



Dear Leader:

Thank you for using the Wesleyan Kids for Awana Clubs large group materials for Cubbies written and produced by The Wesleyan Church. The following lessons are for the first quarter of the Awana Club year, beginning in September although none of the lessons are dated. The next quarter's material will be available for download August 1.

This large group material is a key element in the overall Wesleyan Kids and Awana Clubs partnership. In addition, we have provided you small group leader and parent guides as well as information on how to lead a child to Christ. All of these are available for download at [www.wesleyankids.org](http://www.wesleyankids.org).

Thank you for your commitment to His children and your desire to see them come to know, love and serve Jesus. If you have any questions about the material or the Awana Clubs partnership, please contact us directly at [childrensministry@wesleyan.org](mailto:childrensministry@wesleyan.org) or call us at 317-774-3891.

Serving Him Together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colleen R. Derr".

Rev. Colleen R. Derr  
Director of Children's Ministries

## **Introduction to the Wesleyan Kids for Awana Clubs Large Group Lessons: Cubbies Material - Year 1, Quarter 1**

The Large Group Time helps pull the entire Awana Clubs night together. This club segment lets kids absorb and apply Scripture messages. Large Group Time can include:

- Announcements to promote upcoming Awana events or church activities
- Award presentations to recognize clubbers' achievements
- Singing to lead clubbers in praising God before the Bible lesson
- Testimonies so clubbers and leaders can share and encourage one another
- A Bible lesson to teach clubbers God's Word and form or strengthen a walk with Christ
- Invitations for clubbers to talk with leaders about trusting Christ as Savior

For Cubbies, the Large Group Time comes in the middle of the leader's guide. The following lessons compliment the Awana materials with the theme, verse, and goal the same as the other nightly materials. Each lesson includes a "Story Time" which introduces the theme for the day and captures their attention, a "Quiet Time" that contains the Bible story and challenge, and "Celebration Time" which provides an activity and real-life application.

### **Ideas for Praise and Worship:**

- Create an atmosphere of excitement and energy, warmly welcoming all the clubbers

- Sing songs that will engage the clubbers interests, provide a time of movement and interaction as well as a time of worship and reverence
- Suggested resources:
  - Uncle Charlie: Made 2 Praise and Kids Praise CD's [www.unclecharlie.com](http://www.unclecharlie.com)
  - Promiseland Children's Ministry- Willow Creek Ministries [www.promiselandonline.com](http://www.promiselandonline.com)
  - Shout Praises K!ds, MPEG resources by Integrity Music offers a variety of song titles from hymns, well-known contemporary choruses, and kid-sized songs all with the ease of use in MPEG format
- Include time of praises, prayer requests, and prayer time leading into Teaching Time or following

For specific instruction on how to lead children in worship through music, contact us at [childrensministry@wesleyan.org](mailto:childrensministry@wesleyan.org) for a free download.

### **Lesson Outlines:**

**Lessons Written By: Mary Miller**

**Edited By: Colleen Derr**

Week 1: God saves the Lost

Week 2: Jesus Loves Me

Week 3: God the Creator Loves Me

Week 4: God the Creator Is Everlasting

Week 5: God the Creator Knows Everything

Week 6: God the Creator Is the Source of all Light

Week 7: God the Creator Has All Power

Week 8: God the Creator Created Me

Week 9: The Bible Is God's Special Book

Week 10: The Bible Teaches Me that God's Promises are True

Week 11: Thanksgiving

Week 12: Missions

### **Additional Resources:**

For additional Wesleyan-based teaching resources we recommend:

*Building Faith Kids*

**Leaders Guide:** for each age level contains 52 concepts, assessment tools to see if your kids are "on target", teaching lessons for each concept, and additional resources.

*Learning About God* - Basic Christian Concepts for Preschoolers

*Growing Like Jesus* - Essential Christian Concepts for Elementary Students

*Knowing God's Truth* - Advanced Christian Concepts for Middle Schoolers

**Students Book:** for each age level is fully reproducible, accompanies the teaching lesson providing opportunity for individual response to concept and take-home page for a week of family activities

*Learning About God* - Basic Christian Concepts for Preschoolers

*Growing Like Jesus* - Essential Christian Concepts for Elementary Students

*Knowing God's Truth* - Advanced Christian Concepts for Middle Schoolers

All materials may be viewed at [www.wesleyankids.org](http://www.wesleyankids.org) and accessing the Building Faith Kids icon and ordered from Wesleyan Publishing at [www.wesleyan.org/wph/](http://www.wesleyan.org/wph/)



Cubbies Year 1

**PARENT, VIP NIGHT: GOD SAVES THE LOST**

Story Time: Salvation

Lesson Aim: To communicate that God loves us and sent his Son to save us from our sins.

Memory Verse: “[God] loved us and sent his Son” (1 John 4:10).

