

SOAR

Lesson #1

How and why was the world created?

The purpose of this lesson plan is to:

- Create a fun and interactive learning experience
- Provide teaching options in addition to the Leader Q Card
- Creatively revisit the Bible story featured in the teaching video
- Give kids an opportunity to further explore the application point

PROGRAM

Activity	Length of Segment	Running Time
Q Card: Discussion	15 minutes	Start-15 minutes
Picture: Bible Story	5 minutes	15-20 minutes
Play: Learning Activity	10 minutes	20-30 minutes
Plan: Group Commitment	5 minutes	30-35 minutes
Prayer: Prayer Cards	5 minutes	35-45 minutes

PREP

You will need:

- Number cards
Small Groups only: 1 set of cards for each small group
Large Groups only: 4 sets of cards for each large group
- Game Prizes (optional)
- Story Props (optional)
- Prayer Cards (1 per kid)
- MAP Books (1 per kid)

PICTURE

(The Bible Story)

In this portion of your class time you have the opportunity to review the Bible verses presented earlier in the teaching video. The object is to paint a picture that kids will understand and remember. When reading the verses, remember you are painting a picture for your viewers. Have fun and explore your creativity. Here are some ideas to make your storytelling more memorable:

- Try letting groups of kids create their own movements to the words
- You might ask the kids to draw pictures to represent the key words in the verses: heavens, glory, God, skies, day, and night

Psalm 19:1-2

The heavens tell of the glory of God. The skies display his marvelous craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.

PLAY

(Learning Activity)

In this portion of your class time you will lead your class in a fun and exciting activity that will help your kids apply the Bible lesson to their everyday lives.

"Number Match"

HOW TO START:

- For Small Groups only:
 - Ask kids to sit in a circle on the floor or at a table
 - Place one set of number cards (8 cards total) in the middle of the circle face-up on the floor or table
- For Large Groups only:
 - Divide kids into 4 groups
 - Ask each group to sit in a circle on the floor or at a table
 - Place one set of number cards (8 cards total) in the middle of EACH circle face-up on the floor or tables

HOW TO PLAY:

- Say, "This game is called Number Match. This game will help us to think about how big and powerful God is."
- Read the following directions to the kids: "I will read a question. The answer to the question will be a number. As soon as I finish reading the question, I will lower my arm. As soon as my arm goes down, pick up the card that you think matches the correct answer. You will be disqualified if you grab a card before my arm goes down. These are difficult questions; it's always okay to take a guess."
- Hold your arm up in the air
- Read the first "Creation Question" (see below)
- Have fun with the kids by waiting awhile before you lower your arm. You might walk around the room awhile, tell a joke, sit down, or perhaps sing a song while they are waiting. Catch them by surprise!
- Lower your arm
- All kids race to pick up the card that they believe has the correct answer
- Read the correct answer aloud
- Read the corresponding application question to the entire group
- Pick up the card with the correct answer and take it out of the game.
- Ask the kids to reposition all cards face up in the middle of the circle (There will now be 7 cards in play)
- Repeat all steps until all questions have been answered
- Note: when there are only a few cards left, remind the kids to WAIT until you have lowered your arm before grabbing the card(s)

CREATION QUESTIONS:

1. How many miles would you have to travel to get to the sun? (186,000 miles)
Application Question: When you think about the sun, what do you start to think about God?
2. How many colors are there in a rainbow? (7 colors)

Application Question: When you think about a rainbow, what do you start to think about God?

3. How many different kinds of birds are on the Earth? (about 10,000 living bird species)

Application Question: When you think about all the different birds on the Earth, what do you start to think about God?

4. How many stars have astronomers found in the universe? (70 sextillion / 70,000,000,000,000,000,000)

Application Question: When you think about how many stars there are in the sky, what do you start to think about God?

5. How many feet deep is the deepest part of any ocean on Earth? (35,838 feet)

Application Question: When you think about the ocean and all the things in it, what do you start to think about God?

6. How many feet high is the tallest mountain on Earth? (29,035 feet)

Application Question: When you think about the mountains, what do you start to think about God?

7. About how many people are there on Earth? (6,676,550,134 people – about 6.7 billion)

Application Question: When you think about all the people on Earth and how God made each one special, what do you start to think about God?

8. How many planets are in our Solar System? (8 planets)

Application Question: When you think about all the planets and how humans can only survive on Earth, what do you start to think about God?

PLAY OPTIONS:

- Hand out game prizes to all players
- For Older Kids - Ask the following bonus questions after each application question:
 1. True or False – Our sun is really a star. (TRUE – Our sun is an average size star that is extremely close to us. The sun provides the energy for all life on Earth.)
 2. What are the colors in a rainbow? (ROYGBIV – Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet)
 3. What are the smallest and largest species of birds? (smallest – hummingbird, largest – ostrich and emu)
 4. True or False – Astronomers have found every star in the universe. (FALSE – Astronomers CANNOT find every star in the universe. Even using all of their sophisticated equipment, they cannot see to the end of the universe – that is how big the universe is!)
 5. What is the name of the deepest part of any ocean on Earth and what ocean is it in? (Marianas Trench, Pacific Ocean)
 6. In what mountain range is the tallest mountain on Earth? (Himalayas)

7. About how many people are there in the USA? (about 300 million - 300,878,738)
8. Pluto used to be one of the official planets. Now it is not. What is Pluto called now? (a dwarf planet)

PLAN

(Group Commitment)

In this portion of your class time you have the opportunity to lead your group to make a commitment. You may select any ONE of the options provided or your group may create its own. Encourage the kids to write their commitments on their Prayer Cards so you can be praying for them during the week.

Commitment Options:

- Spend some time counting all the stars in the sky that you can see. Think about how big God is.
- Talk to an adult you know. Ask him/her, "Do you believe God exists? Why or why not?" Explain to him/her why you believe God is real.
- Find some pictures of different types of birds (Use books or the internet). Draw pictures of some of the birds you find. Think about how many different kinds of birds God created.

PRAYER

In this portion of your class time, have your kids fill out the Prayer Card. Take the cards home and pray for your kids throughout the week. End your time together by praying for your group commitment.

Hand out prayer cards

- Ask kids to fill in their commitments in the space provided
- Ask kids to fill in their prayer requests in the space provided
- Collect cards so you can take them home and pray for your kids
- Close in prayer

God, you are the awesome Creator of the universe. The Bible says that you measure the galaxies in your hands. You created all the birds, all the people, all the mountains, and all the stars in the sky. Help us to understand how big and powerful you are, and help us to understand that your love for each of us is greater than the number of stars in the sky. Thank you God for loving us so much. We want to know you better each day. Please help us to remember you each day when we feel the sun on our faces and when we see birds soaring through the air. And please help us to do the things we have committed to do this week. In Jesus' name, amen.

Remember to...

- Hand out the MAP Books
- Encourage kids to complete at home with an adult and bring back next week!

186,000

7

10,000

70,000,000,000,000,000,000,000
(70 sextillion)

35,838

6,676,550,134

(about 6.7 billion)

8

29,035