





Early ElementaryGrades 1-2

Early Elementary Contents

Grades 1-2

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Your opinions are important to us! We value your experience and listen carefully to your comments—guiding our curriculum development and improving HeartShaper. Go to **HeartShaper.com/Opinions** to take our short, 12 question survey and receive a free activity book download.

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How to Use HeartShaper®

Welcome to HeartShaper Children's Curriculum!

With HeartShaper Children's Curriculum, your students will be engaged in Bible stories through multisensory learning, Bible skill-building activities, and focused life application.

Here's how to start

- Pray for God's help to guide children to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Read the introductory pages and the unit pages.
- Use the HeartShaper teaching tools.

How the lessons are organized

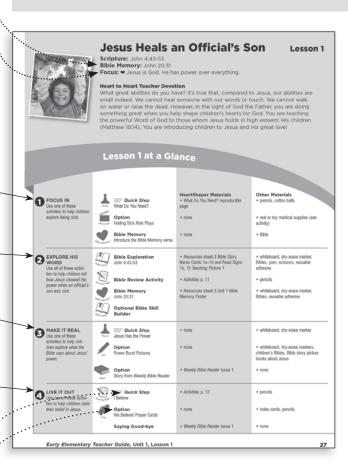
- **Focus In:** Kids are introduced to the lesson theme and focus.
- **Explore His Word:** Kids will interact with the Scripture passage and develop Bible skills.
- Make It Real: Kids will discover how the Scripture applies to their lives.
- Live It Out: Kids will plan and begin to practice the principles of what they've learned.

Want more of an overview?

Go to www.heartshaper.com/for-teachers. Look at the Overview by Age Level, and click on Early Elementary. Whether you're new to HeartShaper curriculum, not sure how to use the different parts of the curriculum, have never taught, or haven't taught for a while, take a few minutes to go through this overview. You'll be glad you did!

Important things to know

- o **Bible Memory** lists the passage children will learn in each unit.
- **Focus** is the main thought that children will learn and remember in each lesson.



- **Quick Step™** activities are easy to prepare and teach. All that's needed are the curriculum materials and normal classroom supplies.
- Option activities are included in every step.
 YOU choose what works best for you and the different kinds of learners in your class.

Special Needs

Reach kids with special needs

HeartShaper gives the resources you need to train teachers and adapt lesson activities so you can include kids with special needs right in your Sunday school classes.



Look for this symbol throughout the teacher guide to identify activities that work well for all kids, including those with special needs. Additional helps for teaching kids with special needs can be found on the Resources CD and at www.heartshaper.com/special-needs.

Examples

Quick Step Speak Up! Prayer Reminders



SAY: We can pray and ask for God's help so that we we can live boldly for Jesus. Let's make prayer reminders. Then we'll pray to God. Distribute the activity page, stickers, and other supplies. Read the directions and let kids make their prayer reminders. Be prepared to provide additional help as needed with fine-motor activities such as cutting and applying tape.

Materials

Activities p. 25 and stickers, markers. scissors, tape (optional: Resources sheet 8 focus strip for lesson 8)

When you see this symbol after a title, it means the activity will work well for all kids, including those with special needs.

Quick Step | Know I'm Ready

Have kids gather in a circle. SAY: Today we're going to explore being ready. Explain that you will start a sentence. You will toss a beanbag to someone. That person should tell a way to finish the sentence and then toss the beanbag to someone else, who will finish the sentence another way. After three sentence endings, the beanbag should be tossed back to you, and you will start another sentence. Use these sentence starters:

I know I'm ready for school when __ I know I'm ready for a party when ____ .

Materials beanbag

Some children may find it easier to

participate if they are allowed to watch other students first and then join in after a few

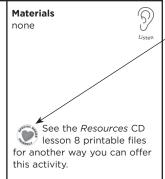
When you see this symbol in the narrow column, it may give you a helpful tip on how you can tweak the activity to make it better for kids with special needs.

Quick Step Being Bold

Today's Bible story includes two words that you may not know: courage and boldly. Listen as I tell a true story. Then we'll see whether we can tell what the words mean. A young girl lived in a foreign country with her family. The girl's father told people about Jesus. Some leaders in the country didn't want people to learn about Jesus. They arrested and hurt people who told about Jesus. The girl's father had great courage. He boldly kept on telling about Jesus. He said he would rather die than say he didn't love Jesus. We can have courage, and ♥ we can live boldly for Jesus too.

