



Discovering About God

OVERVIEW

GodSpace is about providing a safe place (physically, emotionally, psychologically, educationally and spiritually) for children where God can be discovered and experienced.

The purpose of this unit is to provide opportunity for the children to discover the foundations of the Christian faith. We would like to guide the children to explore that God does exist and created a perfect world with the first humans. However, we see how things went wrong when the first humans went against God. Yet God continues to care and loves us and Jesus was God here on earth, born like us, as a baby, whom God sent to put things right and that they (we) as children are very precious to God.

We trust that getting a glimpse of God's Big Story at the start of the year will provide a firm foundation for later lessons and help your group see the relevance of the teaching for their lives.

AIM

- To introduce the children to idea that a loving God does exist and is the creator, protector, one who cares and knows all about us.
- To encourage the children to understand how important they are to God.

LESSON OUTLINES

Lesson 1	Welcome to GodSpace	
Lesson 2	Who is God?	Genesis 1:1; Psalm 139:1-5
Lesson 3	God Made the World	Genesis 1 - 2:4
Lesson 4	God Made Everyone Special	Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:13-14
Lesson 5	God and People Together	Genesis 2:9,15-17; 3:1-13, 20-24
Lesson 6	God Kept a Promise and Sent Jesus	Isaiah 7:14, 9:6-7; Luke 1: 26-38, 2:1-7
Lesson 7	Who is Jesus?	John 14:1-11, 17:25-26
Lesson 8	God is One Who Cares	Luke 15:3-6

SUGGESTED SONGS

- Song 1** **Great Big God**
Nigel & Jo Hemming
© 2001 Vineyard (UK/Erie)
- Song 2** **God Thinks You're Great**
Kevin Fitzgerald & Peter Barnett
© 2010 The Shed
- Song 3** **Lovingly and Wonderfully Made**
Nigel & Jo Hemming
© 2003 Vineyard (UK/Erie)
- Song 4** **God Made the Chickens**
Holly-Joy Petty, Jessie Taylor, Brendan Petty,
Ruth Van Leerdam
© 2006 Snack Music

Lesson 2

underlying
VALUE
Reliability

HOT teaching tip

Model a Positive Attitude

The children will learn a lot from your attitude. Because you are representing God to them, they will tend to think God's attitude towards them is like yours, so try at all times to treat them as God would. Be loving but firm, respect their ideas and opinions while at the same time pointing them towards Christian truth as revealed in the Bible.

Teacher's Notes

Who is God?

Genesis 1:1; Psalm 139:1-5

the **BIG** idea

Get ready to discover GodSpace, where God can be experienced. God is everywhere but we'll explore who God is more intentionally in GodSpace lessons.

lesson **AIM**

To help the children understand that God, as creator of everything, is always near.

learning **OUTCOME**

The children will begin to understand that God is always near.

INSIDE the story

This lesson sets out to establish who we are going to look at and get to know over the year. Christianity is all about relationship. The children will understand that fact better if you take the time to relate to them as individuals, difficult as that is in a large group. Make an effort to get to know their names. The 'getting to know you' activities in this unit will help you. There are additional getting to know you games on the Power Tools USB (In Games Folder).

Explain that we start at the beginning - where it all started. Show your Bible and the first verse that mentions God and what God did.

Not only did God create us, he loves us all, as the psalmist talks about God knowing us and being near us, as one who cares.

Keep in mind that not all children will understand or agree that God is significant. Be patient, listen, gently respond to their questions and/comments.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

LESSON 2

start

Introductions (4-5min)

Introduce yourself again, saying something new about your family, pets, favourite food or life that might interest the children.

Show photos of these things if you have some. Make it interactive E.g. If you talk about a pet, ask children with a pet to raise their hands.

Show your Bible and explain that God is an important part of your life and you hope that as they grow up God will be part of their life too – because God is wonderful!

Ask: Who knows something about God? (*Accept short comments*)

Name Game (5-8min)

See Lesson Tools L2 Name Game

get into

Story: God is Here (6-7min)

Use story telling pictures – A25-26; B1; R25-26; T1, 40; Z15; Background 1 (*B1 grass*) or Power Point L2 and outline to illustrate.

Say: Zori was five years old. He was very clever for a five year old, but sometimes he'd get scared when there was really nothing to worry about at all. One day he was in the back garden and he thought he saw a tiger behind one of the bushes. He knew there were no tigers in his country so he must have made a mistake but he still wanted someone big with him.

'Mum!' he screamed.

'I'm here Zori,' she called out.

'Phew,' thought Zori, 'Mum's here after all. I feel better now.'

The next day Zori thought he saw a camel, a very big one, crouch down behind the fence. He knew he probably made a mistake, but still he was scared to be there alone.

'Mum!' he screamed 'Quick!'

'It's OK Zori, I'm here,' Mum called back.

When he went to bed at night Zori's mum would always tell him she was just in the next room and he was quite safe no matter what he imagined but sometimes he wasn't sure he believed her.

'Mum?' he'd call out once or twice, just to make sure she was still there. And she was always there when she said she would be.

By the time Zori was six he was even cleverer than when he was five. He believed his mum when she said she'd be nearby, even when Zori couldn't see her. And he almost never called out for his Mum any more. Except the time he thought he saw a massive Tyrannosaurus Rex jump down behind the car.

Ask: Why do you think Zori liked to know his mum was near when he was scared? (*Accept answers*).

Say: God loves us even more than the best mum or dad in the world and he's always with us. Always. God is very reliable. One who cares for us and can be trusted. We can't see him, ever. But he's always close by.