Lesson Materials:

- Various pictures of Jesus that relate to descriptions in “Celebration Time”
- “Leading a Child to Christ” bookmark

## QUIET TIME

**Have you ever been lost? Maybe you went somewhere with your mom and dad and wandered away from them. How did being lost make you feel? What did your mom and dad do when you were lost?** (Let the children share their thoughts.)

**If we do things that we know are wrong, we are sinning. When we sin, we wander away from God. How do you think this makes God feel?** (Let the children respond.) **God does not want any of us to be lost. He loves us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to save us and to teach us not to wander away. Let’s thank God for sending Jesus.** (Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus to save us.)

## STORY TIME

**Who can tell me what it means to love someone?** (Allow Cubbies to answer. After a few Cubbies have given answers, you could also call on one or two parents.) **Love means caring about someone very much. It means wanting what is best for the one you love. Parents love their children. Children love their parents. Cubbies leaders love Cubbies too. Best of all, God loves us. He loves us more than anyone else does. We can't even imagine how much God loves us. He loves us more than all the love in the whole entire world.**

**Because God loves us, He wants the very best for us. He gives us good rules to live by, but God knows that we can choose to disobey Him. In fact, the Bible says that we all choose to disobey God. If we disobey God by doing, saying, or thinking something that we know is wrong, we are sinning. When we sin, we wander away from God and are lost.**

**Do you know what it means to save someone? Imagine that you are at the mall with your mom. She tells you to stay right by her at all times, but you want to go look at the toys. While your mom is talking with the sales clerk, you decide to go to the toy aisle. You only want to look at the toys for a moment but, when you walk back to find your mom, she is not there! You get very scared. You should have obeyed your mom and stayed right there beside her, but now you are lost! You run through the store, past the toy aisle and out into the middle of the mall. You start to cry, "Where's Mom?" and run even farther, looking for her.**

**Suddenly, a man who works at the mall as a security guard stops you. He shows you his badge. "Your mom sent me to find you," he says. He leads you back through the mall, back to the store, back past the toy aisle that does not seem important anymore, and to the**

place where you wandered away. Your mom is standing there! She is so happy to have you back safe and sound, and you are so glad to see her again. You are sorry that you disobeyed your mom and thank the security guard many times for helping you and for saving you when you were lost!

If this really happened to you, we would say that your mom loved you so much that she sent the security guard to save you from being lost in the mall. God loves you so much that He sent His Son to save you from your sin. That is so much more important than what the security guard did in our story. We cannot save ourselves if we sin. We need a Savior. That is why God sent Jesus. He is able to save us from our sins. Let's say our verse: "[God] loved us and sent His Son" (1 John 4:10).

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

This year, during Story Time, we will be hearing many stories about God's Son, Jesus. (Show Bible story pictures related to Jesus and the following stories as you mention them.) We will learn how He was born in a town called Bethlehem. We will learn how He taught people to love and obey God. We will learn why He died on a cross and how He rose again. We will learn how we can someday live with Him in heaven.

We can be thankful that God loves us so much and that He sent His Son, Jesus. Remember, God loved us and sent His Son.

Let's pray and thank God for Jesus one more time.



Cubbies Year 1

**BEAR HUG BROCHURE NIGHT: JESUS LOVES ME**

Story Time: Salvation

Lesson Aim: To help children understand that Christ died for all.

Memory Verse: “All have sinned.” (Rom. 3:23).

“While we were sinners . . . Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).

Lesson Materials:

- A variety of coins and a dollar bill
- “Leading a Child to Christ” bookmark

**QUIET TIME**

(Show the children some money. Ask the children these questions and talk about the answers with them). **What would you do if I said I would give you this money if you helped to clean the room? If you helped clean, you should get the money. Who do you think should get the money if some helped and others did not? Should anyone get the money if no one helps to clean? What if I gave the money to everyone, whether they cleaned or not?**

**Jesus did something for all of us. He died to save us from our sins. The Bible tells us that no one deserves to be saved, but Jesus loves people so much, He did this for all people, anyway. Let’s thank Jesus for dying for all of us. (Pray.)**

## STORY TIME

**A long time ago, God wanted a beautiful world. He wanted bright sunlight, tall trees, singing birds, twinkling stars, scurrying squirrels, and—most important of all—people. He wanted the people He created to love Him and to *be* loved by Him too. So, God created a wonderful place—our world.**

**God created you too. Did you know that God knows everything about you? He knows when you are sitting in a chair, or standing up, or lying down in bed. He knows every thought you think and every word you say. He knows about everything you do. He knows what you are doing right now. He knows how tall you are and what color your eyes are. He even knows how many hairs you have on your head. (Call one of the children up front and try to begin counting his or her hair to show how impossible it would be for a person to know what God knows.) God also knows if you do something that is wrong. We have been learning that if we do something that God tells us is wrong, it is called sin. The Bible says that everyone has sinned. That means we have all made wrong choices to do things that we know we should not do. It means that we have all disobeyed God, and that is sin. Jesus came to take away our sins.**