ASK: What do you think the word courage means? (having the strength of mind to go on in spite of danger)

What does boldly mean? (doing something in a fearless way)



Or this symbol may indicate that there's an adaptation on the Resources CD that will make the activity work better for kids with special needs.



Shaping Special Hearts blogtalk radio show is for anyone who wants to learn more about ministering to families who have children with special needs. Listen as our hosts and their haping guests discuss topics such as developing a special needs ministry, helping families who have kids with special needs, and reaching out to the church and community in the area of special needs. On-demand episodes are available at www.heartshaper.com/special-needs/blogtalkradio.

Teaching Tools

These multisensory teaching tools are an integral part of HeartShaper!

Early Elementary Activities

Your students will love the full-color activity pages designed just for them! The projects and activities make Bible learning fun!

- Draws kids into purposeful activities.
- Encourages kids to apply Bible truths to their lives.



Weekly Bible Reader® student magazine

This weekly student magazine helps kids take home and share with their family and friends the lessons they are learning.



In the magazine you'll find:

- · Short stories that kids can read and relate to
- Bible stories, puzzles, and games
- Fun family activity ideas

Early Elementary Resources

These resources will help you engage students with different learning styles. These multisensory teaching tools include visual, printed, and audio resources.



On the 8 sheets you'll find:

- Bible Memory posters (1 per unit)
- Bible story and application visuals

On the CD you'll find:

- · Recorded Bible stories
- Printable files for students activity and Bible skills pages
- Printable files for teachers—
 Bible Memory posters, special needs helps, teacher helps



Early Elementary Teaching Pictures

These large, colorful illustrations include the Bible story printed on the back in both English and Spanish.



Go online to HeartShaper.com and SundaySchool.com

Go to **HeartShaper.com** to find loads of resources for teachers and families! You'll also want to sign up to receive the HeartShaper biweekly e-newsletter.

FREE online resources for teachers:

- Overview by age level
- Training videos
- Family Connections quarterly letters
- Holiday helps

- Special needs resources
- Leading Young Hearts to the Lord pocket guide
- Puppet patterns

FREE online resource for families:

 Faith & Family pages with activity ideas for reinforcing Bible lessons at home

And at **SundaySchool.com**, check out all the ways you can purchase your HeartShaper curriculum—print, downloadable Microsoft[®] Word docs, and downloadable PDFs!



For simple lesson planning, get the *Early Elementary Teacher's Convenience Kit.* It contains one *Early Elementary Teacher Guide*, one *Early Elementary Activities*, the complete *Early Elementary Resources* pack, *Early Elementary Teaching Pictures*, and one set of *Weekly Bible Reader* student magazine.

Teaching Early Elementary Kids

With HeartShaper, early elementary kids will grow spiritually

Early elementary kids can know these important facts:

- Only God and Jesus deserve their worship
- · Jesus is God's Son; Jesus is their Savior and friend
- God expects them to obey Him and His Word
- The Bible tells them all they need to know about God and Jesus

Early elementary kids can show these godly attitudes:

- Love God, feel He is special, and want to worship Him
- Love Jesus and want to follow His example
- Feel confident and willing to tell about Jesus

Early elementary kids can exhibit these desirable behaviors:

- Worship God in a variety of ways
- Follow Jesus' example of being a good friend
- Tell others about Jesus
- Pray sentence prayers, asking God for help or forgiveness and thanking God

See the entire list on the Early Elementary Resources CD or at www.heartshaper.com.



With HeartShaper, early elementary kids will develop Bible skills

Early elementary kids will build on these Bible skills:

- Know the Bible is God's special book that tells about God and Jesus
- Know there are two parts of the Bible, an Old Testament and New Testament
- Say simple Bible verses from memory
- Retell basic facts about main Bible characters
- Begin to sequence events in main Bible stories

Early elementary kids will develop these new Bible skills:

- Begin to understand the major emphasis of the Old and New Testaments
- Know how to find Bible verses
- Begin to read Bible verses
- Say longer Bible verses from memory
- Develop Bible-reading comprehension skills

Early elementary kids will gain even more with optional Bible skills:

If desired and you have time, the Optional Bible Skill Builder in each lesson (provided on the Resources CD) will help kids learn these skills:

- Learn to use the table of contents in a Bible
- Find books, chapters, and verses in a Bible
- Put a simple series of Bible events and people in chronological order
- Begin to understand general divisions of Bible books

See the entire list on the Early Elementary Resources CD or at www.heartshaper.com.

