Adam and Eve

Scripture Reference **Genesis 2:4-25**

Lectionary Sunday/ Church Season **Pentecost**

Lesson Focus

God created us and uses us to care for all of creation.

Bible Memory Verse

Then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. Genesis 2:7



If you are using the Semi-Continuous version of the Revised Common Lectionary (ELCIC, Episcopal Church USA, Anglican Church of Canada, PCUSA, United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ), the lesson for this Sunday is Jesus Blesses the Children (Mark 10:13-16). The leader material for this lesson is found on page 87. The leaflet for this lesson is included with all other leaflets for this quarter.

Gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Arrival Activity Kids will explore creation when they play charades to guess types of animals God made.	Activity Pages	Sticky notes, pencils
Opening Conversation Kids use sounds and movement to sum up what happened during the past week.	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	Pencils
Opening Prayer Kids pray a prayer of thanksgiving for creation.	None	Cup of potting soil

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Adam and Eve Story Kids vividly imagine the Bible passage by drawing scenes of the story being read by the teacher.	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	Paper, pencils
Of Squirrels and Brothers Kids will consider the Bible story from another angle when they read a contemporary retelling.	Leaflets	None
Creation Word Search Kids will investigate the Bible story by completing a word search.	Spark Bibles, Leaflets	Pencils

Lesson At-A-Glance

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Fun Facts Kids will learn background information about creation by playing a Fun Facts quiz game.	Leaflets	None
Created By Me Kids will learn about God's "hands-on" creating by making their own animals from clay.	None	Modeling clay
Fractured Poetry Kids will learn the Bible story when they cut out words from scripture and use them to make poetry.	Leaflets	Scissors, card stock, glue sticks

Send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Closing Conversation Kids will remind each other that they belong to Jesus when they make a sign of the cross for each other.	Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers, Leaflets	Pencils
Closing Prayer Kids will praise and thank God for creation by observing a handful of dirt.	Family Pages	Potting soil, spoon, hand wipes

Visit www.sparksundayschool.org for more Spark content! Watch a short Lesson Prep video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find four downloadable resources for this lesson: a Coloring Page, a Family Page, and two additional in-class activities.

Gather (10 minutes)

Arrival Activity

If some kids arrive earlier than others and you need a lesson-based activity, make copies of the downloadable Activity Page and set them out for kids to try.

Before kids arrive, write the names of several animals on sticky notes. Fold the notes and pile them on the table in your classroom. We're going to play charades while the rest of the class arrives. On your turn pick a piece of paper and silently read the name of the animal. Try to get other kids to guess what animal you are by acting it out. No words or sounds. You can only use actions.

Spark Resources

Activity Pages



Supplies

Sticky notes Pencils

Opening Conversation

After playing charades, invite kids to sit in a circle. **Hi, everyone! I wonder how** you've been doing in the last week. In a bit I'm going to count to three. If your week was pretty good, I want you to say, "Ah." Make a happy "Ah" sound as if you are sipping a cool drink on a hot day. If your week didn't go so well, I want **you to say, "Harrumph!"** Cross your arms, making an angry "harrumph" sound. Ready? One, two, three! Do any of you want to explain why you said, "Ah" or "Harrumph"? Give kids a chance to speak up.

I hope you had a chance to try one of the Spark at Home activities from last time. What did you do? Allow time for sharing.

Hand out Spark Bibles and pencils. Can anybody remember the Bible Memory **Verse (BMV) from last week?** Allow volunteers the opportunity to recite the verse. Then have the entire group say it together. Help them recite the entire verse by feeding them words as they falter.

Recite the verse together several times to reinforce it. Kids can mark the passage with an I Memorized It sticker.

Super! Now let's turn to this week's lesson about the creation of the world. Where do you suppose the story of the beginning of everything will be found in the Bible? Give them a chance to answer. It's in the first book of the Bible— Genesis. The word Genesis actually means "beginning." The Bible has two accounts of God creating the world. Today we are looking at the second creation story, which you'll find in Genesis chapter 2, verses 4 through 25. Let's go to it. The book is Genesis. That's right here. Show them where you are opening to the Book Intro on the first page. **Chapter 2 is right here.** Show them where you are opening to page 3. **Verse 4 is right here.** Point to verse 4 on page 3. **Our verse** to memorize is Genesis 2:7. Would someone please find that verse and read it **aloud?** Invite a volunteer to read the passage. Read the passage as a group several times. After reading the verse aloud together several times, challenge the class to recite it with their Bibles closed. Invite kids to place an I Read It sticker near the verse. They can also write the date in the margin.

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

Pencils

Opening Prayer

Gather kids around the dirt in the middle. Let's pray to give God thanks for all parts of creation.

We thank you, God, for every bit of your wonderful creation. Most of all, we thank you for creating us and giving us work to do in your world. Amen.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Cup of potting soil

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

Adam and Eve Story

We looked up the Bible verse together. Now go ahead and close your Bibles. Distribute paper and pencils. This creation story shows God being very "hands on" in the work of creation. God's hands get dirty doing the work of creation. God even breathes life into Adam's nose. While I'm reading the story, you draw pictures of what you are hearing. You can draw one picture of God creating or you can draw several small pictures of each step you hear.

Read the passage a bit slower than usual, allowing kids time to soak up and then draw the images of the passage. Take time afterward to allow kids to show their artwork. Ask them to describe what they have drawn. They can also place a sticker or two in their Spark Bibles. Then ask kids to read the Know It! and Think About It! questions in the box on page 3.

