

Sample 1: This is the kind of simple 20-minute session that we hold with the nursery classes at school.

God the Maker Unit: Week 1

Introducing the God the Maker Unit

At the moment, we're telling stories about God the Maker who made the whole world!

This Introduction & Gathering Song remain the same throughout the six week God the Maker unit.

Gathering Song: Option 1

→ Song: 'It's raining, it's raining!' Words © Sharon Moughtin-Mumby
→ Tune: 'A-Tisket, A-Tasket' (traditional).

It's rain - ing, it's rain - ing! Out - side it is rain - ing.

God the Ma - ker made the world! Thank you, God the Ma - ker!

Our world can have lots of different weather!
Who can tell us what the weather is like today?
Invite a child to respond.

If you're using imaginative aids, ask two or three children to give them out at this point. Then invite the children to warm up their imaginations by exploring actions for different kinds of weather: rainy, snowy, windy, sunny, cloudy, rainbows, chilly, stormy (thunder and lightning), etc.

God the Maker made the weather!
Let's thank God for every kind of weather
with our God the Maker song.

Introduce each verse by inviting the children to show the kind of weather mentioned with their imaginative aids or their bodies, as exemplified below.

Let's start off by imagining it's raining outside!
Can you show me rain?

Continue with the action as you sing:
It's raining, it's raining!
Outside it is raining!
God the Maker made the world. Thank you, God the Maker!

Now let's imagine it's sunny outside!
Can you show me sunny?

Continue with the action as you sing:
It's sunny, it's sunny!
Outside it is sunny!
God the Maker made the world. Thank you, God the Maker!

Look! I can see a rainbow!
Can you show me a rainbow!



Let's sing 'a rainbow, a rainbow! Outside there's a rainbow!'

Continue with the action as you sing:

A rainbow, a rainbow!

Outside there's a rainbow!

God the Maker made the world. Thank you, God the Maker!

Oh my goodness, now there's thunder!

Can you show me thunder with your feet?

And lightning! Can you show me lightning? It's stormy!

Continue with the action as you sing:

It's stormy, it's stormy!

Outside it is stormy!

God the Maker made the world. Thank you, God the Maker!

Wow! Now there's snow,

Soft, beautiful snow, falling all around. Can you show me snow?

Continue with the action as you sing:

It's snowing, it's snowing!

Outside it is snowing!

God the Maker made the world. Thank you, God the Maker!

And now listen.

Hand over your ear. Lead the children in blowing.

Can you hear that?

Lead the children in blowing louder and louder.

It's windy outside! Can you show me wind?

Continue with the action as you sing:

It's windy, it's windy!

Outside it is windy!

God the Maker made the world. Thank you, God the Maker!

Yawn. Who's feeling tired after all that weather?

Let's sit back in our place and go to sleep . . .

Lead the children in being sleepy.

Look! *Point up.*

Outside the stars are twinkling. *Twinkle hands*

Can you show me the twinkling stars?

Lead the children in twinkling with hands as you sing quietly and sleepily.

It's starry, it's starry, Outside it is starry.

God the Maker made the world.

Thank you, God the Maker!

End by falling asleep quietly and peacefully.



Interactive Bible Storytelling: God the Maker, week 3

→ Psalm 148 → Song: 'Everything in all the world sings "Alleluia!"' Words © Sharon Moughtin-Mumby

→ Tune: 'Old Macdonald had a farm' (public domain).

Eve - ry- thing in all the world sings 'Al - le - lu - ia!' The duck al-ways loves to sing,
 'Al- le - lu - ia!' With a 'Quack! Quack!' here and a 'Quack! Quack!' there.
 Here a 'Quack!' There a 'Quack!' Eve - ry- where a 'Quack! Quack!'
 Eve - ry- thing in all the world sings 'Al - le - lu - ia!'

In the Bible, there's a song where everything sings 'Alleluia!'

Alleluia is a special 'thank you' word that means 'Praise God!'

After three, let's shout 'Alleluia' together.

1, 2, 3 . . . Alleluia!

In our song, it's not just people who sing 'Alleluia!' but everything in the whole world.

With younger children, you might like to use pictures of animals or birds, figures, or soft toys to support their understanding.

What's in the box? *Ask the child to respond.*

Invite the children to name the different kinds of animals and birds on the pictures/figures.

Our world has lots of animals and birds.

Let's sing a song about how all the different birds and animals sing 'Alleluia' to God the Maker!

Let's start with a duck!

Who can tell us what noise a duck makes?

Invite the children to respond and accept their responses. Encourage them to show an action, too.

That's how a duck sings 'Alleluia!' *Children's sound and action*

Everything in all the world Circle sings 'Alleluia!' Arms raised in 'V' shape

[The] ducks always love to sing 'Alleluia!' Arms raised in 'V' shape

With a ___! ___! here! Add the children's sound and action

And a ___! ___! there!

Here a ___! There a ___! Everywhere a ___! ___!

Everything in all the world Circle sings 'Alleluia!' Arms raised in 'V' shape

Continue by inviting the children to choose a different animal with a noise and action for each verse.

You may wish to limit the children to a certain group of animals that you have symbols or figures for e.g. farm animals, jungle animals – or you may be happy to let them go wild! Before singing each verse, invite the children to make up an action and noise for the animal as in the example above.

To end: In our song from the Bible, everything sings 'Alleluia! Praise God!'

When you go out and about today, whenever you see an animal, remember, it's singing 'Alleluia!' to God.

This storytelling is the only part of the session that changes every week.



Maybe you could listen out *Hand over ear* and see if you can hear it singing 'Alleluia!'

I think all of us will be able to see or hear a bird today! How do birds sing 'Alleluia'?

You may like to encourage the children to focus on a common, local bird.

Invite the children to respond and accept their responses. Encourage them to show an action, too.

That's how *birds* sing 'Alleluia!' *Children's sound and action*

Everything in all the world *Circle sings 'Alleluia!' Arms raised in 'V' shape*

The birds always love to sing 'Alleluia!' *Arms raised in 'V' shape*

With a ___! ___! here! *Add the children's sound and action*

And a ___! ___! there!

Here a ___! There a ___! Everywhere a ___! ___!

Everything in all the world *Circle sings 'Alleluia!' Arms raised in 'V' shape*

Let's listen out for the birds and all the other animals we see singing 'Alleluia!' to God the Maker today.

Taking God's Love into the World

→ Matthew 5.14-16 → Song: 'This little light of mine' (traditional)

→ Tune: Traditional. Guide: p. 232

Our time together is coming to an end.

Invite the children to sit in a circle for a moment of quiet.

God has lit a little light of love inside all of us.

Trace a circle on your heart.

Let's make our finger into a candle.

Bring your finger from your heart and hold it out.

Let's be God and light our little light of love together, after three.

Lead the children in lighting their finger candle by striking an imaginary match in the air on three and pretending to light your finger. 1, 2, 3 . . . Tssss!

Let's imagine God's love shining and dancing like light in us.

Wave your finger in front of you as you sing.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Blow on your finger as if blowing out a candle on 'puff'. Then hold it up high.

Won't let no one puff it out! I'm gonna let it shine!

Won't let no one puff it out! I'm gonna let it shine!

Won't let no one puff it out! I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Hold your finger behind a cupped hand, then take your cupped hand away to reveal the 'candle' and hold it high!

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Lead the children in placing your finger back on your heart.

Now let's put our little light of love back in our hearts, where it belongs.

Let's remember to let our little light shine in all our playing and working today . . .

This closing song and its introduction remain the same every week.