**Jesus is the only One who has never disobeyed God. God sent Jesus to take away our sins and to teach us to obey God as He does. To do this, Jesus had to die for everyone. That was a very hard thing for Jesus to do, but He did it because He loves us very much. You might think that, if people disobey God and sin, Jesus would not want to die for them. But the Bible says that “while we were . . . sinners, Christ died for us.” Jesus can take away our sins and that is good news!**

**The verses below tell us God’s good news. To help you remember these very important words from the Bible, say it this way:**

(Have Cubbies who are wearing vests trace the A and C with their finger as you talk about each letter. Others can trace the A and C on the vest in the Bear Hug Brochure.)

**A is for All: “All have sinned” (Rom. 3:23).**

**C is for Christ: “While we were . . . sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).**

**God knows all about us. He loves us very much. He sent His Son Jesus to be our Savior and to die for us. Jesus died for everyone and that is good news!**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

**God knows when you are standing up.** (Tell the children to stand up.) **God knows when you are sitting down.** (Tell the children to sit down.) **God knows what you are thinking.** (Have children point to their heads.) **God knows all the words you say.** (Have children point to their mouths.) **God knows how many hairs you have on your head.** (Have children touch their hair.) **God knows everything.**

**God also knows everyone has sinned. He knows that we need a Savior. That is why He sent His only Son to die for you on the cross. Remember, this is God’s good news that we read about in the Bible.**

**A is for All: “All have sinned” (Rom. 3:23).**

**C is for Christ: “While we were . . . sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).**

**Let’s pray and thank God for loving us and for sending His Son to be our Savior.**



Cubbies Year 1

**GOD, THE CREATOR, LOVES ME**

Story Time: David, the shepherd

Lesson Aim: God created the heavens and the earth.

Memory Verse: "God is love" (1 John 4:8).

Lesson Materials:

- A Bible
- A Stringed instrument for children to play, or a guest who plays for them
- A simple song from the Psalms for the children to sing

**QUIET TIME**

(Hold up a Bible.) **Who can tell me the name of this book?** (Allow the children to respond.) **This is the Bible. Can you tell me why the Bible is special?** (Allow the children to respond.) **The Bible is special because it is God's book. God gave it to us so that we could learn about Him.** (Open the Bible to Genesis.) **The first thing that the Bible teaches us is that God created the heavens and the earth. That means He made everything in our beautiful world. When you look around, what are some beautiful things that you see?** (Allow for answers.) **Let's thank God for making these things and for loving us enough to create a beautiful world.** (Begin the prayer then encourage each Cubbie to pray and thank God for something He created.)

## STORY TIME

**The Bible tells us about a boy named David. David had seven brothers. They were all older than he was. Some of David's brothers were soldiers. They had important jobs. But David had an important job too. David was a shepherd. His job was to watch his family's sheep. Every day David went out to the fields with the sheep. He made sure the sheep had fresh water to drink. He made sure they had green grass to eat. He kept the sheep safe and made sure wild animals did not attack them. David was a good shepherd.**

**David was not just a shepherd. He liked music too. Sometimes he played a harp and made up songs. Do you think the sheep liked to hear David's songs? What do you think David sang about?** (Allow for responses.) **David loved God. He also knew that God loved him. David wrote many songs and poems about God's love. One of the ways he knew God loved him was because of the big, beautiful world God made. David spent most of his time outside with the sheep and he saw God's wonderful world every day. What do you think David saw in the fields?** (Give children opportunity to respond. As children answer, you may wish to show a picture of what they name. Give clues for the pictures they don't naturally guess.) **David saw sheep, the sky, the sun, the moon, stars, trees, flowers, birds, and animals. We can read some of David's songs in the Bible, in the book of Psalms.** (You may wish to bring a lyre or other stringed instrument to show the Cubbies. If possible, you or someone else can demonstrate how the instrument sounds by playing a simple song. Do your Cubbies know any Scripture-based praise choruses? If so, read the verse from which the chorus was written so the children can understand that the words come from the Bible. Sing the song with the children. If they do not know a praise song, choose a simple one to teach them. You can also have the

children pretend to play a harp of their own as they sing. Even if you did not bring an instrument, you can all pretend to play an instrument.)

**God loves us. We can look at all the beautiful things that God created and know that He made them for us to enjoy. What is more, we can read the Bible to know that God loves us. There is a verse in the Bible that says, “God is love” (1 John 4:8). (Have the children repeat the verse with you.) God loves us just as He loved David. We can see His love when we look at the beautiful world He made. We will learn more about the world God made when we have story time next week at Cubbies.**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

**God loves us just as He loved David. He shows His love in the beauty of the world He made. He also tells us about His love in the Bible. God will never stop loving us. When bad things happen, God loves us. When good things happen, God loves us. He loved us yesterday. He loves us today. He will love us tomorrow.**

**Here is a fun poem to help us remember what we have learned:**

**God is great and mighty.**

(Point to heaven. Extend hands above head. Flex raised arms.)

