



Splash and Swim

Lesson 3: God created water and the creatures that live in it.

On the second day of creation God separated the sky from the water and on the fifth he created the creatures that swim and live in the water. Infants and toddlers can experience God's creativity as they play with water and learn about creatures that live in water.

Scripture: Genesis 1:6-7 and 20-23 "...God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it...So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it."

Class Schedule

(45 minutes)

Welcome Time (15 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner. Time to settle in and free play. Music or singing.

Bible Time and Lesson (20 minutes total)

At the table

- **Bible Time**
- **Lesson:** Talk about the fact that God made water for creatures (including us) to drink, swim and bathe in. Splash, squirt, or make bubbles in water. Sing songs about fish or frogs and any creature that lives in the water. Sort seashells.
- **Craft:** Ideas could include fingerprint for water or anything with fish or frogs. Or decorate a cup to drink water from.
- **Snack:** Fruit or biscuit but be sure and have water to drink.

Closing (10 minutes)

On the mat in the soft corner Quiet activities to settle down. Quiet music or nature sounds.

Teaching Items to Collect

(Some are in the Theme Boxes):

- Spray Bottle for Mist
- A large flat container for water.
- Water toys of any kind
 - Pitcher
 - Plastic cups and bowls
 - Squeeze bottles
 - Spray bottles
 - Straws
 - Strainer
 - Funnel
 - Sponge
- Toy Sea Creatures
 - Frogs
 - Fish
 - Turtle
 - Orca
 - Shark
 - Starfish
 - Crocodiles



1. Welcome Time

(15 minutes) *On the mat in the soft corner*
Time to Settle in and free play.

Today focus the conversation on how good and amazing God is that he made water and creatures in the water. As you show items and children handle them talk about how happy you are that God made them. (Say "God is good". Clap for God. I'm so glad God made you!)

- Bubbles/toys/picture books
- Welcome each by name
- Mirrors, Peep Tube, Vehicles
- Bell to indicate class is about to start

2. Bible Time

When you move to the table spend the first 5 minutes in routines that you repeat each week.

- Pat the bible
- Find Jesus picture (sticker) in bible. Take time to talk about Jesus as our friend.
- "Read"- God loves ____.
- B-I-B-L-E

Vocabulary:

- Water
- Wet
- Splash
- Swim

Sensory:

- Mist
- Wet (water)
- Splashing

3. Bible Lesson

(15 minutes) *At the table*

Explore the world God has made. Enjoy the sensory exploration of water. Use toys of water creatures to talk about God's creation.

- Relate the fact that God made water through:
 - Misty rain that comes from the clouds. Spray a little mist from spray bottle above the child's head.
 - Spray water on the table then have a little splash in that water ☺
 - Fill a shallow pan with water and use all sorts of water toys to play in it together. (You'll want to put a towel down on the table first.)
 - Experimenting with various items that float or sink.
 - Soak and squeeze water with a sponge.
- Relate the fact that God made the creatures that live in water through:
 - Playing and splashing with toy frogs and other creatures you have on hand.
 - "Swimming" a toy fish in water.
- Craft (optional): Try using blue and green finger paints for water. Any craft involving fish or swimming creatures.
- Prayer: Folding hands and closing our eyes to pray.
- Snack: A simple snack but be sure and serve water.

4. Closing

(10 minutes) *On the mat in the soft corner.* Quiet activities to settle down

- Encourage toy water creatures to "quieten down".
- Act out giving the baby dolls water to drink.
- Cuddle the baby dolls and "pray with them as you put them to bed.



Suggested Songs for this Lesson:

Note: Infants and toddlers enjoy the rhythm and melody of song but they are not critics of the teacher's abilities! It's fine if you sing the same tune every time, make up your own tune or even just say the words in a poetic or fun way. Just have fun with it and put the children's needs above your own shyness.

Shiny Little Fish

Shiny little fish. Shiny little fish.
See how he swims. See how he swims.
He flicks his fin and he swishes his tail.
God made him with beautiful shiny scales.
Shiny little fish. Shiny little fish.

Tune: *Three Blind Mice*

Action: *Sing the song as you and the children play with a toy fish and sea creatures in a sensory tub of water.*

Who Can Make a Fish?

Oh, who can make a *fish?
I know I can't, can you?
Oh, who can make a fish?
I know it's God 'tis true.

**Substitute frog, turtle, snake, etc.*

Action: *Sing the song as you and the children play with a toy fish and sea creatures in a sensory tub of water.*

God Made Fish to Swim Like This

God made fish to *swim like this.
Swim like this. Swim like this.
God made fish to swim like this.
Thank you, God, for fish.

**Substitute any action (swim like this, jump and splash, etc.)*

Tune: *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

Action: *Sing the song as you and the children play with a toy fish and sea creatures in a sensory tub of water. If you don't use too much water it would be fun for the children to splash a little bit.*

Mister Turtle

Mister Turtle are you sleeping?
In the sun, where it's warm?
Wake up Mister Turtle!
Wake up Mister Turtle!
Say "hello." Say "hello."

Tune: *Are You Sleeping?*

Action: *Sing the song as you and the children play with a toy turtle in a sensory tub of water and rocks.*

Hop a Little Froggy

Hop a little froggy. Hop, hop, hop.
Hop a little froggy. Don't you stop.
Hop a little froggy. One, two, three.
Hop a little froggy. Hop to me.

Action: *Sing the song as you and the children play with a toy frog in a sensory tub of water, rocks and plants.*



Items for Teaching this Lesson



Water. For drinking, pouring, splashing.



Mister/spray bottle. Gently spray a mist over the heads of the children and let them feel the mist on their faces.



God created water on the 2nd day.



Bath toys and a shallow tub of water. Any plastic cups, spoons and plastic containers work just as well.



Fish and water creatures.



God made fish on the 5th day.



Starfish.



Bring a real fish in a fishbowl and let the children watch it swim.



Any toy creature of the sea would be fun.