

God's Grace in the Garden

Bible Lesson: Genesis 2-3

PREPARATION

Objective

Students will have basic understanding of creation, the fall of man, and God's promised plan of redemption.

Outcomes

1. Students will be able to explain the "God's Story Bookmarks" #1-2 from Genesis 2-3.
2. Students will be able to recite and explain their memory verse, Genesis 3:8b-9.

Memory Verse

Genesis 3:8b-9 "They hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called out to the man. 'Where are you?'" (NIRV)

Directions

1. Drape one chair with the green cloth to represent a tree.
2. Drape another chair with the colorful cloth to represent the serpent.



PREPARATION: 15 min.

TEACHING: 30 min.

Materials

- Bible
- world wall map or globe
- "God's Story Bookmarks" #1-2 (Introduction p. 23)
- TV/DVD player
- "God Called Out" song (MS)
- "Who Made the Plan?" song (AS)
- "My Name Will Be Great" song (MS)
- "Two Little Hands" finger play (AS)

TEACHING (CORE)

MEMORY VERSE SONG: GOD CALLED OUT

Genesis 3:8b-9 “They hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called out to the man. ‘Where are you?’” (NIRV)

Directions

1. Have students spread out so that they have enough room to move their arms without bumping other students.
2. Open your Bible and say, “*Our memory verse today comes from Genesis 3:8-9.*” Read Genesis 3:8-9.
3. Play “God Called Out” on the DVD. First sing the song through twice, then add motions.
4. Explain the motions as you add them, as needed. For instance, tell students that they are reminding themselves where to find the verse by the number of fingers they hold up.

FINGER PLAY: TWO LITTLE HANDS

Directions

1. Practice ahead of time so you can lead the students.
2. Move to the area where the children will hear the Bible lesson each week.
3. Have the children stand in a circle.
4. Play “Two Little Hands.”
5. As you say each line, have the students do the motions with you.

BIBLE LESSON: GOD’S GRACE IN THE GARDEN

Directions

1. Before class, place bookmarks #1-2 in Genesis 2 in your Bible.
2. Begin class by opening your Bible to Genesis 2 and let the first bookmark hang down so that it faces the children. Say, “*The whole world belongs to God. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth; the sun, stars, and moon; plants and animals; and who else?*”
3. Lead children to remember that God created people. Ask students, “*What part of God’s story does this bookmark tell? Do you remember the words and motions you learned the last time we met together?*”
4. Have the students stand up. Act out the motions and speak the words for bookmark #1: Grasp hold of your hands together in front of your body, about shoulder high, and pretend to shake hands. Say, “*In the beginning, God created a strong friendship with people.*”
5. Have them sit down. Say, “*God loved Adam and Eve very much. God put Adam and Eve in his beautiful garden and told them to take care of it for him. They walked and talked with God each day. Imagine God, your very*

Materials

- “God Called Out” song (MS)
- TV/DVD player

Materials

- “Two Little Hands” finger play (AS)
- TV/DVD player

Materials

- Bible
- “God’s Story Bookmarks” #1-2 (Introduction p. 23)

best friend, coming right here to walk with you through the most beautiful garden ever! How wonderful would that be?"

6. Fold out bookmark #2 from your Bible. Ask, *"Do you remember what you learned about this bookmark? What part of the story does it tell?"*
7. Briefly act out the motions, and speak the words for bookmark #2: Break your hands apart, cover your eyes with your hands, and turn away as if separated, saying, *"People sinned and broke this friendship with God."*
8. Say, *"Adam and Eve were just like you and me. They were not perfect. Sometimes they did not obey God. God told them, 'Do not eat from this tree,' but instead of obeying God, Adam and Eve listened to the very bad serpent. The serpent had an evil plan. He wanted Adam and Eve to obey him, instead of obeying God. Is it ever a good idea to disobey God?"* Allow time for students to answer.
9. Then say, *"We should always obey God, but sometimes we do not. Adam and Eve ate from that tree anyway. They sinned. Right away, Adam and Eve became very, very sad, and afraid."*
10. Point to bookmark #2 and ask, *"See how sad they look on this bookmark? God sent them out of his beautiful garden. Adam and Eve could not walk and talk with God any longer. Their sin separated them from God. The serpent's evil plan worked. Ever since that day, long ago, all people have been separated from God. Even today, people's sin separates them from God."*
11. Ask, *"But is that how God's story ends?"* Allow time for responses.
12. Tell students, *"No, God came up with a winning plan, much greater than the serpent's evil plan. God did not explain it all right here in the book of Genesis, but he promised that one day, God's Son would come and stop the evil serpent's plan to separate people from God. God has a greater, more powerful plan than the serpent, and God will win!"*
13. Lean down and lower your voice, as if telling students a secret, *"Now, some of you already know about God's winning plan. You know that God sent his Son, Jesus, to die on the cross to pay for your sins. You have put your trust in him. You know that when you believe that Jesus is God's promised Son and ask him to forgive you for your sins, and he will do it! He will pay for your sins. He will forgive you and make you one of his children. Then you do not have to be separated from God any longer. But that part of the story comes later, and we will talk about it more in another lesson."*
14. Tell the students, *"Right now, let's stand up and learn a song about some of the things God has done, and his winning plan."*