**The Bible tells me so.**

(Hold hands open like a book. Cup hands near mouth. Point to self.)

**He loves me with a special love.**

(Cross arms across chest. Hug self.)

**I'll praise Him as I go!**

(Clap hands and step in place.)

**Let's say our verse together one more time: “God is love” (1 John 4:8).**



Cubbies Year 1

**GOD, THE CREATOR, IS EVERLASTING**

Story Time: Creation

Lesson Aim: God created the light.

Memory Verse: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Gen. 1:1).  
“And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light” (Gen. 1:3).

Lesson Materials:

- Flashlights
- Window covering

#### **QUIET TIME**

(Show the children a flashlight.) **This flashlight can give us light. Can you think of other things that give us light?** (Allow for responses.) **Why do you think we need light?**

(Allow for responses. Turn the flashlight on.) **This room is light enough, so it might seem like we do not need this flashlight, but what if this flashlight was the only light in the room.**

(Turn the lights off in the room and close any drapes or blinds. You could cover the windows with dark paper ahead of time to make the room especially dark.) **As you can see, light is very important. Without light, we cannot see. We need light to learn about our world. Light is so important, that it was the first thing God created. Even before God made the sun, moon, or stars, He made light.** (Close in prayer. Encourage Cubbies to thank God for creating light.)

## STORY TIME

**Did you know that God likes to make things? Another way to say it is that God likes to *create* things. To create means to make something. We call God the Creator because He made everything. He made everything out of nothing. Can you imagine nothing at all?** (Have the children close their eyes and sit as quietly as possible.) **Before God created the world and everything in it, there was *nothing*. There was no land and no water. There was no sky. There was no sun, or moon, or stars. There was no day or night. There were no animals or people. As we sit quietly with our eyes closed, we can still hear things. We know that there are people and things around us. We can even feel our own hearts beating and we can feel ourselves breathing.** (Encourage the children to put their hands over their hearts so they can feel it beating and can feel themselves breathing in and out.) **But, before God made the world, there was nothing. Only God was there.**

**Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God made the light out of nothing. There was no sun to shine the light. He did not need a candle or electricity. God is so powerful that He only had to speak and the light became real. It was a light from God himself. Because the light was from God, it was good. God let the light shine for a while and called it *day*. He called the darkness *night*. This was the very first day that ever was. It was the beginning of creation.**

**Light is very important. Remember, we need light to see. Our eyes will not work without light. Did you know there is a verse in the Bible that says, “God is light; in him there is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:5)? Just as our eyes need light to see the world around us, so we need God in our hearts to know how to live. There is another verse in the Bible that says, “[God’s] word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path” (Ps. 119:105). (Show**

the children the flashlight again.) **Just as this flashlight can give us extra light when we need to find our way in a dark place, God has given us his Word, the Bible, to help us know Him.**

**God did a lot when He created light on that first day. It was as if He was putting himself into our world. We have the light of His presence around us. God created light on that first day, but God had a lot more to make. He had only just started creating our world. We will learn more about that next time we meet.**

### **CELEBRATION TIME**

(Collect a few flashlights ahead of time and pass these out to the children for the celebration time. Instruct the children to say these verses with you and to turn their flashlights on and off at the word *light* and *lamp*. Dim the classroom lights for greater effect.)

**“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. . . . God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light” (Gen. 1:1, 3).**

**“God is light; in him there is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:5).**

**“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path” (Ps. 119:105).**

(Close by singing a praise chorus and let the children shine their flashlights and wave them in.



CUBBIES YEAR 1

**GOD, THE CREATOR, KNOWS EVERYTHING**

Story Time: Creation

Lesson Aim: God created the sky, the land, seas, and plants.

Memory Verse: “[God] has made everything beautiful in its time” (Eccles. 3:11).

Lesson Materials:

- Pictures of the four seasons
- Flowers or fruit for children to smell or taste
- Small flower to plant (or enough flowers for all Cubbies)
- Small flower pot (or enough for all Cubbies to have their own)
- Soil
- Water

**QUIET TIME**

(Show pictures depicting the changing seasons.) **God made our world very big and very beautiful. He made warm summer days. He made cold, snowy winters. He made the beautiful colors we see in the fall and He made all the pretty flowers that we like in the spring. What is your favorite season?** (Call on a few Cubbies to talk about what season they like best and why.) **Is there a season you do not like? Have you ever wished for summer while it was still winter? Have you ever been disappointed because it rained while you wanted sunshine?** (Allow for answers.) **God knew exactly what we would need when He created our world. He made all the seasons. He made sunshine, rain, and snow. The Bible says that God “has made everything beautiful in its time” (Eccles. 3:11). God made our world beautiful. Let’s praise Him for it.** (Pray, thanking the Lord for our beautiful world.)

