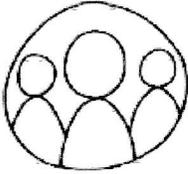


An Illustrated Earth - Celebrating God's Creation

Story One - Separation of the Water



GATHERING - The Wave

Option 1

If you have several people in your group -
Line everyone up in a single straight line (in chairs or standing shoulder to shoulder) and teach them to do the wave. The person on the end begins the wave by standing and raising their hands over their head, then lowering them. The next person to them does the same right afterward and so on.

You can have fun with different ways of doing this, e.g.: start the wave on both ends of the line at the same time, begin on one end and once it hits the end of the line have it go back the other way, have everyone jump when they raise their hands. If you have a large group, try having everyone line up in two lines facing each other, and experiment with people doing the wave across from each other down the lines at the same time.

After doing this, ask where they've seen waves. Talk with them about how fun playing in waves is and how amazing it is that God created them.

Option 2

There is a video online to introduce this module. It talks about waves and water and how amazing they are. We see them in the water in small ripples and in huge waves that people can surf, and in waves that crash along the shore. There is power in water, especially in waves.



STORY TIME

Genesis 1:6-10 - God creates using water and dry land
(*You may want to start with Part 1 **and include** Part 2. OR either can be done alone.*)

Part 1

Here is a paraphrase of this story that is easy for children to read and understand. You may want to read it several times. Once by reading the whole story, then by stopping after each thought to talk about it.

It's interesting to think about "waters below" and "waters above." And how the

dry land appeared. And God seeing how good it all was. You might want to talk about what makes it good.

On the second day God created the world, God said,
“Let there be a covering that separates the waters.”
So God separated the waters below from those above.
God called this covering Sky.
There was morning and night the second day God created the world.
Then God said,
“Let all the water below the sky come together in one place so dry land appears.”
God called the land Earth and the water Sea.
God saw how good it all was.

Part 2

Here is that same paraphrase broken up into a script.

You may want to share the reading between two (or more) people in your group (children or adults).

Have the readers stand up to do their parts.

Have them read it once all the way through, then have them stop after each though to discuss it.

Talk about what comes first, then what, then what, . . .

Have them add motions to the different parts.

Script: Genesis 1:6-10

Reader 1: On the second day God created the world, God said, "Let there be a covering that separates the waters."

Reader 2: So God separated the waters below from those above.

Reader 1: God called this covering Sky.

Reader 2: There was morning and night the second day God created the world.

Reader 1: Then God said, "Let all the water below the sky come together so dry land appears."

Reader 2: God called the land Earth and the water Sea.

Reader 1: God saw how good it all was.

Another way to learn the story - use the 4 illustrated story cards (you can color them)

Now let everyone tell the story by heart (not reading it), with motions or with cards. What comes first, then what, then what, . . .



IMAGINING TOGETHER

You can do this along with **Coloring**.

After you've spent some time with the story, ask each person about the story and see what stood out to them.

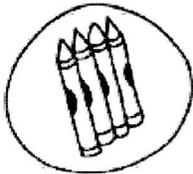
What stood out to them?

What did they imagine when they listened to the story and learned it?

Depending on the time you have set aside for this lesson, you may choose to do this portion while coloring the sheets, or you may want to spend a little time imagining together first, and then move on to the coloring.

Here are a few questions that you could reflect on together. You can add your own:

- What do you love about water?
- Where's your favorite place to go that has water?
- Why does God call the water good?
- What wouldn't be possible on Earth without water?



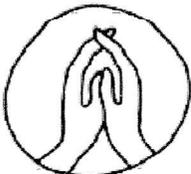
COLORING

We have included 6 coloring sheets here. Use crayons, markers, colored pencils, or whatever you might have on hand.

The first four include a scene from the Genesis story.

The other two are posters with a word, phrase or portion of the biblical passage incorporated into the design.

Coloring is an opportunity to continue talking about the story, while asking questions and seeing where the conversation takes you. Because many of the story's elements are integrated into the coloring design, it may be fun to search out as many symbols as you can that communicate an aspect of the story.



CLOSING PRAYER

After the coloring is done and the conversation is complete,

gather everyone together again for the Closing Prayer.

Whether one person reads the prayer, or they have everyone repeat, phrase by phrase - use this as a chance to “close” your time together. This is a great short ritual to do together; it creates a sense of community and preparation as they enter back into the world.

God,
You are our Good Creator
All that you made is
awesome and beautiful.
As we use water today,
we will remember you
and give you thanks.
Amen.

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An Illustrated Earth: Celebrating God’s Creation
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