

Lesson 1

The Endless Universe

Family Study Guides • Seeing God Through Creation

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The Endless Universe

Objective

Learn more about God's love and power by examining His creation.
Help family members to internalize that God is involved in their lives.

Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember your Creator in the days of your youth...

Job 42:5 I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You...

This series of Family Study Guides seeks to help families build deeper a relationship with God by examining the various facets of His Creation. When God wanted to help the patriarch Job learn more about Him, God caused Job to think deeply about creation. He wants us to do the same!

Ask: How can we know God and more deeply understand who He is?

How can we get to know that God is intimately involved with us and is in charge of our lives?
God shows us how we can do that!

1. God helped Job understand and “see” Him by making Job focus on His creation.

Job 38:3 . . . I will ask you some questions. Then I want you to answer me.

God then had Job consider many specific areas of creation. Afterwards Job said,
I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you (Job 42:5).

2. God will eventually help the whole world understand who He is by having them see the power of His creation.

Isaiah 45:18 The Lord created the heavens. He is the God who formed the earth and made it. He did not want it to be empty, but he wanted life on the earth. This is what the Lord says: ‘I am the Lord. There is no other God’ (NCV).

Ask: What is the desired result of people recognizing God as Creator?

Isaiah 45:22-24 All people everywhere, follow me and be saved. I am God. There is no other God. I will make a promise by my own power, and my promise is true; what I say will not be changed. I promise that everyone will bow before me and will promise to follow me. People will say about me, ‘Goodness and power come only from the Lord.’

3. God helps us better know Him now as we study the greatness of His creation.

Romans 1:20 Ever since God created the world, his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and his divine nature, have been clearly seen; they are perceived in the things that God has made (GNT).

In this creation series, we will follow God's method of getting Job's, the worlds and our attention!

How To Use These Family Guides

Each guide will:

- Ask your family to respond to God's questions and declarations regarding His creation.
- Suggest links to videos or stories that show the wonders and power of God's creation.

We suggest that your family take the time to research, meditate on, and discuss the topic of each study.

1. Watch a suggested video or have your children find one of their own.
2. Have family members discuss their favorite part and why.
3. If a video talks about theories of how things "evolved" – discuss the absurdity of everything existing from nothing. Watch these Beyond Today videos:
 - a. *Beyond Today*—[Evolution's Leap of Faith](#) on the impossibility of evolution.
 - b. *Beyond Today*—[Enemies of Evolution](#) discusses science & creation
4. Take time to go outside and observe the various aspects of creation.
5. Discuss how God displays His power through creation. Creation shows that God can do all things and that He has the power to intervene and be involved in our lives. God can handle all our problems!

God asks us look at 1) the vastness of universe, 2) the wonders of the earth, 3) the miracles of life, 4) and the uniqueness of God's plan for human beings.

This guide examines the subject of the vastness of the universe.

The Unlimited Power of God

God asks us to consider how much we know- and compare it to how great He is.

Let's begin by looking at the universe.

Job 38:31-33 Can you direct the movement of the stars— binding the cluster of the Pleiades or loosening the cords of Orion? Can you direct the sequence of the seasons or guide the Bear with her cubs across the heavens? Do you know the laws of the universe? Can you use them to regulate the earth? (NLT)

Isaiah 40:25-26 To whom can the holy God be compared? Is there anyone else like him? Look up at the sky! Who created the stars you see? The one who leads them out like an army, he knows how many there are and calls each one by name! His power is so great— not one of them is ever missing! (GNT)

Job 38:3 ...answer the questions I ask you.

:5 Who decided how large it would be? Do you know all the answers?

:18 Have you any idea how big the world (think universe) is? Answer me if you know.

:33 Do you know the laws that govern the skies, and can you make them apply to the earth?

Review these videos/articles

- [How Many Stars Are in the Universe? | Unveiled Video](#)
- 7 Mysteries About the Universe That Have Baffled Scientists (newsweek.com)
- Activity: Have members of your family research and discuss similar resources.

Notice that even though scientists recognize that they do not have the answers to God's questions, most persist on denying God as Creator!

Romans 1:18-22 But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God. Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools (NLT).

Fun Facts

How vast is God's universe?