## STORY TIME

Last week we learned how God began to create our world. Do you remember what *create* means? Who can tell me what God made on the first day? (Allow children to respond to these questions.) After God created light, there was morning and night. Now the world was one day old. (As you talk about the days passing, you could lead the Cubbies in putting their heads down as if sleeping, then waking up, then sleeping, etc.)

Now God was ready to create something else. God knows everything. He knew exactly what we would need in our world to make it just right. On the second day, God made the air we breathe and separated it from water. He knew that the animals and people would need fresh air to breathe. God called the new area *sky*. The morning passed and the night came. Now the world was two days old.

Next, God created a place for animals and people to live. He gathered all the water He had made into one place and made dry land appear. God called the dry ground *land*. God made tall mountains and low valleys. He created the rocks, the soil, and the sandy beaches. God called the waters He had gathered *seas*. And God saw that it was good. Have you seen an ocean, a sea, or a big lake? (If you live near a large body of water, refer to it in your teaching.) God made the ocean waves, the waterfalls, and the deep lakes and rivers.

Then God said, “Let there be plants, flowers, and trees.” What do you think happened? Do you think God had to plant some seeds and wait for them to grow? Remember, God is all-powerful! God spoke and right away the land was covered with all kinds of plants and growing things. God created great big trees and tiny plants that grow in the water. He made flowers that smell wonderful and all kinds of fruit and vegetables. What are some of your favorite fruits or vegetables? Do you have a favorite flower? (Allow

for responses. You may also wish to bring in some fragrant flowers to pass among the children so they can smell them. Another option is to have pieces of fruit so that the children can sample a slice as you talk about the plants God made.) **God saw that all the plant life was good. Then, the morning passed and the night came. Now the world was three days old.**

**Our verse from the Bible says, “[God] has made everything beautiful in its time” (Eccles. 3:11).** (Have the children repeat the verse with you.) **God made our world very beautiful. He made it with everything people and animals would need.**

### **CELEBRATION TIME**

(Have Cubbies help you pot a small flower. If your class is small, perhaps each child could pot their own flower.) **What are some things that will help this flower grow?** (Guide children’s responses.) **It needs soil.** (Put soil around the plant.) **God made the soil. It needs air.** (Fluff up the leaves.) **God made the air. It needs water.** (Water the plant.) **God made the water. God knows everything. He knows exactly what plants need to live and grow. God knows what we need, too. He created a great big world and He made everything beautiful.** (If the weather permits, you may wish to take your class on a walk. Encourage them to find beautiful things in the natural world around them).



CUBBIES YEAR 1

**GOD, THE CREATOR, IS THE SOURCE OF ALL LIGHT**

Story Time: Creation

Lesson Aim: God created the sun, moon, and stars.

Memory Verse: “Give thanks to the Lord . . . who made the great lights . . . the sun . . . the moon and stars” (Ps. 136:3, 7–9).

Lesson Materials:

- Weather permitting, a location selected to meet outside
- Pictures of objects for sun, moon, stars, and earth

**QUIET TIME**

**What do you see in the sky during the day? What do you see at night? How do you think the sun, moon, and stars got in the sky? (Allow for answers) The Bible tells us that God placed them in the sky. We have already learned that the very first thing God created was light. This light was a special light from God, but the sky was empty until God made the great lights to shine during the day and night.** (Depending on the weather and your location, you may wish to take your class outside. If you meet during the day, have the Cubbies make shadow shapes on the ground. If you meet at night, look at the moon and stars. Have the Cubbies pray with you to thank God for providing the lights we need for both day and night.)

## STORY TIME

We have been learning what happened on the first three days of creation. Do you remember what things God made during those first three days? (Allow for answers.) That's right. In just three days, God created light, the sky and the air we breathe, the land and seas, and all the plants. Each day, the world looked more beautiful; each time God made something, the world became more of what God planned it to be. The land was covered with green grass, plants, flowers, and trees. The blue seas sparkled. Everything was ready for the rest of the creation. God had made everything good.

Now on the fourth day of creation, God filled the empty sky. He said, "Let there be lights . . . in the sky." Immediately, there were two great lights. Can you name the light we see during the day? (Allow for answers.) That is right. We see the sun. The sun is so bright, we cannot look right at it. It is very important because it gives us light and keeps us warm. It helps the plants to grow. Do you like to play in the sunshine? What are some things you like to do when the sun is shining bright? (If your group is not too big, you could go around the group and give each child an opportunity to tell something he or she enjoys doing in the sun.)

