

GOD made the WORLD & ME

**Thirteen Comprehensive
6-in-1 Curriculum Lessons**

**Includes Special Centers for
Older Students & Younger Students**

written by
Susan Laurita



with
**Helen Haidle
& David Haidle**

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God Made the World and Me

Thirteen 6-in-1 Comprehensive Curriculum Lessons

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GOD made the WORLD & ME

for Preschoolers

Summary of Introductory Pages for Leaders & Teachers

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- 11 Parent Take Home Paper #1 — to be copied and sent home with students BEFORE lessons begin.

Scope & Sequence Lesson Outline

Six Science, Physical, & Art Learning Centers

| | |
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Circle Time Songs

The "Creation Song" by Susan Laurita

Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" ("Are You Sleeping, Brother John?").



On Day one, on Day one,
God did make, God did make
Light to shine in darkness,
Light to shine in darkness.
It was good. It was good.

On Day two, on Day two,
God did make, God did make
Lots of sky and water,
Lots of sky and water.
It was good. It was good.

On Day three, on Day three,
God did make, God did make
Many trees and flowers,
Many trees and flowers.
It was good. It was good.

On Day four, on Day four,
God did make, God did make
Sun and moon and stars,
Sun and moon and stars.
It was good. It was good.

On Day five, on Day five,
God did make, God did make
All the fish and birdies,
All the fish and birdies.
It was good. It was good.

On Day six, on Day six,
God did make, God did make
All the other animals,
All the other animals.
God made man, woman too.

(more slowly)

On Day seven, on Day seven,
God did rest, God did rest.
All the work was finished,
All the work was finished.
It was good, very good!

More Songs:

"Everything Is Possible"

Everything is possible with our God.
Everything is possible with our God.
Stand up where you are and give a little nod.
Everything is possible with our God.
With our God, with our God,
Stand up where you are and give a little nod.
Everything is possible with our God.

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

"Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes"

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

"My God Is So Big"

"Jesus Loves Me"

"God Is So Good"

"God Made Me"

Introduction for Leaders

Each lesson uses a Scripture Verse that corresponds with an illustration from *The Creation Story for Children* book.

“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis 1:1 NKJV).

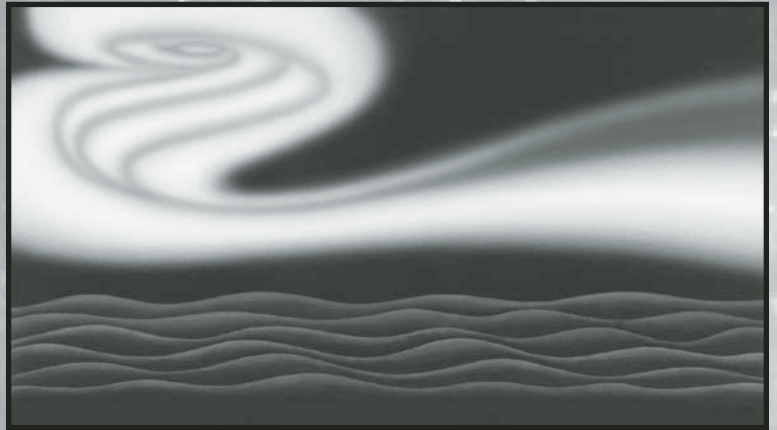
The KJV (King James Version) is used.
(Note: Feel free to substitute any other version of Scripture you prefer.)

NOTE: This section provides a checklist to prepare for each lesson.

Get Ready:

- PRAY
- MAKE COPIES
- CONTACT ASSISTANTS
- PREPARE
- GATHER

God Creates . . .



6 Learning Centers

To involve children before and after Circle Time Learning
**Physical Center, Science Center,
Art Center, Older/Younger
Students**

David & Helen Haidle



Helen and David have written and illustrated 45 books during the past 20 years. Their award-winning books have won three C. S. Lewis Awards and three CBA Silver Medallions. With sales of over 1,700,000, the Haidles' books help families, churches, and schools present God's love to children. Their recent publications provide resources on Psalm 23 and Creation. The Haidles' new non-profit organization, HEART GIFTS, provides thousands of books to needy children.

Contact Helen at: helen@seedfaithbooks.com
Visit the Haidles' website at: <http://www.seedfaithbooks.com>

Suggested Teaching Schedules

The lessons in this books are adaptable for all children's programs. They can last for as little as one week or as long as three months. Suggested time frames are listed below. Use the parts of the lessons best suited for your children and program resources.