Spark Resources Spark Bibles

Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

Paper Pencils

Of Squirrels and Brothers

Let's read a modern story that will help us understand the creation story in another way.

Distribute the leaflets and read Of Squirrels and Brothers on the first page. Afterward, read the I Wonder statements on the leaflet. Then use the following questions to dig deeper. Have you ever found a dead animal? What was it? Did you do anything with it? What are the parts of creation that show up in this **story?** (people, squirrel, garden; the brother wanted the sister to breathe life into the squirrel.) God made people to work in the Garden of Eden. What part of the story matches that? (Grandpa's garden; the explanation that the squirrel would become part of the earth) How did the characters in the story help in creation if they were **unable to bring the squirrel back to life?** (by burying it in the garden)

Spark Resources Leaflets

Supplies

None

This word search has clues that are unlike others you've seen. Read the instructions for Creation Word Search on the second page of the leaflet out loud and then walk kids through finding the first word. All the words are found in chapter 2 of Genesis. Have kids turn to chapter 2. The first clue has the number 4, so let's find verse 4. Have kids show you verse 4. Good. It has the letters h and s, so let's find a word that begins with h and ends with s. Wait for kids to find the word heavens. They'll also see it circled in the word search. Great! Now let's find the rest of the words. Allow kids to work in groups of two or three to solve the rest of the puzzle.

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles Leaflets

Supplies

Pencils

Answer Key

4, h, s - heavens

5, r, n - rain

7, d, t - dust

7, I, g - living

9, k, e - knowledge

9, t, e - tree

12, o, x - onyx

16, f, y - freely

20, b, s - birds

24, f, h - flesh

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

Fun Facts

Don't let kids open up the Fun Facts on the third page of the leaflet until you've given them the instructions. Play the game in a spot where there is plenty of open floor space. Divide kids into two groups. Your team will have one minute to read and learn the Fun Facts, and then I'm going to ask some True or False questions. But you're not going to answer the questions by writing T or F or even by saying True or False. You are going to race to see who can give the correct answer first. There is a catch, though. You must use your bodies to form a T or an F on the floor. There's one more catch: There's no talking. No talking when you decide if the statement is true of false. No talking when you make the letter on the floor.

Give them one minute to read through the Fun Facts together.

True or False? In Genesis 1 God made humans at the end of creation. (True: In Genesis 1:26, God made humans on the sixth day.)

Spark Resources

Leaflets

Supplies None

In Genesis 2 God also made people at the end. (False: In Genesis 2:7, God formed man before forming the garden that grew trees.)

Eve got to name all the animals. (False: In Genesis 2:20, the man gave names to the living creatures.)

Adam wasn't truly alive until God breathed life into him. (*True: In Genesis 2:7, after God breathed into his nostrils, Adam became a living being.*)

God didn't trust people with the job of helping to keep creation working. (*False: In Genesis 2:15, God put Adam in the garden to till and keep it.*)

God made women and men to be partners. (*True: In Genesis 2:18, God said to make a partner.*)

Created by Me

Adam had the job of naming the animals, and all people have the job of working in God's creation. Wouldn't it be cool if we got to have the job of creating our own animals? Let's give that a try. Hand out a lump of modeling clay to each kid. Use your imagination to create an animal that has never been seen before. Can you come up with something original? Just think of the imagination it took for God to make every single animal in the world.

Allow time for kids to create their animals. Engage them during the process by asking questions about their creations. What noise would it make? What would it eat?

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Modeling clay

Fractured Poetry

This collection of words contains words from today's Bible story and ordinary words. We are going to cut out the words and use them to create poems about **God's creation.** Remind kids that poems do not necessarily need to rhyme. They can be silly or serious, but they do need to be about creation.

After a few minutes ask kids to read their fractured poetry. They can glue the words to a piece of card stock. You can post the poems, or kids can take them home.

Spark Resources

Leaflets

Supplies

Scissors Card stock Glue sticks

Send (5 minutes)

Closing Conversation

I've had fun learning about creation with you today. Let's look at the BMV again.

Lead kids in opening their Bibles to Genesis 2:7 on page 3. Read it together out loud a few times. Close your Bibles and practice it from memory. Make sure they place a sticker near the verse. Invite them to write about two things they learned in the margins of Genesis 2. Discuss what they have written.

Point out Faith on the Go! in their leaflets and encourage them to try at least one of the ideas this week.

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles Spark Bible Stickers Leaflets

Supplies

Pencils

Closing Prayer

Have kids hold out a cupped hand. Put a spoonful of dirt in each kid's hand. **Look** closely at the dirt in your hand. How many different colors can you spot in dirt? What does dirt smell like? What sort of plants are growing from your dirt? Is it warm or cold? Is it dry or moist? How do we and God use dirt in creation? Let's say a prayer that thanks God for dirt. I'll start the prayer. When I am silent, you can add to the prayer by telling God something you like about this part of creation.

Dear God, I never noticed how amazing you made dirt to be. Thank you for thinking of so many details in creation. Remain silent for a bit. It's okay to let them squirm a bit until someone speaks up. Once it seems that all who will pray have done so, end the prayer. Thank you for all of creation, Lord. Amen.

Have kids dump the dirt back into the container, and give them wipes to clean up.

Be sure to send leaflets home with kids, and give each of them a Family Page to take home.

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

Potting soil Spoon Hand wipes