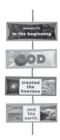
Unit 1

God Made Everything

Bible Memory

Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."



Bible Skills

Bible skills are intentionally integrated into each lesson. You'll help kids learn how to use their Bibles so God's Word goes deep into their hearts. See the introductory pages of this teacher guide for details.

Optional Bible Skill Builders and Key Bible Verses

Use the Optional Bible Skill Builder activities whenever you have time—before, during, or at the end of your session.

Print the Key Bible Verses from the *Resources* CD. Finding and reading the verses will help kids remember each week's Bible lesson. Be sure to send a copy of these verses home, along with the unit family letter.

Look for this symbol throughout the teacher guide to identify activities that work well for all kids, including those with special needs. Additional helps for teaching kids with special needs can be found on the *Resources* CD and at www.heartshaper.com.

Lesson	Scripture	Focus
Lesson 1 God Makes the World	Genesis 1:1-19	♥ God made the world.
Lesson 2 God Makes the Animals	Genesis 1:20-25	♥ God made all the animals.
Lesson 3 God Makes People	Genesis 1:20-2:25	♥ God made people.

HeartShaper Materials for Unit 1

Early Elementary Activities

Lessons 1-3 and Unit 1 Bible Memory Poster and stickers

Early Elementary Teaching Pictures

Lessons 1-3

Early Elementary Resources

Visuals

Sheet 1—Unit 1 Bible Memory Mobile, Creation Story Cards 1a-1f Sheet 4—Animal Photo Cards (lesson 2), Human Body Figures 3a, 3b

CD

Audio Tracks

Track 2 Bible Story, lesson 2

Printable Files

Classroom Tools (attendance chart, bookmarks, name tags, Old and New Testament posters)

Special Needs Helps (see CD Contents for complete list of files)
Teacher Helps (see CD Contents for complete list of files)
Unit 1 Bible Memory Poster (*KJV* and *NIV*), Family Letter (*KJV* and *NIV*), Key Bible Verses (*KJV* and *NIV*), Optional Bible Skill Builder,
Review Questions (also provided by lesson), and Worship Time Ideas

Buzzy Bee Letters, lessons 1-3

Additional files: "My Favorite Things" Prayer Poster, Animal Puppets, "That's Cool" Story Script

Weekly Bible Reader student magazine, issues 1-3

Faith & Family online devotional guide for parents and kids.

Go to www.heartshaper.com.

Additional Activities for Unit 1

Use these activities for early arrivers, for children who finish activities quickly, and when you are waiting for parents to arrive.

"God Made Me Special" Bulletin Board

Take photos of your class members or ask parents to send photos. Title a bulletin board, "God Made Me Special." Let children put their photos on the board. Have children make lists of information about themselves that they would like to share with others: age, grade in school, favorite food, favorite color, and so on. Children can put their lists by their photos. Follow these safety precautions: Get parents' permission before taking and displaying photos of children. Only identify children by first names and display the photos in your classroom, not in a hallway.

God Made Me Special,

Games

I Spy—Go outside or gather children to look out a window. Ask one child to choose something he or she sees that God made and then to give clues so other children can guess what it is. (Example: "I spy something white. I spy something fluffy." [cloud])

Animal Guessing Game—Give children one clue at a time. Begin with vague clues and then get more specific. (Example: "I have four legs and a tail. I am a kind of cat. I am very big. I roar. Some people call me the king of the jungle." [lion]) Let children give clues also.

Seasonal Ideas

Apples and Dip—For a fun snack, bring in apple slices and let kids dip them in caramel dipping sauce. Bring in a variety of apples and let kids taste the differences.

Leaf Silhouettes—Have kids bring in leaves with interesting shapes. Kids can lay one leaf on a sheet of paper. While holding it in place, they are to brush on paint, brushing out from the center of the leaf to just over the edge of the leaf to create an outline of the leaf. They can remove the first leaf, then lay another leaf down in a different spot and paint its outline with a different color. Kids can do as many leaves as they desire. The pictures will look great taped to a sunny window.