Christian Schools or Church Sunday School/Sabbath School/Mid-Week Services:
Thirteen Lessons — One lesson a week for a quarter (three months)

Homeschool Study: Three months (13 weeks) on CREATION
Can study one lesson per week for 13 weeks
(Focus on one learning center four days each week)

Preschool/Child Care: One Lesson each week for 13 weeks
or spend one month (four weeks) on CREATION

| | |
|--------|---------------|
| Week 1 | Lessons 1–3 |
| Week 2 | Lessons 4–6 |
| Week 3 | Lessons 7–9 |
| Week 4 | Lessons 10–13 |

Vacation Bible School: Usually meets for only a week

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| Monday | Lessons 1–4 |
| Tuesday | Lessons 5–6 |
| Wednesday | Lessons 7–8 |
| Thursday | Lessons 9–10 |
| Friday | Lessons 11–13 |

Susan Laurita, Author



Susan Laurita is the Director of Professional Early Education Resources (PEERS), a division of PROEEA. Susan has a BA in Early Childhood Education, an MS in Family Support, and over 30 years in the field. Her driving passion is to encourage in children, staff, and families a lifelong love of learning. Her strengths include teacher training, writing, parent education, curriculum development, and accreditation.

Contact Susan at: slaurita1@aol.com.

Note for Leaders of Preschool Groups

The week or session BEFORE you begin this CREATION series of lessons with your preschoolers, copy and send home this special **PARENT PAGE** found on the next page of this introduction section.

This information, along with several suggestions for activities to be done at home, will help parents prepare their child for a positive experience of learning when they come to your next class.

One important thing about this curriculum is that it invites children and parents in and makes use of all of their senses. But if you do not have time or resources to set up ALL the learning centers and everything that is listed, don't worry. Do the best you can with your time and resources.

Ask God to use your time and talents to encourage in children a love for learning and an awe for the Lord of Creation. Let God's Holy Spirit do the rest! Our blessings to you as you invest in children and families for eternity.

—Susan Laurita, author

Note on RESOURCES: Oriental Trading Company, Inc., sells many items that can be used for room decorations and for the six Learning Centers each week.

Plastic magnifying glasses, bubbles, bottles, Break-Your-Own-Geode rocks, smiling sun and hanging stars, palm tree and flower decorations, seashells, sand dollars, starfish, sea life decoration assortment, foam parrots, animal puppets, and/or bean bags (*Fin, Feathers, Fur game*), plus dolphin balloons and flower leis for the Creation Celebration (#13).

Dear Parents,

Lesson

1

Next Time: we begin a series on CREATION. Each session will have a science learning center, a physical learning center, and an art learning center related to one specific day of creation. After each lesson, your child will bring home a note explaining what we have done in class, and how you can help your child prepare for next class session.

This Time: Help your child focus on the concepts of “empty” and “light and darkness.”

Suggestions:

1. Schedule an “empty event” when you hand your children “empty” containers for them to fill themselves. (*Examples: dishes at meal times, snack plates, crayon boxes, bathtubs, etc.*) Then switch roles. Let your children hand you “empty” things.
2. Make a list of things your child does in the light. Make a second list of the things your child does at night. Compare the two lists. Ask your child which he/she prefers.

Read Genesis 1:1–5 to your child this week. Pray for your child and for his/her teachers.

Things to Bring to the NEXT class: a flashlight marked with your child’s name on it.

God’s blessings to your family from your Teaching Staff.

copy and distribute

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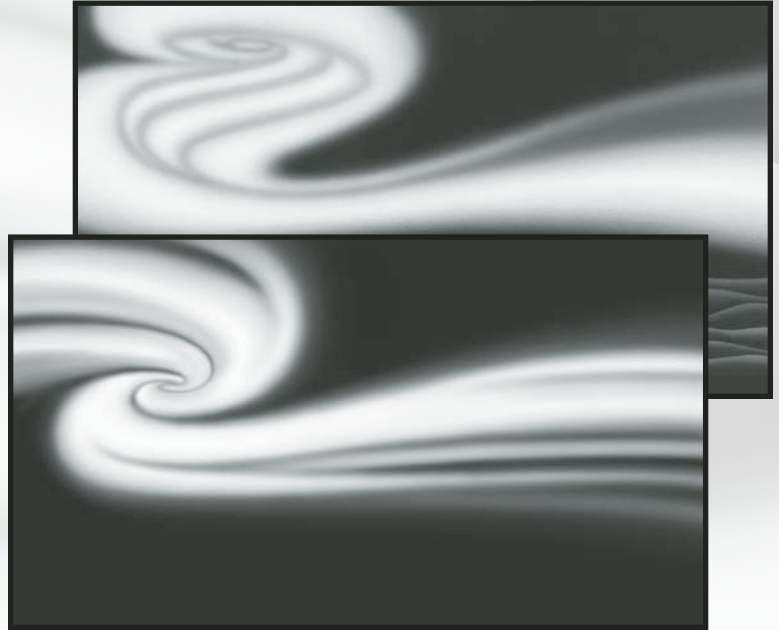
Lesson 1

