read Genesis 1:1-2:3.

Can you draw this grid and fill it in?

For each day, try to draw what God made!

What's not quite right at the beginning? Genesis 1:2

Formless, what does this mean?	Day 1.	Day 2.	Day 3.
Void, what does this mean?	Day 4.	Day 5.	Day 6.

*Answers*

Formless (i.e. everything mixed together, God separates)	Day 1: Light and dark.	Day 2: Waters below and waters above.	Day 3: Waters and land + plants.
Void (everything empty, God fills)	Day 4: Lights to fill light and dark.	Day 5: Creatures to fill waters below and waters above.	Day 6: Animals, man and woman to fill and keep the land.

Repeat the Big Idea and Main Aim.

### Game

Give each child (or small group of children) a couple of sheets of newspaper, sticky tape and scissors and tell them they have 5/10 minutes to make an animal, bird or flower.

Once the objects have been completed, the children take turns showing their creations to the group. Can the group guess what has been created?

If an animal has been made, the child can make noises to help the others guess.

But could the children have made their objects without any materials to start with?

No, our God alone made everything from nothing.

### Further application - What would it look like to believe the Main Aim?

Think through with the children what the Main Aim implies for us as we live.

- Sailors - This is really good news.

Today and tomorrow at school, we can all remember that God is in control of this world.

- Think about the greatness, power and majesty of a God who is able to bring the entire universe into existence by simply speaking words.
- We might be little creatures, but God made us.
- Take a moment to think about something wonderful that God has made. Think about its intricate design and purpose.
- We should praise God that he is the all-powerful Creator of the universe.

- Officers - This is really good news.

Today and tomorrow at school, we can all remember that God is in control of this world.

- No matter what happens, we know we have an all-powerful God.
- We know that he alone is in charge.
- Our God is so powerful, he does whatever he wants.
- We might feel small, but God made us and cares about us.
- We should praise God that he is the all-powerful Creator of the universe.

### Activities - Craft or worksheet

- Sailors - Mustard Seeds activity B. Making a "Creation sphere".

Cut the page into strips and punch holes at every X.

The children colour in the pictures. Stack all eight strips with pictures facing up and place a paper fastener through each set of holes. Bend the stack with the pictures facing outwards to form a 'C' shape. Fan the strips out to form a sphere.

Attach a piece of thread to the top paper fastener.

All materials are provided in the Sunday school box.

- Officers - Adapted Mustard Seeds worksheet.

Have them work through the questions in their own time.

There are some complicated words at the end to stretch those who are able to see how the Bible contradicts other philosophies.

Pantheism - Everything is God, you, me, trees, the sea, the sky. (No! The Bible says that God and creation are different and distinct, God made the trees.)

Dualism - The universe has 2 or more Gods fighting it out, the universe is a result of their ongoing battle. (No! Genesis shows there is 1 clear, uncontested King of the Universe, he does what he wants. Psalm 115:3.)

Atheism - God isn't real. (NO!!! God is the source of all things and he is good!)

This should help equip them for school.

### **Quick application recap**

Remind them of the Big Idea and Main Aim.

Remind them of the goodness of these truths. We can trust our uncontested God.

### **Song**

- You will need to talk through the words and actions for the songs before singing.

- Sailors -  [Just the Way God Wanted Us to Be \[Official Video\]](#)

Lyrics -

<https://sovereigngracemusic.org/music/songs/just-the-way-god-wanted-us-to-be/>


I'm unsure about the lyric "But Adam, he was incomplete", but I think it's fine.

Song actions - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMYuQW2j-Dg>

**I suggest that we change the following actions:**

- Introduction and interludes - Feel free to do something less cheesy.
- During the chorus lyrics, for example at 1:00,  
"He made us boys, he made us girls"  
I'd suggest that while girls point to the boys, or vice versa, the mentioned gender jumps and puts their hands in the air, instead of the suggested boy/ girl actions in the video.


- Officers - I think this would be really fun for them to learn and perform sometime!! Maybe at the weekend away.

 [God Made Me and You \(Official Audio\)](#)

### **Memory verse**

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. Revelation 4:11

[Ideas for learning the memory verse.](#) I will provide the verse on laminated paper with Blu Tack.

- Sailors - It would be fun to learn using this song:  
 Revelation 4:11 Song  
 Actions are available on a separate video that I'll make.
- Officers - If capable, they can come up with a rap/ spoken word for the verse.  
 They can rap and improve it each week.

## Pray

Encourage the children to pray with you about the Big Idea and Main Aim.

Or, what is one thing in God's creation that is amazing? Let's thank God for what he has made.

- Sailors - You could ask for hands up/ thumbs up for those who would like to pray, or you could try the idea we use with Officers.
- Officers - You could pass an object, like a Bible, around the room. When a child receives the Bible, they can choose to pray in their head or aloud.

## Sign out with Take Home Sheets

- While signing out with Rollcall, Take Home sheets will be provided to carers and parents about the children's lesson.

## Final notes

The following items will be printed for you and brought to the lesson:

- Main teaching: pictures for each day.
- Activities: Sailors craft and Officers worksheets.
- Memory verse, laminated
- Take Home Sheets

Additional materials will be available:

- Craft materials