

## **Water: Creation (Gen 1:6-13; 2:4-6)**

1. Then God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, separating water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above the expanse. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." Evening came and then morning: the second day. (Gen 1:6-8, CSB)

What did God create the sky for?

2. Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering of the water he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds." And it was so. The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. Evening came and then morning: the third day. (Gen 1:9-13, CSB)

Why is water important?

3. These are the records of the heavens and the earth, concerning their creation. At the time that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, no shrub of the field had yet grown on the land, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the Lord God had not made it rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground. But mist would come up from the earth and water all the ground. (Gen 2:4-6, CSB)

Where does the mist come from?

4. Water plays an important role throughout the Bible. Here are some examples that you will learn more about from Sunday School.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the sources of the vast watery depths burst open, the floodgates of the sky were opened, and the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. (Gen 7:11-12)

He proclaimed, "One who is more powerful than I am is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. As soon as he came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well-pleased." (Mark 1:7-11)

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him for eternal life." (John 4:13-14; Rev 22:1-3)

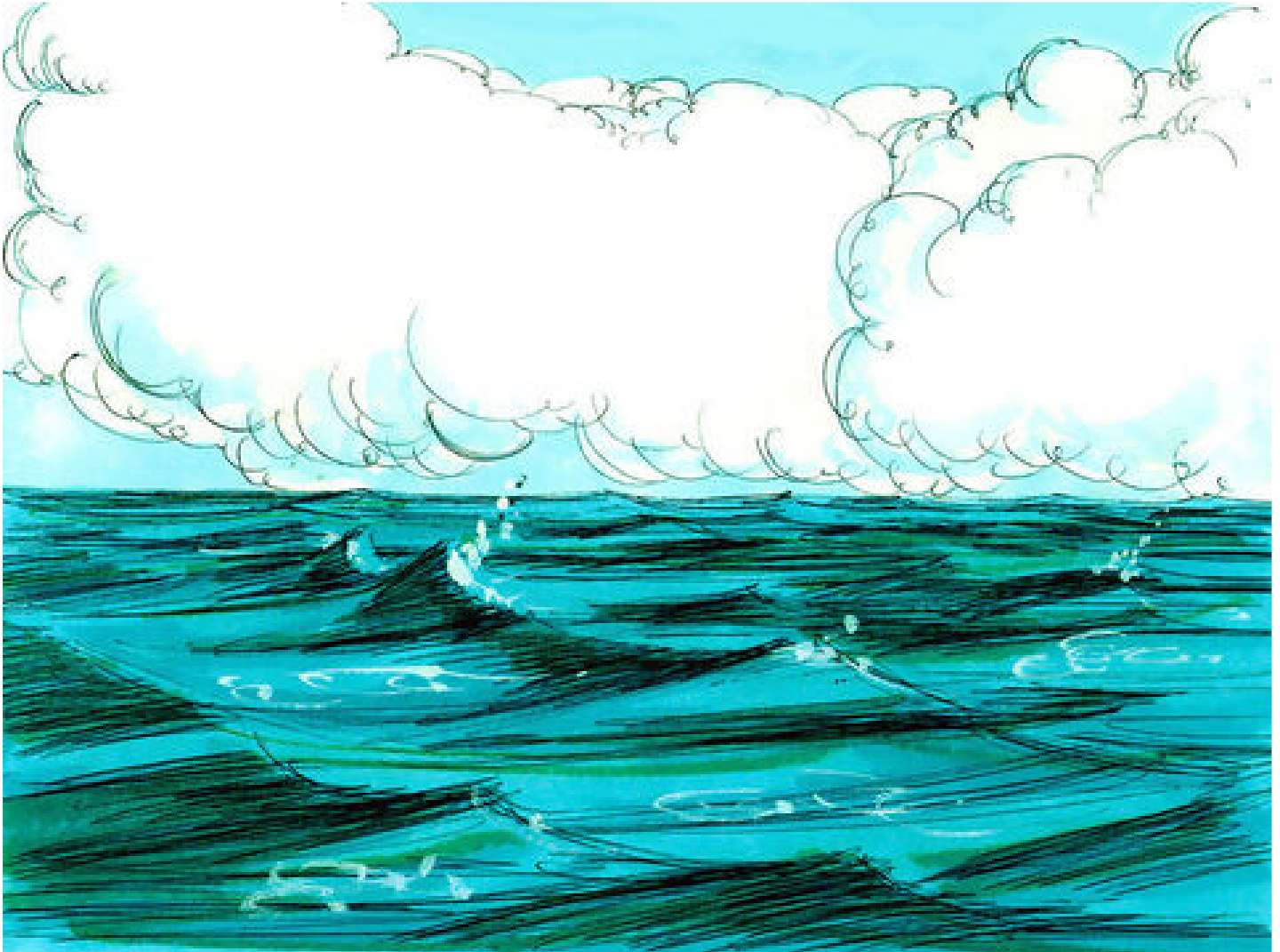
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**Teacher Notes**

This is a guideline on how this lesson may be taught. Adapt it to how you see fit for your children's attention span. For example, you can introduce snacks during the lesson or have breaks in between.

The purpose of this lesson is to show that God created water, its importance throughout the Bible, and the scientific principles of God's creation.

1. Then God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, separating water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above the expanse. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." Evening came and then morning: the second day. (Gen 1:6-8, CSB)



What did God create the sky for?

Using the illustration, help the student see the sky between the water on earth and the water in the air.

