

WHC Elementary Curriculum  
Year 1  
September Week 2

**Bible Story:** Creation and the Fall (Genesis 1-3)

**Story Summary:** God makes the world with the purpose of creating humans with whom He can share a relationship, but humanity turns from God, breaking the relationship.

**Title:** In the Beginning...

**Theme:** God's Love

**Focus:** Relationality

**Take-Home Point:** God loves us

**Application:** God created and loves each of us and wants to be in relationship with us. However, our sin can get in the way of that. Thankfully, God sent Jesus to restore our relationship with Him forever.

**Team Challenge:** World Creations

**Memory Verse:** "Lord, I will praise you with all my heart. I will tell about all of the miracles you have done." Psalm 9:1

**Learning Styles:**

- **Visual** – Art Attack
- **Auditory** – Soundtrack
- **Kinesthetic** – All Audience Participation

**Three Creative Methods Used:**

- **Art Attack** – The story is drawn/painted as it progresses
- **Soundtrack** – Background music helps to set the mood of the story
- **All Audience Participation** – The entire room is encouraged to participate in various aspects of the storytelling

**LESSON**

**GET READY**

Gather the following supplies for the Large Group Lesson:

- If using paints, lay a tarp or painter's cloth on the stage under the area where the Plexiglas board or painting surface will be
- Secure white butcher paper over the side of the Plexiglas board facing the audience (unless you're using chalk – then you'll want a dark-colored paper)
- If using paint, put the colors you'll use onto a palette or large disposable plate and gather various sized paint brushes; Fill an ice cream pail or other bucket ½ full of water and place near painting surface
- If using chalk or markers, gather the supplies you'll need and place in an easy to access bucket or tub

- Have a table on hand to place paints and brushes/markers/chalk on during lesson
- Provide an “artist’s” costume for Host – A paint jacket and beret
- Print the script and place a copy in the Storyteller binder
- A piece of butcher paper and a set of markers (in their Team bins) for each Team

## **WORSHIP**

*Sing/Play worship songs or do other worship activities.*

## **TEAM CHALLENGE**

### **Reveal Slide #1 of Teach PowerPoint – Team Challenge Slide.**

**HOST:** *(entering as kids sit)* Good morning, everyone, and welcome back to the Clubhouse! We’re so glad you’re here today. We’re going to start things off today with a Team Challenge! This is an activity that gets you thinking before we get to today’s Bible story. And for our challenge, you’re going to need to be creative. Our story today takes place when God created the world. But my question for you is: If you were going to create a world, what kinds of creatures and plants and things would it have? Maybe you’d want to have your favorite animals, or maybe you’d want to create brand new creatures. Would it have mountains or deserts or forests or oceans? I’m going to hand out some butcher paper, and you’re going to work with your Team to create a fun and exciting world of your own creation using the markers in your bins. Ready, set, create!

*Hand out paper and allow several minutes for teams to draw.*

**HOST:** I loved looking at your drawings while you were creating them! What amazing worlds you guys made!

## **GET STARTED**

### **Reveal Slide #2 of Teach PowerPoint – Lesson Title Slide**

**HOST:** If you were here last week, you got a bit of a sneak peak for what we’re going to be doing here in the Clubhouse this year. *(Walk to Timeline with Timeline arrow.)* We’re going on a year-long adventure that spans the entire length of the Bible! These stories you see here, along with many others, are part of a greater story: God’s Story! It’s a story that’s still continuing today with you and me. However, every story has a beginning, and our story begins here *(place*

*arrow under "Creation") with, well, the beginning of almost everything!*

**HOST:** *(going back to stand on main stage – looking around)* And we'll get started with it very soon, I think. We're just waiting for—

**STORYTELLER:** *(entering with Host's costume)* Me!

**HOST:** Where have you been? I was getting a little worried you'd forgotten to come today.

**STORYTELLER:** I just needed to gather a few things for you.

**HOST:** For me? You mean, like a present? I love presents! What is it?

*STORYTELLER holds out jacket and beret.*

**HOST:** *(taking jacket and beret rather disappointedly)* Oh. Um, thanks.

**STORYTELLER:** *(pointing to painting/drawing supplies)* You'll need those, too.

**HOST:** I'm confused.

**STORYTELLER:** You're going to be my artist and help me tell today's story!

**HOST:** Artist?

**STORYTELLER:** Today's story features all kinds of amazing things, and to help us imagine them better, I thought it'd be fun to have you paint/draw them as we go along. Wanna give it a shot?