SONG: WHO MADE THE PLAN?

Directions

1. Have students spread out so that they have enough room to move their arms without bumping other students.
2. Play "Who Made the Plan?" Sing the song through twice before adding motions.
- 3 Explain the motions as you add them, as needed.

Materials

- "Who Made the Plan?" song (AS)
- TV/DVD player

MEMORY VERSE ENACTMENT

Genesis 3:8b-9 “They hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called out to the man. ‘Where are you?’” (NIRV)

Directions

1. Say, “*When the Bible talks about Adam and Eve, it says, ‘They hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called out to the man. ‘Where are you?’’*”
2. Have students line up in straight lines, or in one, long straight line. Have them count off by twos. “Ones” play the part of a tree and “twos” play the part of a person. Select adult teachers, or helpers, to be team leaders for both the “tree” and “people” groups.
3. Have the students playing trees form a straight line shoulder to shoulder. Have each of the students playing a person go and stand behind a tree.
4. Tell the students playing people, “*You are Adam and Eve, hiding behind the trees in God’s garden. Scrunch down behind the tree in front of you and cover your eyes with your hands.*”
5. Say, “*We will divide up the memory verse. The people group will say the part of the verse ‘They hid from the LORD God ...’ Let’s try that together you scrunched down, hiding people.*” Lead them in saying that part of the verse.
6. Now say to those playing the part of the trees, “*Your part of the verse says, ‘among the trees of the garden.’ Say that together with me.*” Have this group repeat their part.
7. Lead each group in reviewing their each part of the verse.
8. Tell all the students, “*After those two parts of the verse, we will all stand up, cup our hands around our mouths and say together, ‘But the LORD God called to the man. “Where are you?”’*”
9. Practice the memory verse at least three times so that students can easily carry out their actions and repeat the words.

IN CLOSING: MEMORY VERSE SONG REVIEW

Malachi 1:11a “My name will be great among the nations.”

Directions

1. Move the students to a wall map and remind the students, “*The colors on this map show different countries.*” Ask the students, “*Can any of you name places on the map?*” Have the students share countries they have heard of.
2. Point out how the sun comes up in the east and goes down in the west.
3. Open your Bible and say, “*In the book of Malachi, God says, ‘My name will be great among the nations. They will worship me from where the sun rises in the east, to where it sets in the west.’*”
4. Stand to the side of the map, facing the children. Play the DVD. Lead

Materials

- Bible
- wall map
- TV/DVD player
- “My Name Will Be Great” song (MS)

them in singing the “My Name Will Be Great” song and doing the motions.



VIDEO: RAJPUT KIDS

Before the Activity Directions

1. Preview “Rajput Kids” on the DVD.

Directions

1. Hold up the globe and say, “*The Rajput (rahj-put) are a group of people who live in India.*” Show the students the country of India on the globe.
2. “*Let’s watch this video to find out more about Rajput families.*”
3. Show the video.
4. Ask, “*How are Rajput children different from you?*” Allow responses.
5. Ask, “*How are Rajput children the same as you?*”
6. Conclude by saying, “*God loves Rajput families and wants them to know and worship him.*”



PREPARATION: 12 min.

TEACHING: 15 min.

