



No maximum number
depending on adequate
supervision



15 minutes over
two weeks



This activity requires the
use of scissors and glue.
Leaders should exercise
appropriate caution

How can we help keep God's World?

Aim: To give boys some knowledge of how the world was created and to encourage them to appreciate its beauty and to care for its future

Week One

Equipment:

- Video-tape player and TV, (or an OHP Projector and overhead foils)
- Craft materials (card, paper, pens, glue, scissors etc)

Rather than just tell the story straight from Genesis about how God made the world, try and get a copy of 'The Creation' in Hanna-Barbera's 'Greatest adventure stories from the Bible'. Some Christian bookshops do hire out Christian videos or you could borrow a copy from your local library. Alternatively, you could tell the story by using illustrations drawn onto overhead foils and an OHP or drawings showing the various stages that God made the World.

The first part of God's plan was to make light – he was very pleased with it but decided not to have light all the time. He wanted light for part of the time and darkness for part of the time. He divided light from dark, calling light 'day' and darkness 'night' He also made the sun to shine during the day and the moon at night. When we see light shining through our curtains in the morning we know it is time to get up and we can then go to school or out to play. We can look at books or visit the park. After a day of seeing, doing and talking, the light turns to dark and we know it is time to rest, to sleep.

However, God still had a lot to do. All the world was covered with water and God wanted some dry land because he had special plans for it. God also made volcanoes and earthquakes. They pushed the earth and rocks from underneath the water. He sent strong winds and heavy rain. Some of the land grew very high and became high mountains. Water ran down the mountains, rivers and lakes were formed and God was very pleased.

God had done all of those things so what could he do next? He made plants and trees – tall trees, short trees, trees with leaves, trees with fruit. He made bushes and flowers. The flowers and trees gave colours to the world and fragrances.

He was still not finished – he made the fish, then birds, animals. He then made man to rule over and care for all that had been made. He gave man sight to see all the beautiful things. He helped us to hear and smell and taste, hands that we could to look after God's world.

Not least he gave humans a mind so that they could think for themselves and choose to do right or wrong.

Having talked about all the things that God made, ask the boys to use some of the materials you have provided to make something that God gave to the World.

What did the boys create? These things they have made were created out of virtually nothing. When the world began there was nothing – no world, no plants, no animals, no people. God had a plan. He was going to make a world. Perhaps we cannot understand exactly how it happened but what really matters is that it did. We believe that it happened because God wanted it to happen. God IS the creator of the world.



Week Two

Equipment:

- Flip chart
- Paper
- Colouring pens/pencils

Cover the main points of the story last week that God made the world and everything in it, and when He had finished, he was very pleased with what He had made. God created a beautiful world yet sometimes we do not often look after it well. We take the world for granted and think that it will always last forever.

Ask boys the following questions: So what do we do that spoils God's World? Write their answers up on the flip chart.

- We cut down trees which ought to remain planted
- We drill for oil and gas in the wild areas of the earth
- We throw rubbish on the streets
- We throw rubbish in the rivers polluting them
- We throw out fumes from all our cars polluting the air around us
- We throw out smoke from chimneys – home and factories
- We use chemicals that harm the atmosphere
- We bury waste products which harms the water supply

Once you have given them the idea, I am sure the boys will come up with some more ways in which we spoil our world

Ask boys the following questions: So what can we do to help to protect God's world?

Look at all the ways that your local area uses to protect the environment such as:

- Bottle Bank and glass recycling
- Recycling plastic
- Aluminium collection point
- Waste Paper collection
- Clothes for charity
- Books for charity
- Sewerage treatment

Working in small groups, boys could make large posters about the things that spoil God's world, or a collage of smaller drawings showing how we can help to protect God's world

As an additional idea, you could get someone from your local council to visit the section to talk about the importance of recycling and what the boys can do to help.

If your local authority has a recycling depot, it might be possible to have a guided tour to help the boys to learn about all the things that can be recycled. An escorted visit to a sewerage treatment works can also be very interesting, despite the initial responses from the boys and staff!

