

Adventures with GOD!

GOD GAVE ME A BODY (A.1.Spring.1)

Biblical Reference	Genesis 2:4-7
Key Verse	1 John 3:1
Key Concept	God has shown me his love in different ways
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Show three parts of their body that were made by God. 2. Give thanks to God for giving us a body. 3. Say from memory the name of the first human.

Life Application

Something very special in the life of a child is learning how to pray. This week, through daily prayers, parents will have the opportunity to help their children thank God for their bodies. Send a note to the parents encouraging them to pray in this way with their children.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Introduction	Photos and magazine cut outs or illustrations of babies and kids, poster board	5 minutes
Bible Story	Scissors, folded paper, Bible	10 minutes
Craft	Play-doh or modeling clay, newspapers/magazines	10 minutes
Song		5 minutes
Prayer		5 minutes
Game		5 minutes
Snack	nutritious snack	5 minutes
Activity	Paper and markers	10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Introduction: Show pictures or images from magazines of children and babies, or on the wall or a poster board put up pictures of the children in your class with the question, “Who am I?” Talk about the differences and similarities in the pictures. Talk about the different parts of the bodies that they see in the pictures and images.

Bible Story: With paper folded 5 times, cut out the figure of a person while telling the story of how God made Adam (Genesis 2:4-7). Explain that no one can do what God did. Then show them that you weren’t just cutting one person, but various people. Remind them that God didn’t make us like this, all the same. We are all different. Later in this lesson you can find the instructions for how to make the cutout figures.

Craft: Give each child a little bit of modeling clay or play-doh. Talk about how God made Adam from the dust of the ground. Let each child make a body with the clay or play-doh. Continue to talk about how when God made Adam’s body, it still wasn’t alive until God blew into Adam and he came alive. Let them pretend to blow into their clay/play-doh figures, to see that it’s only God who gives life to our bodies. More options are included later in the lesson.

Song: Sing a song that the children know – one that talks about God as their creator. You can also make up your own words and melody, like:

Thank you God for making my body

Thank you for my eyes, my ears, my nose

Thank you for my hands, my arms, my feet

Thank you for my mouth so I can sing your praise

Prayer: Pray, allowing the children to fill in the blank of the following prayer, “Dear God, today we thank you for making each of us, for making each part of our bodies. Lord (Sarah) wants to thank you for her _____ (Jake) wants to thank you for _____. In Jesus name, Amen.”

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Game: Simon Says. The teacher can start by taking the role of Simon, to demonstrate how to play the game. “Simon” says something like, “Simon says jump on one foot.” All of the children should jump on one foot. Then, “Simon says touch your nose.” So all the children touch their nose. But, if Simon says, “Touch your nose” without first saying the words, “Simon says...” the children shouldn’t do it. They should only do the action if they first hear the leader say, “Simon says...” The children can learn the parts of the body through this game, while learning to follow instructions. It’s possible that the younger ones may have a little difficulty understanding the game, but they will enjoy trying none the less. Continue to encourage them to participate.

Snack: This is a good time to talk to them about how we should take care of the bodies that God has given us. Talk to them about good foods to eat, how important it is to wash our teeth and brush our hands. Give them a yummy and nutritious snack.

Activity: Have as many big pieces of paper or poster board as there are children in your class. Have each child lay down face up on a sheet of paper. Trace their figure with crayons or markers and have them decorate the figure. If there is time, hang out the sheets of paper with the decorated figures around the room so they can observe and talk about their bodies.

Note: Don’t forget to write a note to the parents, encouraging their participation and collaboration this week in helping their children to pray. Here is an example of a note you could write:

Dear Moms and Dads,

It has been a joy for me to share with your child about God’s amazing love. During our time today we focused on the bodies that God has given us and how he created each one of us. It is important that during the week you continue to remind your child that our bodies are a gift from God and everyday they have the opportunity to thank God for their bodies. As a parent you know the best time of the day to help your child lift up a prayer of thanks. Remember too, that young children don’t have to say long elaborate prayers, but concentrate on helping your child to express himself or herself simply and in a way he or she could remember easily. Thank you for allowing us to partner with you as you teach your child about God’s love.

Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle

Prayer: Thank you God for loving us, Thank you God for sending your son Jesus into the world.

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Children and Babies – enlarge and color to decorate the room or use for the opening activity!



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CRAFT

God made me!

This is a special hat that the children will decorate with the words, "God made me!"

Allow children to do as much of the craft themselves as they are able. If they are easily frustrated or feel incapable, help them by tracing the lines and cutting out the figure, allowing them to color and then tape it together.

While they are working, continue to tell them "God made you. You are so special. There is no one exactly like you."

Materials: 8 ½ x 11 sheets of white paper, crayons, scissors, glue/stapler/tape.

Instructions:

1. Fold the sheet of white paper in half (fold it lengthwise).

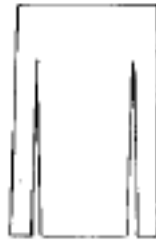


2. Give about an inch and a half margin from the border of the paper (the side that is open and not folded), and start cutting up the paper about 8 inches up (leaving three inches from the top of the paper and the slit).

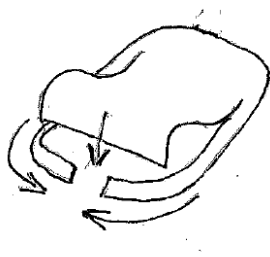


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3. Open up the paper and allow children to color the paper and write the words, "God made me."



4. Then, take the ends of the strips and bring them together, pull the middle part of the paper down to join the strips. Staple/tape/glue all of the parts together. Then, if you want, round out the bill of the hat.



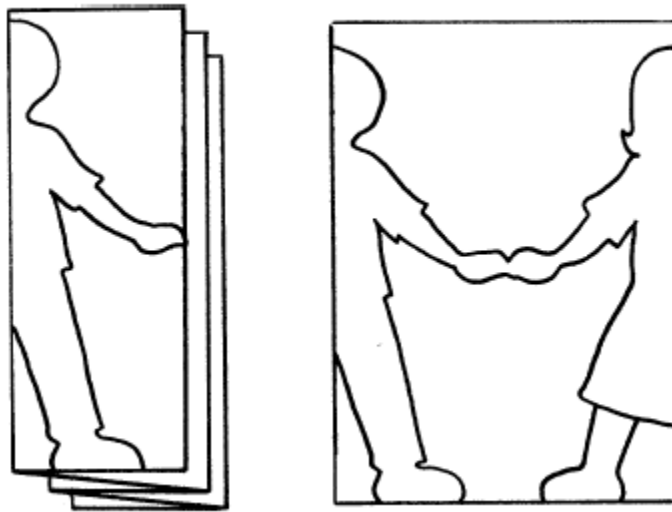
What it looks like
from the side when
it's finished.

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VISUAL FOR BIBLE STORY

Figures cut out of paper –

A child: trace the figure in a paper that has been folded several (3-5) times. Make sure the hand of the figure is on the folded side of the paper. You can cut out the figure so that it looks like it has pants on or a skirt.



Children together: trace the pattern of the figure on a piece of paper folded like an accordion, along the long end or short end of the paper. Draw the half figure of a child on one side of the paper, holding hands with a child on the other side of the paper. Cut out the figures, but make sure not to cut down the folded side of the paper or the accordion will break.