Materials

- “Rajput Kids” (VF)
- TV/DVD
- globe

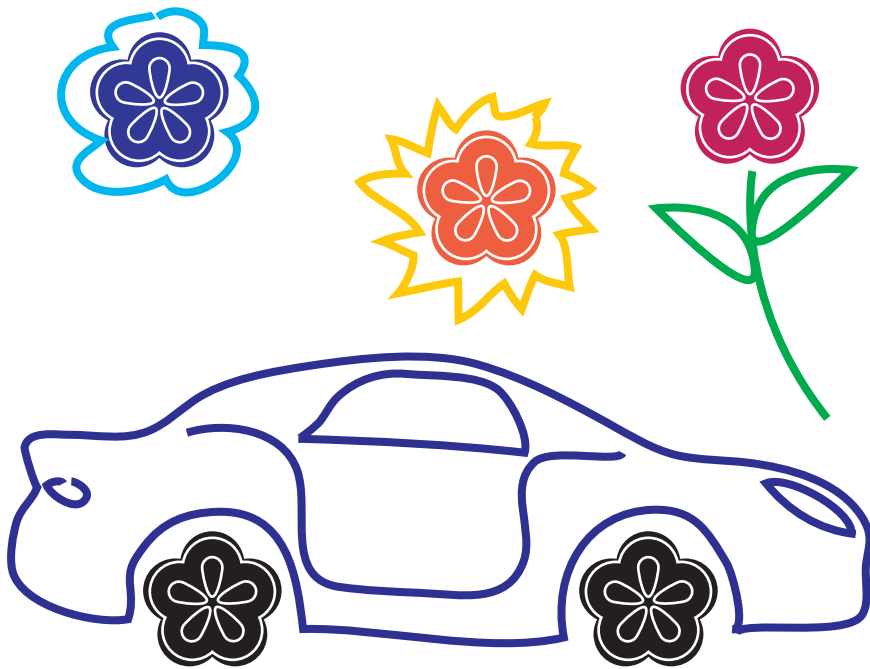


CRAFT: VEGGIE IMPRESSIONS

Rajput-style block printing

Directions

1. Cut several pieces of fresh okra in half. (Fresh okra is dry; cooked okra is gooey.)
2. Place different colors of paint in small containers.
3. Place a half piece of okra in each paint cup.
4. Give each child a piece of paper or cloth.
5. Dip the okra into the paint, tap it gently on the side of the paint container, then carefully stamp it onto the paper or cloth. Don't smash the okra down onto the paper.
6. Caution the children not to stamp the designs too close together.
7. When they are done stamping, let the paper dry for a few minutes.
8. After the paint stamps are dry, add details such as plant leaves or stems, bug legs or faces, outlining, etc. with markers or crayons.



PREPARATION: 20 min.

TEACHING: 25 min.

Materials

- fresh okra, one piece for each student (fresh broccoli can be substituted)
- paper or small pieces of cloth
- washable paint
- several small containers, plastic plates, or “egg carton cups” (for the different paint colors)
- markers or crayons
- napkins or paper towels
- a cutting board
- a sharp knife for cutting the okra or broccoli



GAME: SAFA WRAP-A

(sah-fah rap-uh), a Rajput turban-tying game

Directions

1. Have the students watch the “Rajput Kids” video before playing this game. Pay special attention to the turban wrapping part. Tell students that a turban is called a *safa* (sah-fah).
2. If you have girls and boys together, choose two boys and two girls to begin the game. Have them stand in front of the class so all can see.
3. Give each of the four students one rolled up “bandage” of material.
4. Tell them not to unroll the material until you say, “Go!”
5. Explain to the students that they are going to try and wrap the material around the top of their head to form a turban; just like the boys did in the video.
6. Tell them to begin by unrolling about 6 inches of the material and place the end of it on the left side of their head above the ear. Hold it in place with their left hand and begin wrapping either clock-wise or counter-clockwise around their head. The direction doesn’t matter. Keep in mind that the turban must be on the head. They cannot wrap material under the chin, etc.
7. Make sure they understand the directions, then say, “Go!”
8. You may choose a winner by which student is finished first or which turban looks the best.
9. Let the others in the class try their hand at turban wrapping.
10. For a variation of the game, choose eight students and set them in pairs. Let one in each pair wrap the material around the head of their partner.
11. Let the students be creative in wrapping their turbans.