If the earth were a marble, then in portion:

- The sun would be a bowling ball and would be two football fields away.
- Jupiter would be a baseball about a mile down the road.
- The nearest star (Proxima Centauri) would be a softball and would be 30,000 miles away.
- The Milky Way would be 60 billion miles wide. The universe is filled with billions of galaxies.

Psalm 19:1-2, 4 The heavens tell about the glory of God. The skies announce what his hands have made. Each new day tells more of the story, and each night reveals more and more about God's power . . . their message goes throughout the world. Their teaching reaches the ends of the earth (ERV).

Psalm 33:6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

The next time you have a problem and ask for God's help – look up at the skies and remember just how great God is! Since He created the entire universe – he certainly has the power to help you! Think about it!

Let's be thankful that God gives us the opportunity to see Him as He is!

Ideas and Activities for Younger Children

- [Creation – Beginners Bible](#)
- [Creation for pre-school](#)
- [Draw About the UNIVERSE ! Learn in an Easy-to-Understand Way for Preschoolers - Bing video](#)

Planet Facts

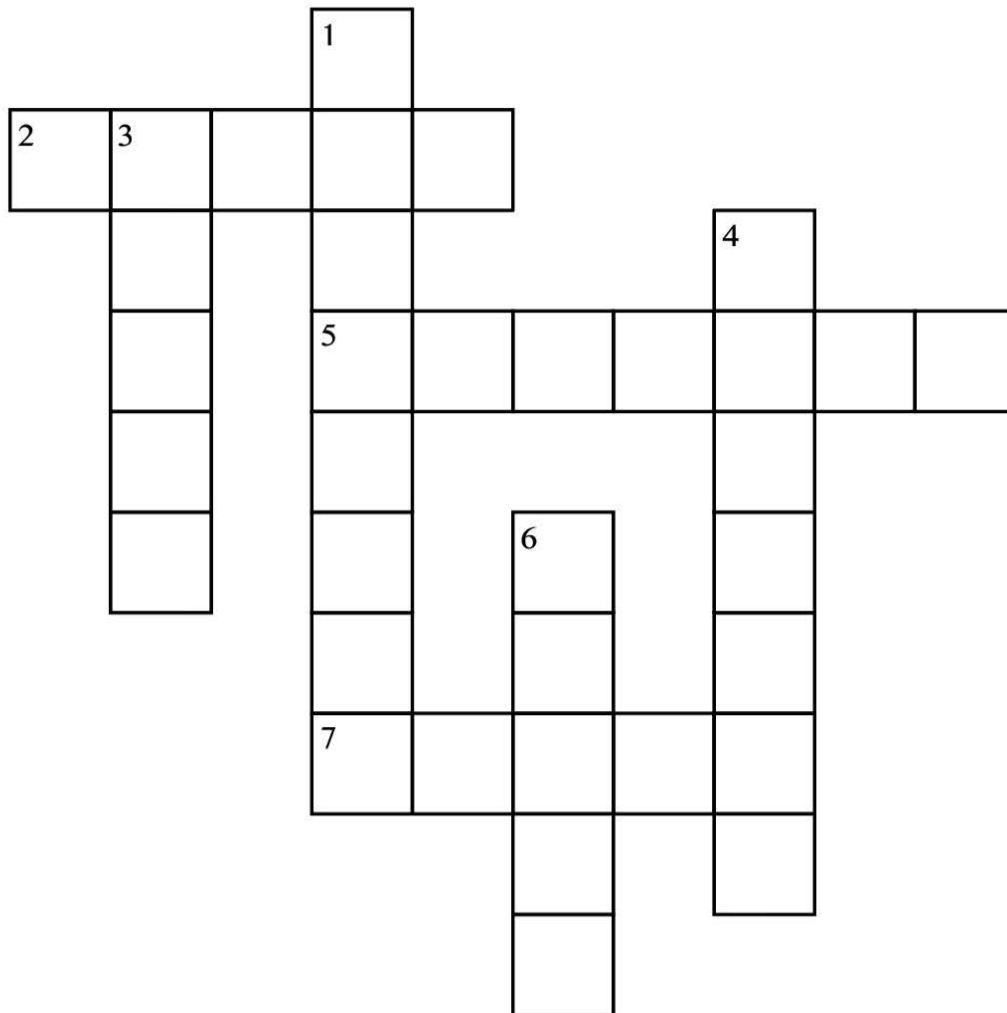
(All facts from planetsforkids.org/)

Directions: Look at the facts about one of the planets listed. Then decide if that's somewhere you could live. Be ready to explain why you would or would not live there.