Service Project

Guide children in understanding their role in taking care of the world God made. Plan a get-together at your church building or someone's house. Children can rake leaves, pick up trash, and water plants.

Buzzy Bee Letters

Buzzy Bee letters, included on the *Resources* CD, provide a fun way for kids to review the weekly Bible story and focus. Print and distribute copies, or print one copy and post it where kids can read it. The letters can also be mailed or e-mailed to kids during the week.

Added fun!

For more seasonal craft ideas, go to www.heartshaper.com and check out the Holiday Helps in the For Teacher section.



God Makes the World

Lesson 1



Scripture: Genesis 1:1-19 Bible Memory: Genesis 1:1 Focus: ♥ God made the world.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

What a powerful, creative, and awesome God we have. He's powerful—out of nothing He formed our beautiful world. He's creative—think of the hundreds of types of trees, flowers, and plants. He's awesome—He set the sun, moon, and stars in place. What can you do except praise Him! Praise Him with words. Praise Him with songs. Praise Him by how you live. Praise Him by telling others about Him. Praise our powerful, creative, and awesome God!

Lesson 1 at a Glance

FOCUS IN Use one of these activities to help children explore things God made on the first four days of creation.



Quick Step Guess What?



Option **Discovery Bags**



Bible Memory Introduce the Bible Memory verse. **HeartShaper Materials**

- none
- none
- none

Other Materials

- none
- paper lunch bags, items that God made (see activity)
- Bible

EXPLORE HIS WORD

> Use all of these activities to help children tell what God made on the first four days of creation.



Bible Exploration Genesis 1:1-19



Bible Review Activity



Bible Memory Genesis 1:1



Optional Bible Skill

• Resources sheet 1 Creation Story Cards 1a-1f, Teaching Picture 1

- · (optional: Resources CD Review Questions)
- Resources sheet 1 Unit 1 Bible Memory Mobile 1g-1j

Bibles

- none
- Bibles, 3' length of cord, 4 clip clothespins

MAKE IT REAL

Use one of these activities to help children tell what they like about the world God made.



Quick Step Look What God Made



Option



Virtual Walk

Builder



Option Story from Weekly Bible Reader · Activities pp. 3 and 4

none

bags

none

· Weekly Bible Reader issue 1

none

LIVE IT OUT

Use one of these activities to help children show God they like the world He made.



Quick Step Thank-You Walk



Option

"My Favorite Things" Prayer **Posters**

Saying Good-bye

none

and stickers

· "My Favorite Things" Prayer Poster

reproducible page

· Weekly Bible Reader issue 1, Activities Unit 1 Bible Memory Poster · trash bags, disposable gloves, hand

· pencils, scissors, resealable plastic

• 11" x 17" drawing paper, scissors, glue, markers

none

Focus In (10-15 minutes)



Use one of these activities to help children **explore things God made on the first four days of creation.** Use the Bible Memory activity to introduce the memory verse.

Focus

God made the world.

Welcome

- Welcome each child by name.
- Engage early arrivers by offering one or more of the activities described on the Additional Activities for Unit 1 page.

Quick Step Guess What?

Have children gather in a circle. SAY: Let's explore a couple of things God made as we play a fun guessing game. Try to guess from the clues I give you what God made. Tell kids to raise their hands when they know what God made.

SAY: I am one out of billions of stars. I am the closest star to the earth. I give light to the earth. You see me during the day. What am I? (the sun) I provide food and building materials. I help to prevent erosion. I can grow taller than 300 feet! I give you shade. What am I? (a tree)

ASK: How are all these things alike? (God made them.)
Why do you think God made each of these things?

SAY: The Bible tells us • God made the world. Let's learn more about the world God made.

Option Discovery Bags

Before class, place each item you have gathered into a separate bag.

SAY: Let's see what we can discover about different things God made. Hold up one bag and ask a child to reach into the bag and describe what he feels. The rest of the children can guess what the item is. Make sure everyone gets a turn. Remind the children that all the items are things God made on the first four days of creation. If you have a magnifying glass, let children use it to look more closely at the items once they are revealed. SAY: The Bible tells us God made the world. Let's learn more about the world God made.

