

creation

Play on the Word - Creation

Thanks for downloading this Creation play-resource! I hope you find it helpful as you and your family discover more and more about our amazing God.

Please use the content in any way that is helpful to you - feel free to pick and choose stories and play ideas or tweak and embellish what is here. The idea is that this makes things easier for you!

There is a lot here! Don't imagine that our family will be managing to do every play idea and completing every craft suggestion! I've included plenty so that there is hopefully something your child will enjoy. Again, feel free to change things so they work better for your children's ages and preferences.

In this resource pack you will find...

The stories

I've included two different stories. One super-simple one which works brilliantly for very little ones and a longer story which covers the days of creation in more detail.

Last summer we did the simple story for every Bible time throughout the holidays - it worked really well and I'll use it again this year. You may prefer to do the longer story or just tell a section of the longer story which applies to the play you are doing.

Story-telling ideas

I've suggested ways you could tell each story creatively. Using actions, props and an interesting voice really helps our children engage and gives them additional ways of understanding what's being said and of getting involved! If you want some examples of how we told the simple creation story last summer, search for "creation story video" or "creation it's how we tell em" on the blog!

A Creation song

For our family, songs seem to work better than anything when it comes to effective teaching and learning. My children remember them, enjoy them and have fun with them! I've included a song which you can try with your children as an additional way of sharing the story and aiding their memories.

Play ideas

I've prepared this resource with the long summer holidays in mind! As you look through, you'll see the play ideas are set out in the order of the days of creation and split into sections like 'birds', 'animals', 'sun, moon and stars' - this is partly because some days in the creation narrative are busier than others!

This play resource is flexible enough to work around you and your family. You may only have a week off in the summer, in which case you can do edited highlights of the play ideas! Or you may be going away or have a holiday club which will affect what you get done. Don't worry if you miss bits - it's meant to be fun and it's not

school! Plus, you can't account for the days your children are grumpy or ill and the days where you welcome unannounced visitors or have to shop for new school uniform!

Visit the Play on the Word blog

Please become a regular visitor at the blog (www.playontheword.com) and the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/playontheword). I'll be sharing our progress (and disasters!) throughout the summer. Visit the site for book recommendations and extra ideas for songs and play. There will also be more detailed explanations and how-to's for some of the craft ideas, plus videos of us doing our story. One of the good things about a blog is the way it can become a little community where ideas are shared, frustration vented, encouragement doled out - so do comment if you'd like to! And, if you see something you like - tell a friend!

Have fun!

I cannot stress enough that this is designed with the one intention of making life easier for you as you share Jesus with your kids! No-one will check up on you or tell you off if you've not done as much as you have intended! Enjoy time with your kids and have fun playing and getting to know our great God better!

A simple Creation story

When it was dark , God made light!

God made the sky.

God made dry land and wet water.

God made flowers and trees and they grew, and grew, and GREW!

God made the bright sun, the glowing moon and the twinkling stars.

God made the fish!

God made the birds!

God made all the animals!

Then, best of all, God made people like you and me.

“Finished!”, God said. “It’s GREAT!”.

Wow! God made everything!

Another Creation story

God made the whole world! Day one.

To start with it was empty and dark. But God was there.

God said, "light".

God said it and there it was - bright and colourful!

"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The light is good!"

That was day one.

God made the whole world! Day two.

God said, "sky".

God said it and there it was - so big and high you can't see where it ends!

That was day two.

God made the whole world! Day three.

Everything was covered by water.

God said, "dry land".

God said it and there it was - dry land bursting out from the wet sea!

"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The land is good!"

But God hadn't finished yet!

God said, "plants and trees".

God said it and there they were - they grew and grew and grew!

"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The plants and trees are good!"

That was day three.

God made the whole world! Day four.

There was nothing in the sky.

God said, "sun, moon and stars"

God said it and there they were - shining, glowing and twinkling! Every day and every night of every year.

"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The sun, moon and stars are good!"

That was day four.

God made the whole world! Day five.

The seas were empty!

God said, "sea creatures".

God said it and there they were! Swimming and splashing, giant and tiny, beautiful, funny and wonderful!

"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The sea creatures are good!"

The trees were empty!

God said, "birds".

God said it and there they were! Flying and flapping, tall and teeny, beautiful, funny and wonderful!

"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The birds are good!"

That was day five.

God made the whole world. Day six.

The seas had fish, the trees had birds but the land was empty!

God said, "animals".

God said it and there they were! Crawling and jumping. Scampering and slinking. Roaring and squeaking. Enormous and weeny. Beautiful, funny and wonderful!
"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The animals are good!"

God made the whole world.
There was just one thing missing.
God said, "people".
God said it and there they were! God's best thing yet! They ate from the trees and plants and took care of the world God had made.
"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The people are good!"
That was day six.

On day seven there was nothing left to do. God had finished!
God made the whole world.
"Yes!" said God, "Just right! The world is very good! - I love it!"

Story-telling ideas

Have fun telling the stories in an interactive way! Use plenty of expression, animal noises, actions and excited faces. Try pausing to allow your child to join in with the next word. Take it slowly, have fun and when you finish, be ready for your children to shout "AGAIN"!!!

I've come up with some suggestions you might like to try, I'm sure you have lots of ideas of your own too! It's worth getting some props together in advance and putting them in a bag so they're ready each time. It's fun to let your children play with the props and retell the story themselves.

We tell our Bible stories at teatime, while our kids are all in one place. Choose a time and place that works well for your family. Have fun!

Dark and light - cover eyes and then move your hand when you mention light.

Sky - stretch up high!

Land and sea - get some stones or a tile and touch them when you talk about land. Use a water spray or a dish with water in to spray or splash when you mention the sea/water.

Plants and trees - look at and touch a pot-plant or flowers or make a tree that grows as suggested in the play ideas.

Sun, moon and stars - use a torch for the sun, shine it on a white paper plate or circle cut from silver card to act as the moon and then shine it on glittery or glow-in-the-dark stars.

Sea creatures - use your hands to represent fish swimming through the water or make fishy faces at each other.

Birds - use feathers and flap them and tickle your child with them.

Animals - use small farm animal figures or point at pictures in a favourite animal book. Make the noises of the animals you see.

People - point to each other and say each other's names, look at photos of family members.

Rest/finished - make big satisfied sighs and give big cheers!

Creation song

(To the tune of 'Twinkle, twinkle little star')

When it was dark God made the light.
He made the day, he made the night.
God made the sky, stretch so high.
He made the wet sea and the land so dry.
Our God made everything.
It makes me smile, it makes me sing!

In the sky God put some lights.
The sun for day and the moon at night.
Oh and don't forget the stars,
And brilliant planets like Venus and mars.
Our God made everything.
It makes me smile, it makes me sing!

For the land God made the trees
He made fish for the seas.
He made birds that soar and flap
He made animals that roar and snap.
Our God made everything.
It makes me smile, it makes me sing!

God made people best of all
He made us big he made us small.
After that the job was done.
A wonderful world for everyone.
Our God made everything.
It makes me smile, it makes me sing!