Can you name the light we can see at night? (Allow for answers.) That is right! We see the moon. The moon shines a beautiful light at night but it does not keep us awake when we are trying to sleep! Sometimes we see the entire round moon glowing brightly. Sometimes we can only see half of the moon. Sometimes the moon looks like a tiny sliver in the sky. Sometimes we cannot see the moon at all, but it is still there. Have you ever walked outside when the moon is glowing brightly? How is that light different than the light during the day? (Allow for responses.)

**God set these two great lights in the sky to mark days, seasons, and years. He placed them in the sky just right so they would be just what we need. God also made the stars. Have you ever tried to count the stars? (Allow for responses.) There are so many stars we cannot count them. We see different stars at different times of the year. God made them all and put them in the sky. God looked at creation and He saw that it was good. The day passed and night came and now the world was four days old. The Bible says, “Give thanks to the Lord . . . who made the great lights . . . the sun . . . the moon and stars” (Ps. 136:3, 7–9). God did all of this because He loves us. The Bible says God’s love lasts forever.**

**Our story of creation is still not over. What do you think God will create next?**  
(Allow for responses.) **We will find out the next time Cubbies meet.**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

**God made the sun and moon to give light and mark time.** (Choose children to be the earth, sun, and moon. The others can be stars. You may wish to have pictures of these objects to help children play their parts. Place the “sun” in the center of the room. Have the “earth” walk once around the sun. Have the “moon” follow the same path but stay on the opposite side of the earth away from the sun in the circle.) **When the earth goes around the sun once, that is one day. When it is day on one side of the earth, it is night on the other. Night is when we see the moon and stars.** (Have “stars” open and close fists to signify twinkling. Have earth and moon walk around the sun several times). **When the earth goes around the earth 365 times, that is one whole year! God made everything just right!**



CUBBIES YEAR 1

**GOD, THE CREATOR, HAS ALL POWER**

Story Time: Creation

Lesson Aim: God created birds, fish, and animals.

Memory Verse: “Through him (Jesus) all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made” (John 1:3).

Lesson Materials:

- Sea shells and/or water animal pictures
- Guest with a tame pet for children to see and touch

**QUIET TIME**

**Do you have a favorite animal?** (Allow for responses.) **There are many kinds of wildlife. Some animals are very big and strong. Some animals are cute and cuddly. Some can fly. Some can live underwater. Can you guess who made all the birds, fish, and animals?** (Allow children to respond. Choose five children to come up front to help you with this activity. Say the following to each child.) **I will whisper a kind of animal in your ear. Act like that animal and make a sound like that animal, so the other boys and girls can guess what you are.** (Use animals with which the children in your area would be familiar.) **Today, we will learn about the One who made all the animals. First, let’s thank God for giving us the Bible so we can learn who made the animals.** (Pray and thank God.)

## STORY TIME

**Did you know that Jesus was with God during creation? The Bible tells us that God created the heavens and the earth. The Bible also tells us that the Lord Jesus made all things. Let's say this verse together: "Through him [Jesus] all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made" (John 1:3). Jesus is God's Son. God and Jesus are one.** (This concept is also developed in Sparks. It is complicated, however, so do not dwell on it. Simply state it and move on).

**The earth God created was beautiful. The sun shone bright and warm. The waters sparkled in the light. Trees, flowers, and plants of all kinds grew everywhere. But, listen!** (Whisper, holding a finger to your lips.) **There were no birds singing. There were no insects buzzing. You could not hear a bark, a roar, a growl, or a meow. Can you guess why?** (Allow for responses.) **That is right! No birds, fish, or animals had been created yet.**

**Remember that God likes to make things? On the fifth day, God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures," and immediately the waters were filled with life. Can you think of other animals (besides fish) that live in the water?** (Allow for responses. Another option is to have some sea shells or pictures of sea creatures for the children to view.) **Then God said, "Let birds fly above the earth." Right away, the sky was filled with all kinds of birds. Do you have a favorite bird?** (Allow for responses. Another option is to play a recording of birds singing.) **God saw that the fish, sea creatures, and birds were good. He blessed them so they would live and grow and fill the earth. That was the end of day five.**

**On day six, God said, "Let the land produce living creatures." God created many different kinds of animals. He created huge elephants and tiny mice. He created roaring lions and slithering snakes. He made cows, horses, and all the animals that would live on**

**farms. God made dogs and cats to be our pets. God made the creepy crawly insects. Think of your favorite animal?** (Have the children act like their favorite animals and birds so that your meeting sounds, for the moment, like a zoo.) **God saw that all the animals were good.**

**God has always been and always will be alive. He knows everything about everything. He has a plan and He is all-powerful. Just by speaking, He has the power to create. He knew exactly what we needed to have a good place to live. He made the land, water, and sky just right. He put the sun, moon, and stars in just the right place. He filled the earth with good plants and created all living creatures. Now everything was ready for God's most important creation. We will find out more about that next time.**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