God Creates LIGHT

"In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. . . And God said, 'Let there be light.' And there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day" (Genesis 1:1, 3-5 KJV).

Get Ready:

- PRAY** throughout the week that God will bless you and your children with understanding of the awesome power of His creation.
- MAKE COPIES** of the parent take-home page (for a group class).
- CONTACT ASSISTANTS** and go over the things you would like them to do in class.
- PREPARE** and set up your teaching areas to be used for the learning centers and Circle Time activities.
- GATHER** *The Creation Story for Children* (optional) plus supplies and materials for your centers and circle time.



Welcome parents and children as they arrive.

Remember to call each one by name.

Invite children to join one of the learning centers

Learning Center Supplies

Physical Center

flashlights

Science Center

#1 – flashlight and a prism

#2 – tub of water, cornstarch, towels for cleanup

Art Center

half sheets of black or dark-blue construction paper, drinking straws for each student, white tempera paint, and silver glitter (optional)

Older/Younger Students

- flashlight, cardstock, books, scissors, a table.
- half sheets of black or dark-blue construction paper, white tempera or finger paint, white pencil or chalk, spoon to scoop paint, paint smocks, water, towels

Learning Centers

(To involve children before and after Circle Time Learning)

Physical Center

Flashlight Tag



*Supplies Needed: flashlights, chairs
(Hopefully some of the children
brought flashlights from home.)*

Choose one child to be "it." Let him use his own flashlight or loan him yours.

Explain:

1. When it's your turn to be "it," you will try to catch one of your friends.
2. You can "tag" any person by shining your light on the other person's body.

3. So if someone shines the light on your body, you are "caught" or "captured."

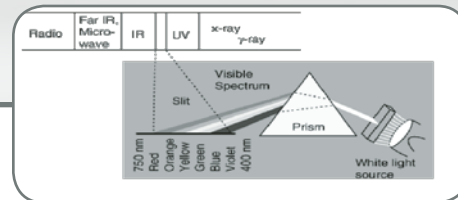
Then you must go and sit down on the floor with other children who have been captured by the person who is "it."

You can't get up and run away, but you can cheer for those who are being chased.

4. When all of the children have been caught, then another child will have a turn to be "it," and we can start the tag game all over again.

Science Center

Option #1



*Supplies Needed: a flashlight and a prism
(optional: a color wheel)*

Let children tell what they already know.

- Guess what will happen when you turn on the flashlight. (*Light will shine out.*)
- What color is the light? (*White/yellowish*)
Are there any other colors in light? (*No.*)
- What about the prism?
Have you ever seen a prism?
What color is the prism?
Let's shine the light through a prism and find out what colors we will see.
- Look at all the colors! What colors do you see?
Where did the colors come from?
When God gave us light, God also gave us all the colors we enjoy every day.
ALL the colors are part of all the "light." We just can't see the colors until the prism breaks them apart into a rainbow.
- Now let's all tell our favorite color.
(*Let children take turns holding the flashlight and prism as they tell their favorite color.*)

Learning Centers

Science Center

Supplies Needed: tub of water, cornstarch, towels for cleanup

- Let children feel the cornstarch before you add it to the water.
- Once cornstarch is added to water, let children take turns trying to pull some of the cornstarch out of the tub.

Explain: The cornstarch feels somewhat solid before we put it into the tub of water, but when it's wet it slips through your fingers. That is called "formless" because it has no shape at all.

Option #2

Discuss:

1. Does this mixture have a special "shape"? (*No. Nothing at all.*)
2. What if WE were like this? (*We wouldn't have any form without bones and skin holding our bodies together.*)
3. What if the whole world was like this tub of water and cornstarch?
The world used to be like this. It was formless before God made everything.
4. Do you like the world the way it is now with all the plants, animals, and our bodies? YES! Let's thank God that we have a shape and a form.