Planet	Facts
Mercury	• Mercury's sunny side has a temperature rising to 400° Celsius or 750° Fahrenheit. Compare this to a warm summer's day in London, when the temperature might be 80° Fahrenheit or 26° Celsius. • Mercury's dark side is very cold, with the temperature going down to -200° Celsius or -328° Fahrenheit. • Mercury has no atmosphere around it to protect it from the Sun or to retain any heat when it rotates on its axis.
Venus	• Venus is covered by clouds of water vapour and sulphuric acid and the surface cannot be seen with an ordinary astronomy telescope. • Venus is the hottest planet in the Solar System, even hotter than Mercury, which is closer to the Sun. The temperature on the surface of Venus is about 860° Fahrenheit or 460° Celsius. Compare this to a warm summer's day in London, when the temperature might be 80° Fahrenheit or 26° Celsius. • The atmosphere on Venus is composed of carbon dioxide. The surface is heated by radiation from the sun, but the heat cannot escape through the clouds and layer of carbon dioxide. (This is a "greenhouse effect").
Earth	• It is the only planet that has an atmosphere containing 21 percent oxygen. • It is the only planet that has liquid water on its surface. • It is the only planet in the solar system that has life. • The Earth's atmosphere has protected the Earth and allowed life to flourish. • As the Earth orbits round the Sun it turns on its axis, rotating right round in 24 hours. The side of the Earth that faces the Sun has daytime and the side of the Earth that is turned away from the Sun has night-time. When it is daytime in Britain, it is night-time on the opposite side of the Earth in New Zealand.
Mars	• Mars doesn't have a protective layer of atmosphere like Earth, so it cannot store heat from the sun. As a result, the temperature on Mars regularly drops to -125 degrees F (-82 degrees C) in the winter and only rises to 23 degrees F (-5 degrees C) in the summer. • The dust storms on Mars are larger than on any other planet in the solar system. Some dust storms on Mars can blanket almost the entire planet in just a few days. • Seasons – Mars has seasons like Earth too. These seasons are much longer than Earth seasons because Mars is so much farther from the sun. And don't get your swim suits out just yet – the average high during a Martian summer day is 23 degrees F (-5 degrees C) – not exactly beach weather.

Jupiter	• Jupiter is made of hydrogen, helium, methane and ammonia. The cloudy sphere has bright belts on it which change their shape. • Jupiter is entirely composed of dense layers of gas. • Jupiter spins very quickly, creating very strong weather patterns in the clouds which surround the planet.
Saturn	• Saturn's rapid spinning leads to hurricane-like storms far, far stronger than anything that is seen on the Earth. There is a constant whirlwind storm at Saturn's south pole which can be observed with the strongest telescopes. • Saturn is also composed entirely of gas. Saturn is a great ball of hydrogen and helium.
Uranus	• Uranus is also made of gas. Most of the center of Uranus is a frozen mass of ammonia and methane, which gives it the blue-green colour. The atmosphere also contains hydrogen and helium. • Because Uranus is lying on its side as it orbits the sun, for nearly a quarter of its orbit one pole of the planet is in complete darkness.
Neptune	• Neptune is one of the four "gas giants". Like Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus, it is composed only of gas. Neptune is a great ball of hydrogen and helium. • Like all the other planets, Neptune turns on its own axis as it is orbiting the sun. (Imagine walking round a large pond, but turning round and round as you go.)
Pluto	Pluto has a solid, icy surface.

“IN THE BEGINNING” CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

2. On the fourth day, God caused the sun, moon and _____ to become visible.
5. On the sixth day, God made the land _____.
7. On the first day, God divided the day from the _____.

DOWN

1. The _____ lasted seven days.
3. On the third day, God made the plants and _____.
4. On the seventh day, God made the _____ by resting.
6. On the first day, God said, “Let there be _____ ...”