ASK: How are all these things alike? (God made them.)
Why do you think God made each of these things?

Bible Memory Genesis 1:1

Ask kids to sit in a circle. Read Genesis 1:1 from your Bible. SAY: Our Bible Memory tells us \P God made the world. Let's take turns naming things God made. We'll name things we see in the sky or things we see on the earth. After a part of creation has been named, we'll say the Bible Memory together. Let's see how quickly we can name things God made. Keep the activity moving. If a child can't think of something to name, she can say "Pass." After each child has had one or two turns, end the activity. SAY: I'm glad the Bible tells us \P God made the world.

Materials

none



Added Fun!

Let kids give clues about or draw pictures of things God made. See whether classmates can guess what is being described or drawn.

Materials

paper lunch bags; items that God made: pinecone, grass, rock, flower, leaf, etc. (optional: magnifying glass)

For children with sensory issues, offer a choice of feeling the objects or looking at them through a magnifying glass.

Materials

Bible



Transition to Explore His Word

See the *Resources* CD Transition Tips printable file. As children gather, make sure you have all the materials you need.

Focus

God made the world.

Explore His Word (20 minutes)



Use all of these activities to help children tell what God made on the first four days of creation.

Bible Background for the Teacher

It's interesting that the first words in the Bible tell us that God made everything. God wanted us to know right from the start that the world was not created by some accident. He and He alone planned for and created the world. Only God was not created; He is eternal.

God made the world in an orderly manner. First He separated, gathered, and made; then God filled His world. With only a few hundred words, the writer of Genesis describes how God made everything. Even though we might have liked more details, we do learn several important facts about God and His creation: God simply spoke and things came into existence. God is all-powerful. God is in charge. God is in control.

Worship Time

If you want to offer a time of worship, see the Unit 1 Worship Time Ideas included on the Resources CD.

Materials

Bibles, Resources
sheet 1 Creation Story
Cards 1a-1f, Teaching Picture 1
(optional: reusable adhesive and poster board)



Bible Exploration Genesis 1:1-19

SAY: Our Bible story comes from the Old Testament book of Genesis. Open your Bible to Genesis. Genesis is the first book of the Old Testament. Genesis tells about God making the world. Help children find Genesis in their Bibles. Ask for a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1. SAY: The Bible tells us that only God made the world.

SAY: Help me tell the Bible story. When you hear a number, hold up that many fingers. When you hear me say "And God saw that it was . . . ," finish the sentence by saying "good." Listen to hear what God made on the first four days of creation.

Give the story cards to children to hold up, or you can attach them to a piece of poster board at the appropriate times. Point to Genesis 1:1 in your Bible. SAY: The Bible tells us that in the very beginning, God made the world. There was nothing until God spoke, just darkness. Let's close our eyes and try to imagine how dark it was. Be sure all eyes are closed, and then continue in a quiet voice. There is no sun or moon, no day or night. There are no people or animals, plants or trees. There is only darkness and empty space.

Let's open our eyes. On day 1 (children hold up one finger), God made light. Then God separated the light from the darkness. Show card 1a. He called the light "day," and the darkness He called "night."

On day 2 (children hold up two fingers), God made the sky. Show 1b. Now there could be clouds and air and fog and wind.

On day 3 (children hold up three fingers), God said, "Let the waters come together and let there be dry ground." Show 1c. God decided to name the dry ground "land." And God named the waters "seas." And God saw that it was... (children say "good"). That same day God made tall mountains and valleys, rushing rivers and bubbling streams. God told every kind of plant that comes from a little seed to grow on the land. The ground was covered with green grass, flowery bushes, and tall trees. Show 1d. God made fruits and vegetables too—juicy apples and oranges, crunchy carrots and green beans. At the end of the day, God looked at everything He had made and saw that it was... (children say "good").

On day 4 (children hold up four fingers), God made the sun, moon, and stars. The sun (show 1e) would give light during the day. Its warmth would help the plants grow. The moon and stars (show 1f) would light up the night. God looked at His beautiful creation. Show Teaching Picture 1 and have children point to the things God made as you name them. He saw the day and night, the blue sky, the oceans and rivers, the mountains and valleys, the green plants and trees, the warm sun, the moon and stars. And God saw that it was . . . (children say "good").