Older Children

Supplies Needed: flashlight, cardstock, books, scissors, and a table

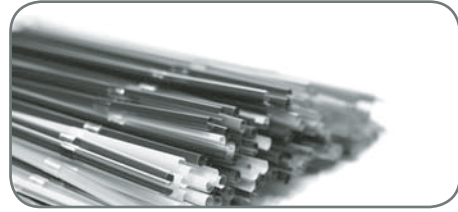
1. On the center of the table, prop the piece of cardstock up with books on either side.
2. Put the flashlight at the end of the table pointing in the direction of the cardstock.
 - Where will the light go when I turn on the flashlight?
 - Will it hit the paper, or will it end up somewhere else?
3. Check your answers by turning on a flashlight.
4. Now draw a circle around the light on the cardstock. Cut out the circle.
Replace the cardstock in its standing up position.
 - Now where will the light go? Test it. The light goes straight to the wall.
5. Explain: Light travels in a straight line. That makes it easy to remember God made it on Day 1. (*Hold up your index finger. Have children hold up one finger also.*)



Learning Centers

Art Center

Supplies Needed: half sheets of black or dark-blue construction paper, drinking straws for each student, white tempera paint, silver glitter (optional)



NOTE: If you do this art project as a large group activity, have the children clean up their area when they finish their painting. Have them join one of the other centers.

If not done as a group activity, you also could read some books about night and day.

NOTE: Finger paint recipe on final page of this lesson. Use heavy paper.

1. On a half sheet of black or dark-blue construction paper, drop a tablespoon size of white paint.
2. Have the children blow GENTLY through a drinking straw at the paint. This will help spread the paint in all directions and create a nice “burst of light.” Can let the children sprinkle small amounts of glitter on their splattered paintings.
3. Put names on papers and allow to dry.

Younger Children

Supplies Needed: half sheets of black or dark-blue construction paper, white tempera or finger paint, white pencil or chalk (to write their names), teaspoon for putting paint on paper, paint smocks, water and towels (for washing up)



This is very similar to the ART activity for the older children.

EXCEPTION: do *not* ask these youngest children to blow through a straw.

Instead, show them how to make splashes of LIGHT by using their fingers or their whole hands to spread the paint around the paper.

As they work, talk about how God made light shine into the dark. Now we don't have to live in darkness. We thank God for making light shine in our world. The light helps us remember how much God loves us.

NOTE: Be ready to help children wash up when they finish.



**Invite children to come to
Circle Time to join you.**

Circle Time Song

Introduce the "Creation Song."

Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" ("Are You Sleeping?").

On Day one, on Day one,
God did make, God did make
Light to shine in darkness,
Light to shine in darkness.
It was good. It was good.

Other Songs:

"This Little Light of Mine" and "All Night, All Day"

Ask the children for other favorites.

* * * * *

GAME: Night and Day

Ask children to name routine activities they do on a regular basis.
(brush teeth, lay on a pillow, put on some shoes, eat dinner, drink a glass of water, play with toys, help mother, cover up with a blanket, comb your hair, shut your eyes, go to the store, take a bath)

Explain:

- When I name something you do in the DAY, then you should frame your face with your hands, and smile at me.
- When I name something you do at NIGHT, then you should cover your eyes with your hands.

Circle Time Discussion

NOTE: Bring flashlights to Circle Time.

“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the Earth” (Genesis 1:1).

Discuss:

At first, the earth was dark and empty. What was the world like when it was empty? Do you think God was there?

What about other things we can't see?

Was music in the world?

Were colors in the world?

Was love in the world? *(Yes! God is love.)*

(All answers are acceptable).

Let's see if we can make our room look like the Earth at the beginning.

