

God Made the Sky and Birds

Text: Psalms 8 and 19:1-6

Aim: To teach that God made the sky and birds.



Preparation

Read Psalms 8 and 19:1-6.

Answer the following questions:

- What do you learn from Psalm 8 about God? (Psalm 8:1-9)
- What does Psalm 8 teach about man? (Psalm 8:4-8)
- How does the sky reveal God's glory? (Psalm 19:1-6)

Think about the wonderful world God has made and the importance of teaching this to the children.

Pray for each child you teach, that God will open their eyes to the glory of his creation.



Visual Aids

Before your lesson, gather the following visual aids:

- A large sheet of pale blue paper for the sky.
- Cut out pictures of clouds, sun, rainbow, stars, moon, rain, aeroplanes, lightning, wind, snow, hailstones and birds.
- Feathers (you could stick these onto a picture of a bird for the children to touch).

Keep this entire picture for the next lesson.



Lesson

Show the children the big sky background.

Talk to the children about the sky.

- What colour is the sky?
- Is it always blue?
- Why is it different colours?

Ask the children to name some things that you see in the sky. Use Blu-Tack to stick pictures of each item mentioned on the sky background as you talk about them.

Show the children the feathers. Where do these come from?

Get the children to come up and point to the different things. Talk about each thing that God made. Is there anything in your picture that God didn't make?



Activity

Choose either Activity A or Activity B from the Media section of this webpage.

Activity A - Make a tube owl. Before the lesson, paint cardboard toilet tubes in bright colours, one for each child.

Cut a pair of wings from cloth or coloured paper and a small triangle of yellow paper to be the beak for each tube.

Help the children fold the top of one end of the tube into itself to form the ears. The children glue on wings, beak and googly eyes.

Alternatively if you don't have toilet rolls, print Activity A onto coloured card and cut along the bold lines. The children decorate the owls. Then help them glue the ends to form a tube.



Activity B – Print Activity B-1 onto paper for each child and Activity B-2 also onto paper (one copy for every six children).

Before cutting out the shapes on Activity B-2 colour the suns yellow, but leave the moons

white. Fold along the line before cutting to cut two of each item out at a time.

Also supply the children with cotton wool balls and sticky stars or sequins to be used as stars. Place a set of all these items together in an envelope for each child (it's always good to have a spare set).

Help the children to decide which side of their page will be night and which day. The children paste the various items on the page. For each item ask, "Can you see this at night or in the day?"

You could also help the children to add a rainbow using paints and thick brushes.

Tip

Write the children's names on every craft activity. This saves time (and tears), at the end of each lesson!



Game Idea

Where do I belong? Have the children sit in a circle and place two sheets of paper in the middle - one pale blue (sky) and one brown (ground)

Have pictures of various items that you would find in the sky, e.g. clouds, birds, rainbow, helicopter, and some items you would not find there, e.g. bus, car, house, flower, etc.

Round 1: give a picture to each child and ask them to place it in the right place. Continue until all the pictures are in their correct place.

Round 2: ask the children to close their eyes. While they are not looking, swap a few of the pictures around. The children must open their eyes, look for the mistakes and correct them.



Prayer

Thank you, God, for making the sky and the birds. Amen.

You could also encourage the children to pray. They must think of one thing in the sky and simply say, "Thank you God for..."

Reinforcement

Print the Reinforcement Slip page from the Media section of this webpage and give one slip to each child to take home. This will encourage parents to reinforce today's lesson. Alternatively, you could copy the text below and edit as appropriate for your context. This can then be printed or emailed to parents.

Today your child learned that God made the sky and birds.

To reinforce this lesson this week:

1. Go for a walk with your child and look at the sky. What can you see? Do the same at night, looking out of a window. Ask your child "Who made the sky? Who made all of the things in it?"
2. Make a collage of the sky using cut-outs from a magazine. What belongs in the sky? Who made it?

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