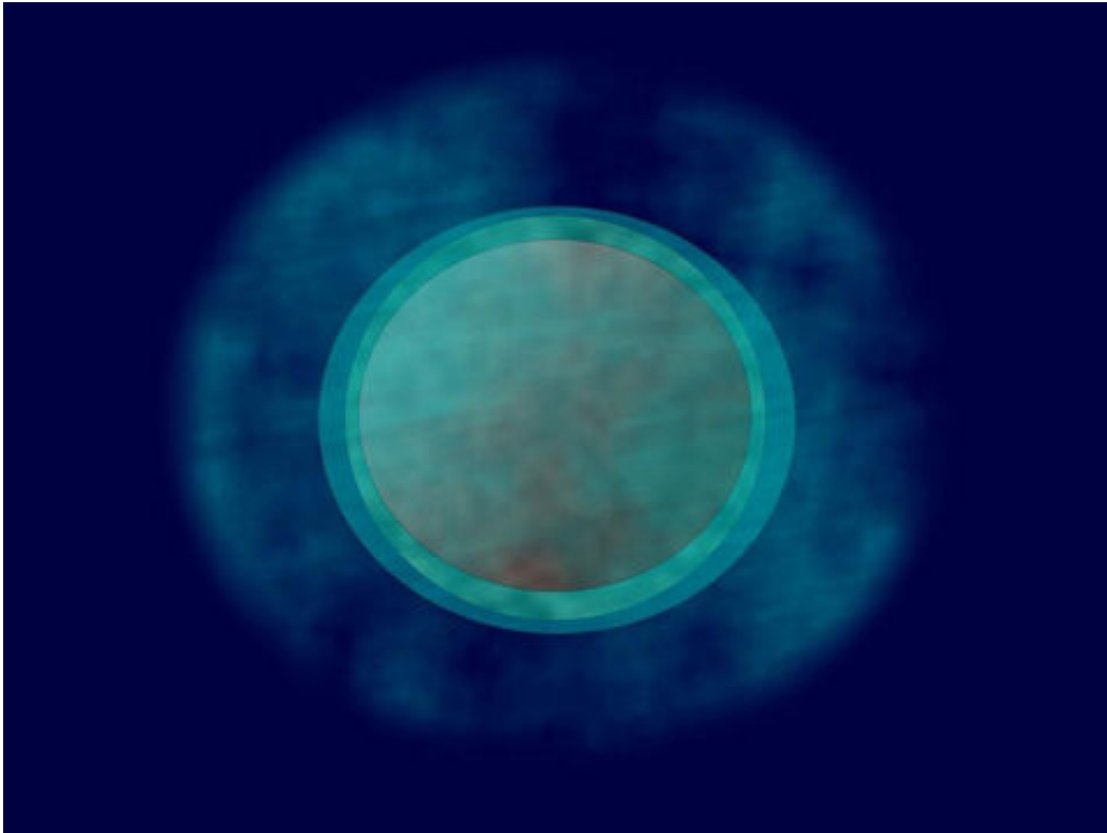
2. Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering of the water he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds." And it was so. The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. Evening came and then morning: the third day. (Gen 1:9-13, CSB)



Why is water important?

Using the illustrations and real life examples, explain to the student the necessity of liquid water for both animal and plant life. The earth is the only planet in our solar system that has stable bodies of liquid water on the surface. No other planet has liquid water!

3. These are the records of the heavens and the earth, concerning their creation. At the time that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, no shrub of the field had yet grown on the land, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the Lord God had not made it rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground. But mist would come up from the earth and water all the ground. (Gen 2:4-6, CSB)



Where does the mist come from?

Mist arises from the evaporation of either fresh or salt water. Here is where some science about water can be taught:

1. Pick five students and have them stand up. Three of them stand next to each other and hold their own hands above their heads and become Mt. "student name" (i.e. Mt. Jack, Mt. Jill, and Mt. Bob). The other two students kneel in front of the mountains with one arm pointing to their waist and the other arm curved and sloped down to the floor in any direction and become River "student name" (i.e. River Becky, River Edward).
2. Behind and from one side of the mountains, with undulating hands from the floor, you demonstrate the evaporation of water.
3. With arms forming a circle, you demonstrate the formation of clouds.
4. As your cloud moves over the mountains (name each mountain as you pass over them), you demonstrate rain, which forms the rivers (name each river as the rain falls).
5. If any student wants to be a mountain, river, or rain maker, you can make this a short game and introduce snow, etc.

4. Water plays an important role throughout the Bible. Here are some examples that you will learn more about from Sunday School.

With storytelling expression, read and acquaint the students with these four Bible verses that refer to water.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the sources of the vast watery depths burst open, the floodgates of the sky were opened, and the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. (Gen 7:11-12)

There are 3 illustrations that you can use when you read two of the three Bible passages. The intent here is to show the student the importance of water throughout the Bible. This first illustration is about Noah's ark.



The next passage is about the importance of water for baptism, and there are 2 illustrations to use when you read the passage.

He proclaimed, "One who is more powerful than I am is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. As soon as he came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well-pleased." (Mark 1:7-11)



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In attempting to explain the importance of water that Jesus speaks of, invite the student to draw a picture together with you.

Let's draw a picture together. In the last book of the Bible, there is a description of the River of the Water of Life. With a large piece of paper (i.e. butcher paper, large sketch pad, etc.), engage the students in directing you where / how to draw /color various components of Revelation 22:1-3:

Then he showed me the river of the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the city's main street. The tree of life was on each side of the river, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for healing the nations, and there will no longer be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him. (Rev 22:1-3)