God made the world.

Bible Review Activity

SAY: Let's see what you remember from the Bible story. Jump up when you think you know an answer. You may want to print and use the review questions from the *Resources* CD to help children further review the story.

ASK: What did God make on the first day of creation? (light)
What did God make on the second day of creation? (sky)
What did God make on the third day of creation? (seas, dry land, mountains, plants, fruits, vegetables)
What did God make on the fourth day of creation? (sun, moon, stars)

Bible Memory Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Help children find Genesis 1:1 in their Bibles. Tell children that Genesis is the first book of the Bible and the first book of the Old Testament. Ask for volunteers to read the verse, or you can read it.

Randomly distribute the sections of the Bible Memory Mobile. Ask the child who has the first section with the Scripture reference and opening words to help you clip that section at the top of a length of cord. Repeat with the other sections until the verse can be read in order from top to bottom. Read the verse together; then remove one section and see whether kids can fill in the missing words. Repeat, removing another part of the verse each time. SAY: This verse tells us \P God made the world—and what a wonderful world He made!

Materials

(optional: *Resources* CD Lesson 1 Review Questions printable file)



Materials

Bibles, Resources sheet 1 Unit 1 Bible Memory Mobile 1g-1j, 3' length of cord, 4 clip clothespins

Optional Bible Skill Builder

Print and display the books of the Old Testament and New Testament posters provided with the Resources CD Classroom Tools. Print copies of the Unit 1 Optional Bible Skills Activity. Assist as needed in making and placing bookmarks in Bibles. Help children understand the basic difference between the Old and New Testaments.

Focus

♥ God made the world.

Make It Real (10-15 minutes)



Use one of these activities to help children tell what they like about the world God made.

Materials

Activities pp. 3 and 4, pencils, scissors, resealable plastic bags



Teaching Tip

Provide resealable bags for kids to place their pictures in for taking home.

Materials none



Some children may have difficulty visualizing the various places on a virtual walk. If enough adults are available, consider taking an actual walk around the church property. If this is not possible, show pictures of the various places you are describing.

Materials

Weekly Bible Reader issue 1



Quick Step Look What God Made

SAY: We've learned that **God made the world.** ASK: Why is it important that God made these things? Let children offer their ideas. Point out that the creation God made gives us air to breathe, warmth, light, food and drink, shelter, and so on.

Distribute the activity page and pencils. SAY: Read the sentences on the back of your activity page and use the Word Box to help complete a fun fact about each picture of something God made. If you have beginning readers, pair them with children who can read more fluently, and let them work together to complete the activity. Give help as needed. Kids can cut apart the pictures and take them home. Encourage children to share the pictures and fun facts with friends and family members. The kids can tell why it is important that \P God made the world.

Option Virtual Walk

SAY: God made the world. Let's take a walk and see whether we can find things we like that God made. With children seated, lead kids on a virtual walk. Tell kids they are to imagine they are walking out the front door of your church facility. What do they see on their left? on their right? up ahead? Move their thoughts to a ballpark, a playground, and other places kids would go. As you name places familiar to kids, have them name things God made that they would see in those places. You can add to the fun of the walk by having kids "run" (slap hands on thighs) to the ballpark, "climb" (alternately move hands upward) a tree, "swish" (rub hands together back and forth) through tall grass, and so on.

ASK: What are some other things God made that you like?

Why is it important that God made these things? Let children offer their ideas. Point out that the creation God made gives us air to breathe, warmth, light, food and drink, shelter, and so on.

Option Story from Weekly Bible Reader

SAY: We've learned that • God made the world. Let's remember some of the things God made as we read a story together. Read "A Walk with Grandpa" from issue 1. Ask children to tell why they think it is important that God made the different parts of creation. Let children offer their ideas. Point out that the creation God made gives us air to breathe, warmth, light, food and drink, shelter, and so on.

Live It Out (5-10 minutes)



Use one of these activities to help children show God they like the world He made.

Focus

God made the world.