(If possible, have someone bring in a harmless animal or bird. Let the children ask questions and pet the animal if they would like. Be sure you have a gentle creature that can be trusted with children, but do not force a child to pet the animal. If a real animal is unavailable, you could use an animal puppet or let the children view a short nature program to help them experience the wonders of God's animal creations.) **Aren't you glad that God created so many different kinds of fish, birds, and animals for us to enjoy? He created all the creatures so that they could have babies and fill the earth. When we see the wonderful animals, we can remember to praise God for giving us a wonderful world. Because God has all power, He made everything just right. He loves us very much.**



CUBBIES YEAR 1

**GOD, THE CREATOR, CREATED ME**

Story Time: Creation

Lesson Aim: God created people to love Him.

Memory Verse: "I praise you because I am . . . wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14).

Lesson Materials:

- Pictures of unusual animals

**QUIET TIME**

**Do you look like your mom or dad? Maybe everyone in your family has the same hair color, or maybe you like to do some of the same things as other people in your family.**

(Allow for comments.) **We are all different but we tend to look like people who we are related to. Did you know you are related to God? God created each one of you. He made you to be His special child. He created you to know Him and to love Him so that when others see how you act, you can remind them of God. You might look like your dad or mom, or your sister or brother, but you are still different. You say different words and you think different thoughts. God created you just the way He wanted you to be. Let's bow our heads and thank God for creating us. (Pray.)**

## STORY TIME

(Review what the children have learned about creation so far.) **What does the word *create* mean? What did God create on the first day of creation? The second day? The third day? The fourth day? The fifth day?**

**On the sixth day, God created the animals. Can you name an animal God created?** (Allow for answers.) **That's right. God created all kinds of animals. He created big animals like the hippopotamus and the elephant. He created little animals like the mouse and the hamster. He created animals that make big noises like the lion. He created animals that make soft noises like the rabbit. He created animals that can climb trees like the monkey and animals that dig holes in the ground like the prairie dog. But, creation was still not finished. The world was now ready for God's most important creation. Before the sixth day was over, God created people.**

**First God created a man. He named the man Adam. God gave Adam a face with two eyes, a nose, and a mouth. He gave him strong legs for walking and strong arms for working. Then God gave Adam a job. God put Adam in charge of creation! Adam also had to name all the animals. Can you imagine having to give names to everything God made?** (If time allows, you can show the children some pictures of unusual animals. Encourage the children to come up with names for the different animals, then tell them what each animal is actually called.) **God knew that it was not good for Adam to be alone so God created a woman to be a helper for Adam. Adam named his wife Eve. God placed Adam and Eve in a beautiful garden called Eden. And God saw all that He had made, and it was very good. After six days, creation was finally finished. The Bible tells us that God rested on the seventh day.**

**Do you know why people are so important? God wanted to show His love to people. And He wanted people to show their love back to Him. So, God made people different from anything else He had made. God created people with the ability to love Him and to love each other. Only people can talk to God by praying. God also gave people the ability to choose. People can choose to do good or they can choose to do bad things. People can choose to obey God. People can serve and praise God. Did you know that you are old enough to do these things? You can love God by obeying what He tells us in the Bible. You can praise God by thanking Him for all He's done for you. You can serve God by obeying your parents. The Bible says, "I praise you because I am . . . wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14). (Have the children repeat the verse with you.) You are God's wonderful creation and God made you exactly the way He wanted you to be. You are special and God loves each of you very much.**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

**Let's say our verse again: "I praise you because I am . . . wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14). What are some wonderful things God gave us? (Have the children point to their eyes.) What can our eyes do? (Have the children point to their ears.) What can our ears do? (Allow the children to respond to these questions. Continue by having the children point to their hands, mouths, feet, etc.) God made our bodies so we could do all these things. What are some ways you are different from the rest of God's creatures? (Allow for responses.) Let's praise God because we are wonderfully made. (Allow the children to choose a praise chorus to sing together.)**



CUBBIES YEAR 1

**THE BIBLE IS GOD'S SPECIAL BOOK**

Story Time: The Bible is God's special book.

Lesson Aim: The Bible is God's Word (letter) to me.

Memory Verse: "All Scripture is God-breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16).

Lesson Materials:

- Children's books
- A Bible
- A letter from the pastor
- A box or bag containing: a Bible story picture, a poem, a song, an instruction manual, a picture of Jesus or the cross

**QUIET TIME**

(Have a variety of children's books for the Cubbies to look at.) **Do you like good stories? What is your favorite story?** (Allow for comments.) **Good books are something we can all enjoy.** (Show the children a Bible.) **This book is the Bible and it is different from any other book ever made. Can you guess why?** (Allow for comments.) **The Bible is special because it is *God's* book. It is like a letter to us from God telling us that He loves us. He tells us what He thinks and how we can live to please Him. God tells us many special things in His book. Let's bow our heads and thank God for giving us the Bible.** (Pray.)