**HOST:** I suppose, though I'm no Leonardo da Vinci.

**STORYTELLER:** You'll do great.

## **TEACH**

***Play background music as story is told (should be music that has no lyrics and fits the mood of the story.)***

*HOST gets into costume while STORYTELLER takes up Storyteller binder.*

**HOST:** What do you want me to paint on here to start us off with?

**STORYTELLER:** Nothing.

**HOST:** Nothing?

**STORYTELLER:** Nothing.

**HOST:** But I thought you wanted me to paint/draw! Make up your mind!

**STORYTELLER:** You'll be painting/drawing in a minute. But our story starts out with nothing.

**HOST:** Nothing?

**STORYTELLER:** Nothing. Because *(turning back to audience)* in the beginning, there was nothing. Nothing except God. But God decided He wanted to create a world full of people and creatures whom He could love. And so He said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

**HOST:** Um, okay. Not sure how to paint "light." *(Writes "Light" across paper in yellow.)*

**STORYTELLER:** God saw that the light was good. He called the light "day" and the darkness He called "night." Then, God made the earth. *(HOST draws a large circle.)* He created it to have areas covered in land and other areas to be covered in water. *(HOST draws continents and oceans on circle.)* And then God got to work creating all of the things that would live on the earth. He created all kinds of plants.

**HOST:** Wait a second – What kind of plants? *(Looks to kids.)* I need three different kinds of plants I can paint. What do you think? *(Choose 3 volunteers and have them say their plants. HOST paints/draws the suggestions.)*

**STORYTELLER:** Next, God created all the things we see in outer space.

**HOST:** I'm going to need some more suggestions. *(To kids)* I need 3 suggestions for things you might see if you looked through a telescope. *(Choose 3 volunteers and have them say their suggestions. HOST paints/draws the suggestions.)*

**STORYTELLER:** After that, God made the creatures that live in the water or fly through the air.

**HOST:** Anyone know what I could draw for these? *(Choose 3 volunteers and have them say their suggestions. HOST paints/draws the suggestions.)*

**STORYTELLER:** Next, God created the creatures that live on land.

**HOST:** I need more suggestions! *(Choose 3 volunteers and have them say their*

*suggestions. HOST paints/draws the suggestions.)*

**STORYTELLER:** Last of all, God created human beings. *(HOST draws a man and a woman.)* Anyone know the names of the first two people God made? *(Pause for response.)* Right – Adam and Eve! *(HOST writes names above figures.)* But when God created Adam and Eve, He made them different from everything else He had created. He made them special because He made them in His own image. An image is something that looks like something else. Hold your hand in front of your face and pretend it's a mirror. You can even make a silly face into it. *(Pause to let them do this.)* When you look into a mirror, you're seeing an image of yourself. It's not quite you, but it looks like you and does what you do, right? Well, God created human beings to be *His* image, people who would reflect who He is and what He is like to the world, just like how a mirror reflects your face when you look in it. *(HOST draws mirror with GOD written on it next to humans.)*

**HOST:** But I'm nothing like God. I mess up all the time and do the wrong thing.

**STORYTELLER:** True. None of us are the image of God He originally planned for us to be, and the reason for that goes all the way back to Adam and Eve. You see, God gave Adam and Eve a perfect place to live, a beautiful garden called Eden where everything they needed was provided for them. *(HOST draws garden around Adam and Eve.)* They didn't have to worry about a thing. And best of all, they had a perfect relationship with God! They loved God with all their hearts, and God loved them with all of His. God only gave them one rule: They were not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. We could also call it the Tree of I'll Decide for Myself What is Wrong and Right. *(HOST draws tree next to garden and puts red "x" through it.)* He warned them that if they did eat from it, their relationship with Him would be broken, and they would die. Adam and Eve were content to stay away from that tree – After all, they had plenty of other trees to eat from, and they certainly didn't want to hurt their amazing relationship with their Creator God.