PREPARATION: 20 min.

TEACHING: 20 min.

Materials

- material cut in eight-foot lengths, no wider than three inches. Prepare at least four of these, each length rolled up in a ball like you would an ace bandage. (It is not necessary to have the material all the same color. Sew different colored strips of cloth together, end-to-end, if necessary.)
- “Rajput Kids” video (VF)
- TV/DVD player



SNACK: SWEET FRUIT LASSI

(lah-see, fruit shake), a Rajput snack

Makes nine servings (one serving = $\frac{1}{3}$ cup)

Directions

1. Add all the ingredients together in a blender.
2. Blend until relatively smooth. There may be some bits of fruit; that is okay!



PREPARATION: 10 min.

TEACHING: 8 min.

Materials

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup chopped, ripe mango or mashed bananas
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- blender
- small bathroom size paper cups



PRAYER ACTIVITY: PRAYER POWER

Before the Activity Directions

1. Copy the prayer requests onto yellow paper.
2. Cut on the lines and fold once.
3. Place the yellow papers into a black bag. The visual for the students to see is that they are pulling “light” (the yellow papers) out of “darkness” (the black bag).

Directions

1. Say, “We are going to take some time right now and pray for the Rajput people in India. Did you know that prayer is our most powerful tool? The Rajputs need our prayers because they do not know Jesus. We say that they are living in a spiritual darkness. Being in the dark is frightening. It is hard to see your way in the dark unless someone shines a light.”
2. Then say, “Most Rajputs follow the Hindu religion and believe in millions of gods. They sacrifice things to false gods and try to do good deeds hoping that these gods will be pleased. But sadly, the Rajputs are never sure if they have done enough good things. Their gods do not hear them and are not friendly. The Rajput people need the light of Jesus to bring them out of their darkness.”
3. Pick up bag and say, “In this black bag are yellow slips of paper with prayers written on them. Through our prayers we can help the Rajputs move out of their darkness and into the light of Jesus.”
4. Explain, “When I call your name, please come up to the front. Reach your hand into the bag and take out one folded up piece of paper. Read the prayer out loud to the class. Try and remember some of the requests during the week so you can continue to pray for the Rajputs.” For younger children, read the prayer for them and have them pray a simple prayer afterward if they would like.



PREPARATION: 12 min.

TEACHING: 15 min.

Materials

- “Rajput Prayer Requests” (p. 11)
- yellow paper
- black or dark colored bag
- scissors

Rajput Prayer Requests

Dear God, we pray that the Rajputs will understand that you are the one and true God. Let them know how much you love them. Amen.	Dear Jesus, we learned that the Rajputs believe that they can be born again and again. When they die, they do not know for sure about heaven. Please let them know that if they believe in you as their Savior, they can be sure they will go to heaven. Amen.
Dear God, thank you that you always hear our prayers. Please let the Rajputs know that they do not need to shout or ring a bell to get your attention. All they have to do is begin talking to you. Amen.	Dear Jesus, there are not many Christians working with the Rajputs. Please send Christians to live with and teach the Rajputs about you so they can know you personally. Amen.
Dear Jesus, thank you for people who teach us about you. We pray that you would send Christian people to the Rajputs who will teach them about you. Amen.	Dear God, we want to pray for the Rajputs who are Christians. We ask that you would protect them and make them strong and bold to tell others about you. Amen.
Dear God, thank you for taking care of us and giving us what we need. We pray that you will also provide food and homes for the Rajputs so that they can see that you care for them, too. Amen.	Dear Jesus, we learned that the Rajput people were once rulers and kings. Please help them understand that they are important to you. Teach them a new joy in serving you as the King of kings. Amen.
Dear God, we learned that the Rajputs believe in and worship millions of false gods. Please show them that you are the only one worthy to be worshiped. Amen.	Dear God, you created the Rajput people and want them to know you personally. We pray that they will soon come to know you as their creator and the only true God. Amen.
Dear Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for our sins. Please show the Rajputs that you already gave the perfect sacrifice for all our sins when you died and rose again. Amen.	Dear Jesus, family is very important to the Rajputs. We pray that the head of each Rajput family will come to know you as their Savior so the whole family will also become believers in you. Amen.