Story: Days of Creation*

Background Scripture: Genesis 1

YOU WILL NEED: Signs that say: Light, Darkness, Water, Water (each class will need 2 "Water" signs), Land, Sea, Stars, Sun, Moon, Birds, Sea Creatures, Land Animals, What Else?

Days of Creation

SAY: Today we're going to learn about how God created the world and to do this I'm going to need several volunteers. And be listening for the hidden hint for today's riddle.

<u>Choose 6 volunteers</u>—Give them the following signs representing the first three days of creation: <u>Light, Darkness, Water, Water, Land, Sea</u>. Then set the <u>Light</u> and <u>Dark</u> volunteers several feet to your right, the two <u>Water</u> volunteers in the middle with a chair, and the <u>Land</u> and <u>Sea</u> volunteers several feet to your left.

DAY 1

REPEAT: Everybody say, "Day 1."

READ from the location of the Day 1 volunteers—Light and Darkness. Have these volunteers stand right next to each other: The Bible says, "Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. 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..." Who wants to make a guess? "... 'Night.' And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day."

SAY: On Day 1—Everybody say, "Day 1."

SAY: God created light and separated the light from the darkness. Push the Light and Darkness volunteers apart and leave about enough room for three other students.

DAY 2

REPEAT: Everybody say, "Day 2." (Challenge them to do it louder if they're quiet.)

READ from the location of the Day 2 volunteers—Water and Water: The Bible says, "And God said, 'Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.' So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse..." Who wants to make a guess? "...'sky.' And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day."

SAY: On Day 2—Everybody say, "Day 2."

SAY: God separated the waters—some on the earth and some above the earth. *Have one of the Waters stand on a chair, the other sit on the floor beneath.*

DAY 3

REPEAT: Everybody say, "Day 3."

READ from the location of the Day 3 volunteers—Earth and Sea: The Bible says, "And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.' And it was so. God called the dry ground..." Who wants to make a guess? "...'land,' and the gathered waters he called..." Who wants to make a guess? "...'seas,' ...And God saw that it was good..." Then God created vegetation on the land. "And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day."

SAY: On Day 3—Everybody say, "Day 3."

SAY: God separated the land and sea and made vegetation (i.e., plants and trees) on the land. *Separate the Land and Sea volunteers a few feet apart.*

QUICK REVIEW

Quickly review Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3—i.e., On Day 1 God separated the light from the darkness, on Day 2 God separated the waters on the earth and the waters above and made the sky, and on Day 3 God separated the land and the sea and made vegetation like plants and trees.

<u>Choose 6 more volunteers</u> —Give them the following signs representing days four through six of creation: <u>Stars, Moon, Sun.</u> (Have these students stand behind the students representing Day 1.) <u>Bird, Sea Creatures</u> (Have these students stand behind the students representing Day 2.) <u>Land Animals, What Else?</u> (Have these students stand behind the students representing Day 3.) (**NOTE**: If you don't have this many students, then some will need to have more than one part. Choose a volunteer from Day 1 to have a sign for Day 4 (i.e., <u>Stars, Moon, Sun.</u>), choose someone from Day 2 to have a sign for Day 5 (i.e., <u>Birds, Sea Creatures</u>), or choose a student from Day 3 to have a sign for Day 6, (i.e., <u>Land Animals, What Else?</u>)

DAY 4

REPEAT: Everybody say, "Day 4." (If they're getting distracted, have a quick competition to see if the girls or boys can say "Day 4" the loudest.)

READ from the location of the Day 1 and 4 volunteers: The Bible says, "And God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night...God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day..." What's that? (The Sun) "And the lesser light to govern the night." What's that? (The Moon) "He also made the stars...And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day."

SAY: On Day 4—Everybody say, "Day 4."

SAY: God made the Sun, the Moon, and the stars. Move the Sun, Moon, and Stars volunteers between the Light and Darkness volunteers. Remember God separate them on day one, which means that there was day and night before the sun and moon!

DAY 5

REPEAT: Everybody say, "Day 5." (If they're getting distracted, have a quick competition between Day 1 and 4 vs. Day 2 and 5 vs. Day 3 and 6.)

READ from the location of the Day 2 and 5 volunteers: The Bible says, "And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky...And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day."

SAY: On Day 5—Everybody say, "On Day 5 / God made birds / and water creatures / that are alive!"

Have the Birds volunteers sit on the chair with a Water volunteer standing behind him. Have the Sea Creatures volunteer sit on the floor with the other Water volunteer.

DAY 6

REPEAT: Everybody say, "Day 6." (If they're getting distracted, have them all shout as loud as they can to disturb the classes next to them.)

READ from the location of the Day 3 and 6 volunteers: The Bible says, "And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals...And God saw that it was good."

SAY: On the count of three have everyone sit back down in the circle except for the What Else? volunteer. Have him stand next to you. Ready...1-2-3...Go!

SAY: On Day 6 God made all the land animals, but What Else did He make?

READ: "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish or the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground...God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the..." What day?

"...the sixth day."

Control Tool

Leader: *What are you?* / Students: *I'm Special! SAY*: You're special because you were made in the likeness of God Himself.

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