Quick Step Thank-You Walk

SAY: God made the world for us to enjoy and to provide the things we need. One way we can show God we like the world He made is by taking care of that world. Let's take a thank-You walk and take care of a little piece of God's world. If weather permits and you have an outdoor area where children can walk safely, take them outside and let them pick up trash and gather items that can be recycled. If you cannot go outdoors, work together to clean classrooms and hallways. Provide gloves for kids to wear, and be sure they know to tell an adult if they see any sharp glass or metal objects. At the end of the walk, gather for prayer. Thank God for the world He made. Be sure kids wash their hands when they return to the classroom.

Option "My Favorite Things" Prayer Posters



SAY: God made the world for us to enjoy and to provide the things we need. Let's make prayer posters that will show God we like the world He made. Distribute drawing paper, copies of the prayer poster reproducible page, and art supplies. Have kids write at the top of their papers the title "My Favorite Things God Made." Kids can draw on the papers their favorite parts of creation, or they can color, cut out, and glue on pictures from the reproducible page. Be sure to offer assistance with cutting and pasting as needed.

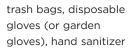
After kids have completed their posters, ask them to bring the posters and gather in a circle. Take turns showing the posters, talking to God, and thanking Him for the world He made. Help kids who are nonverbal to share their posters with the group too. Kids can display the posters for others to see—either in the classroom or at home.

Note: Some children may prefer creating shapes with modeling clay rather than drawing pictures. Provide the materials needed. During prayer time, kids can show what favorite part of creation they have molded.

Saying Good-bye

- Make sure children have projects and activity pages they have done and the Activities Unit 1 Bible Memory Poster and stickers. Stickers are in the middle of Early Elementary Activities. Encourage kids to complete their posters at home, coloring and adding stickers.
- If you have time before parents arrive, use some of the activities on the Additional Activities for Unit 1 page.

Materials





Teaching Tip

Be sure to purchase latex-free, powder-free disposable gloves.

Materials

11" x 17" drawing paper, copies of the "My Favorite" Art Things" Prayer Poster reproducible page, scissors, glue, markers (or crayons) (optional: modeling clay, table covering)

Note

See the teacher contents page for the location of reproducible pages. The "My Favorite Things" Prayer Poster is also provided with the lesson 1 printable files on the *Resources* CD.

Weekly Bible Reader

Give each student a Weekly Bible Reader to take home.



Be sure parents know about the *Faith & Family* pages available online to print and use with their children at home. Go to www.heartshaper.com.



Just For You

A Teacher's Vision

Why We Teach Kids

Adults send messages to kids all the time—by their behavior. Sometimes these messages discourage kids, demean their worth or diminish their hope.

But a Sunday School teacher who arrives week after week to faithfully love and look at, smile and listen to kids, sends messages through behavior, too.

Those messages say:

"You are important to me and to God. I choose to spend time with you."
"Your opinions and feelings matter to me because who you are matters to God."
"You are valuable—not someday, but now. You are not a problem to me.
You are God's gift. I am glad you are here!"

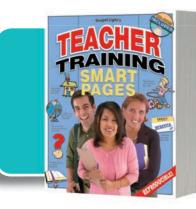
Where else in the world can a disheartened kid find such affirmation?

What better way could a lonely kid

find the welcome, acceptance and love that is in Christ?

This is how God's kingdom comes—week after week, building life upon life. To become faithful givers of such cheerful loving and patient teaching, we must surrender ourselves to the love of God in Jesus Christ Only He can empower us to love unselfishly, consistently and genuinely—so that what we do sends the message that is truly from His heart.

Then our behavior will say that even without monetary compensation, without applause or appreciation, we choose to love them purely because we value them for who they are, because we know Jesus loves them and because we know eternity would not be complete without their shining faces.



For more inspiration and training, you'll want to get a copy of *Teacher Training Smart Pages*.

Available from your Christian retailer or at SundaySchool.com



Shape hearts. Change lives.

HeartShaper helps kids grow to know and love God and His Word—and live it out!

What makes HeartShaper unique?

- Kids take five journeys through the Bible by the time they reach 6th grade.
- Bible skills, integrated into each lesson, build on each other from one age level to the next.
- Activity options are included in most steps of each lesson.
- Quick Step[™] activities, easy to prepare and teach, require no materials other than the curriculum and common classroom supplies.
- Special needs friendly activities are integrated into each lesson.
 Additional resources are available at www.heartshaper.com/special-needs.



Products sold separately or in a kit

Plus, check out FREE online resources at www.heartshaper.com.