**STORYTELLER:** But one day, Satan, the enemy of God, came to Eve disguised as a serpent. *(HOST draws serpent on Tree.)* He told her that, if she ate from the forbidden Tree, she would not die but become wise and powerful, just like God, and that the reason God hadn't told them that was because He didn't want them to become as wise as Himself. But do you believe what Satan said about God was true? *(Pause for response.)* It certainly wasn't – It was the first lie, and it was a terrible one. God wasn't trying to keep Adam and Eve from the Tree because He was selfish or anything like that. No, He knew that if they ate from the Tree, bad things would happen, and so He was trying to protect them. But Eve listened to Satan's lie, and doubt began to creep into her heart. She wondered if maybe God wasn't as great as He seemed, and it made her mistrust His love for her. So she plucked a fruit from the Tree. *(HOST draws fruit.)* It looked so tasty and delicious, and she wondered if she really would become as

wise and powerful as God by eating it. She raised it to her lips, and she ate some of it. Then, she took some to Adam and convinced him to eat some, as well.

**STORYTELLER:** Satan had been truthful about one thing – The fruit did change them, but it wasn't a good change. Adam and Eve immediately became embarrassed and angry with one another. And that's when God arrived. (*HOST creates a dark grey cloud over garden.*) Hearing Him coming, Adam and Eve hid. They knew they had broken the one rule He had given them, and they were afraid of what would happen. But you can't hide from God – He made the world and sees everything, and He already knew what they had done. He began to question them about what had happened. Adam angrily blamed Eve for giving him the fruit to eat, and Eve blamed the serpent because he had convinced her to eat it in the first place. Neither one would admit their part in the problem – That they had each *chosen* to mistrust God's love and believe Satan's lies. And so, the once perfect relationship humans shared with God was broken. (*HOST creates a crack on mirror or "X"s it out.*) Humans could no longer be the perfect images of God He had created them to be. Their choice and disobedience let sin, the unwise choices we make that hurt our relationship with God, enter the world, and it shattered the relationship they had with God. Nothing they could ever do could change that. And because they had broken their relationship with God, He could no longer let them stay in the garden. So He sent them out into the world where they would have to work hard to plant and harvest their own crops and make their own lives.

**End music.**

**HOST:** (*setting down painting/drawing tools*) Wait a second – What kind of story is this? I mean, it sounded all nice and good at the beginning, but now things are bad, really bad, and if they can't ever fix what they did, what's going to happen? You're not seriously telling us there's no happy ending, are you?

**STORYTELLER:** Oh no, there *is* a happy ending, an incredible ending filled with joy beyond anything we could ever hope or dream of.

**HOST:** But how can that be?

**STORYTELLER:** The minute Adam and Eve chose to mistrust and disobey God, He came up with a plan. A plan to save humanity and bring us back to a right relationship with Him. God loves us too much to give up on us. So He created His Big Rescue Plan. He would continue to work with people, trying to teach them His ways and help them to become more like Him, and then, when the time was right, He would send His Son, Jesus, to earth to save us all.

**HOST:** Cool! So, God's Story, the Bible, is the story of how God has worked throughout history to set things right again between Himself and people!

## **PRACTICAL APPLICATION and PRAYER**

### **Reveal Slide #3 of Teach PowerPoint – Take-Home Point Slide.**

**STORYTELLER:** Yep! **God loves us** with a love that's so big, so powerful, and so amazing, we can't even comprehend it! He wants each of us to know Him and to understand His love more and more each day. **God loves us**, no matter who we are or what we've done, and He's always working to help us know Him better and follow Him.

**HOST:** Wow – It's incredible that **God loves us** so much that He's always working to help us to be more like Him! More like the mirror-image of God we were meant to be! God's Big Story is so amazing! I can't wait to see what happens next.

**STORYTELLER:** Thanks for helping us see the story today, by the way. Your paintings/drawings are *(trying to find a compliment)*, um, great!

**HOST:** Well, Mrs. Steinheart did tell me my hippo drawing in 5<sup>th</sup> grade was *very interesting*.

**STORYTELLER:** I'm sure she did. Let's take a minute and pray about all this: God, Creator of everything, we are so thankful You chose to create a beautiful and wonderful world for us to live in. We ask that You would help us each day to be more like You, to make wise choices, and to love You always. Thank You for loving us so much that You came to rescue us. We love You, God. Amen.

## **Dismissal**

*Dismiss teams to their rooms.*