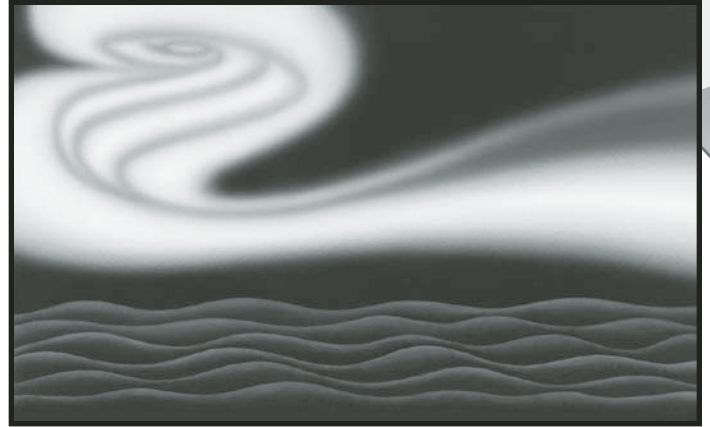
(Turn out lights. Close blinds. Turn off music. Have the children sit down, close their eyes, and listen to no sound at all.)

Raise your hand if you like the world this way. Now open your eyes. We know that God didn't leave the world this way. What do you think God did first?

(Take all answers.)

Optional: Find out what God did as we read pages 3–4 of the *The Creation Story for Children* book.

Who guessed right about what God made first?
(Light)



Read both pages again, but this time when you say “Let there be light” ask everyone to turn on their flashlights and shine them at the ceiling as they join you in saying,

“Let there be light!”

See what a difference LIGHT makes!

Do you like it better in darkness or in light? Why?

What did God say about the light?

(It was good.)

Can we turn darkness into light without our flashlights or classroom lights? *(No! Only God can make light.)*

What kinds of things can you do in the daylight that you cannot do at night?

(Take all answers.)

The Bible tells us, *“God is light. There is no darkness in him at all” (1 John 1:5).*

Aren't we glad that GOD IS LIGHT and that God made light on Day 1? Next time we will find out what God made on Day 2.

Now let's practice our Bible Memory Verse.

Practice the Memory Verse

"God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light" (Genesis 1:3 KJV).

- Sit together with child(ren) in a circle with all of your flashlights pointed up.
- Repeat the memory verse together several times.
- Turn on all your flashlights when you say:

God said, "**Let there be light!**"

Post-Session Learning Centers

(After Circle Time, rotate children to another Learning Center)

Closing • Back to Circle Time

At the end of the class, gather the children together for a closing circle.
(Hold Bible as you read the first verse:)

Listen carefully as I read you the first verse of the Bible.
"In the beginning God made the heaven and the earth."

Now all of you say the verse with me. *(In the beginning . . . God made . . . the heaven . . . and the earth.)*

What was the world like in the beginning? *(Dark, no plants or animals, etc.)*
What did God make on Day 1? *(Light – God said, "Let there be light.")*

Have the children tell what their favorite part of the day was.
Help them review each step. Then pray together.

Thank You, God, for loving us. Thank You for making the heavens and the Earth. We are glad You created so much LIGHT for us to enjoy. Amen.

Remember to send home Parent Page

Dear Parents,

Lesson

1

Today: We talked about God making light in a dark world. We played flashlight tag, saw light break into colors by shining light through a prism, and the older children even learned that light travels in a straight line, which helps us remember God made light on Day 1.

Ask your child to sing the first verse of the Creation Song.

Next Time: We will talk about God creating SKY. The sky looks different every day, depending on the weather. Why not take this week to make a graph of how the sky looks each day. Discuss with your child why the sky looks different, or the same. Which kind of sky did you see the most during the week? Which kind of sky does your child like best? Why do you think God gave us different kinds of weather? How does weather affect us?

Read: Genesis 1:6–8 with your child. Pray with your child for his/her teachers and class.

Bring Next Time: Your homemade graph of the different kinds of skies.

For Parents: Watching the sky reminds all of us that no matter what the weather is, God's love is never-changing, constant, and entirely reliable. God's love for us never ends nor wavers.