Read Psalm 139:1-5 and explain that the Bible teaches us that God is always with us and wants to protect us. God is one we can rely on too.

Continue: When we meet together this will be a time when we'll look at the Bible (*show Bible again*) and learn more about God and other people who knew God.

Like the Wind (2-3min)

Say: Put your hand up if you have even seen trees move?

Ask: What do you think causes that? (*Accept answers – directing them to say the wind*).

Say: God is like the wind. Although we can't see God we can see what God has done and is doing. Genesis 1:1 tells us that God created the whole world and is in control of it all.

go for

Song (2-3min)

Listen to the song 'Great Big God' (*Song 1*).

You might like to project the words using the PowerPoint Song 1 'Great Big God' from the Power Tools.

Discoverers Worksheet (10-12min)

Complete the activities. Emphasising that God is always near.

Who is God?

REQUIRED RESOURCES

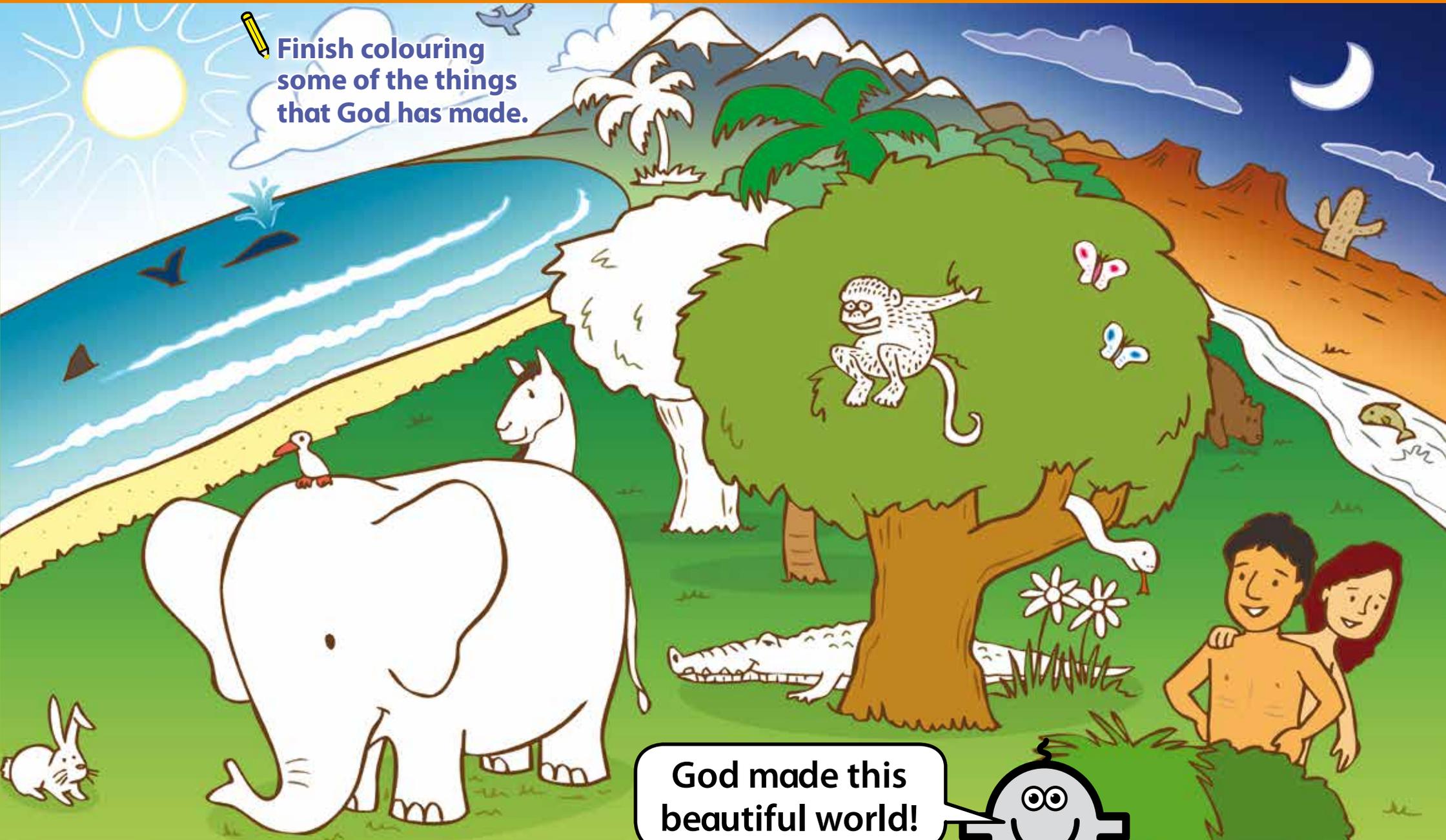
(DEPENDING ON ACTIVITY CHOICES)



- Photos of your family, pet, house, favourite food or a favourite object, your Bible (Start up)
- Lesson Tools L2 Name Game (Start up)
- Your name on a flashcard (Start up)
- Class list (Start up)
- Story Telling Pictures – A25-26; B1; R25-26; T1, 40; Z15; Background 1 (B1 grass) (Get into it)
- Power Point L2, outline on Power Tools, technology to display (Get into it)
- Your Bible (Get into it)
- Song 1 'Great Big God' & PowerPoint Song 1 from the Power Tools
- Activity Sheet L2 – one for each person (Go for it)



Finish colouring
some of the things
that God has made.



God made this
beautiful world!



Name: _____



 Use your pencil to finish colouring in the Bible verse.

**God looked
at what he
had done.
All of it was
very good.
Genesis 1:31**



Draw 2 things that God made.