Blessings to your family from our Teaching Staff

copy and distribute

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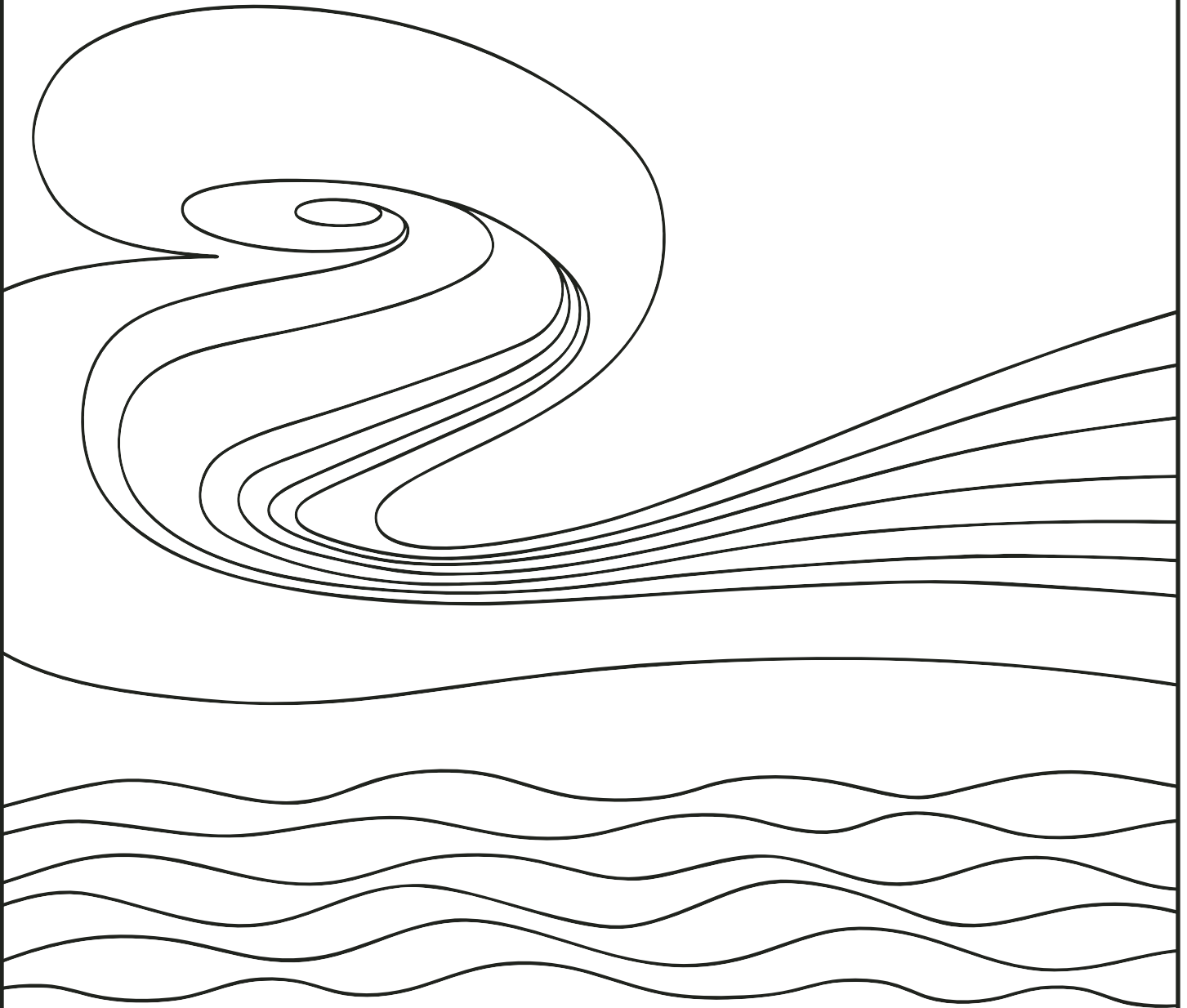
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God Creates LIGHT



**“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth...
And God said, ‘Let there be light.’ And there was light.
And God saw the light, that it was good”** (Genesis 1:1, 3-5 KJV).

Magazine COLOR Collage

Supplies Needed: assortment of magazines, scissors, glue sticks, 11"x17" white paper



1. Hand out magazines to the children. Make sure everyone has at least one magazine.

Kindergartners will enjoy the hunt for images. They will also benefit from some simple guidelines and from taking time to use a scissors.

2. Hand out white paper, scissors, and a glue stick.

3. Explain how LIGHT is made up of all the colors of the rainbow. Have each child choose one color, then collect different objects or swatches of that color from the magazines.

4. Have children glue their cut-out images onto their piece of paper. Encourage students to overlap images and fill up as much of the paper as they can.

NOTE: This is really simple, but the fact that each picture has a color theme unifies the images and can create some stunning artwork. Plus, everyone is getting lots of scissors cutting practice, without really thinking about it!

Easy Fingerpaint for Art Activity Center

Supplies Needed:

2 cups white flour
2 cups cold water
food coloring

Directions:

Put water into a large bowl. Slowly add the flour, while the children are stirring. Once it's all mixed together, divide into smaller bowls and add food coloring.