## STORY TIME

**This night just can't get any more exciting! We have received a letter addressed to all of us. Look!** (Show the Cubbies a letter that your pastor or other leader prepared ahead of time.) **It says "To the Cubbies" right on the front! I like to get mail, don't you?** (Open the envelope.) **This letter is from Pastor \_\_\_\_\_.** **Listen to what he writes.** (The following is a sample letter but you can word the letter to suit your meeting.)

**Dear Cubbies,**

**I am sure you are having a lot of fun at Cubbies. I want you to know that I am proud of every one of you. You will be learning about God and all the good things He does for us. That is the most important thing anyone can do.**

**Love,**

**Pastor \_\_\_\_\_**

**It is nice to get a letter from someone who loves us. God loves us so much and He sent us the most important letter of all. His important letter is the Bible. Another word we use when we talk about the Bible is Scripture. There is a verse in the Bible that says, "All Scripture is God-breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16). That means the Bible is God's words. The Bible is one way God talks to us. It is God's special book and every part of it is completely true!**

**Can you think of a Bible story that you've heard?** (Discuss some of the well-known Bible stories that the Cubbies would know. Allow the Cubbies to name their favorites if they have one.) **The Bible has true stories about people who lived a long time ago. When we read how God helped those people, we can know how to live our lives and that God will help us too.**

**We also find poems and songs in the Bible. Do you remember when we talked about the shepherd boy, David? He wrote many poems and songs praising God. Many poems and songs can be found in the book of Psalms.** (Open a Bible to the book of Psalms. If time allows, you may wish to read part of a psalm. Psalm 148:1–4 is a good choice but you may make another selection.)

**God also gives us instructions in the Bible. What are some things in the Bible that God tells us to do?** (You will probably have Cubbies who can answer this question. Some answers include, “tell the truth”; “obey my parents”; and “love one another.” If no Cubbies answer the question, encourage them by asking, “Does the Bible tell us to tell the truth? Does the Bible tell us to obey our parents? Does the Bible tell us to love one another?”)

**The Bible also tells us about a special gift. This is not like a gift wrapped in paper that you might get on your birthday. No, it is a different kind of gift. God gives us His Son, Jesus. Do you remember the Good News? Jesus died for our sins. We can ask God to forgive us when we do wrong.**

**The Bible is God’s letter to you. I am so glad that God gave us the Bible, aren’t you?**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

(Put the following items in a box with a lid or in a large bag: a Bible story picture, a poem, a song, an instruction manual, and a picture of Jesus or the cross.) **In our story time, we learned that God’s special book, the Bible, has many special parts to it. What do we find inside the Bible?** (Have different children come, one at a time, to the front and take something out of the box. Talk about each item and review the parts of the Bible that the items represent.)

**In the Bible, we can find everything we need to know about living our lives God's way. We learn how much God loves us. That's the most important news we could ever have.**



CUBBIES YEAR 1

**THE BIBLE TEACHES ME THAT GOD'S PROMISES ARE TRUE**

Story Time: Noah builds an ark.

Lesson Aim: God always keeps His promises.

Memory Verse: "All [God's] words are true" (Ps.119:160).

Lesson Materials:

- A picture of a rainbow or material (ribbon or crepe paper) to create a room-size rainbow
- Color steamers—one for each child

**QUIET TIME**

**What does it mean to make a promise?** (Give children an opportunity to respond.) **A promise means that when you say you will do something, you do it. Have you ever made a promise?** (Allow for comments.) **People can make promises. Sometimes people make promises but forget to keep them. Sometimes people want to keep their promises but things happen and they can't. God *always* keeps His promises. He never, ever forgets a promise. Remember, God has always been alive. He is all-powerful. He knows everything. Nothing ever happens that keeps God from doing what He says He will do. God's promises are always good. Let's thank God for keeping His promises.** (Pray.)

## STORY TIME

**Have you ever seen a rainbow?** (Allow children to answer. You can also show them a picture of a rainbow). **Who made rainbows?** (Allow for answers.) **That's right, God did. Our story has a rainbow in it. Can you guess who our story is about?** (Some children may be able to guess.) **Our story is about a man named Noah. Noah's story helps us learn that God makes special promises that always happen just as He says they will happen.**

**A long time ago, many people lived who did not obey God. They did not care what God said. They wanted to do things their own way and they did what was wrong all the time. They did not care that they sinned. Those people were so evil that the Bible says God was sorry that He had made them. But, there was one man who obeyed God. His name was Noah. He and his family were the only ones who cared about what God said.**

**Because the people were so wicked, God told Noah that He was going to send a flood. There would be so much rain that the water would cover the entire earth. God promised to protect Noah. He told Noah to build a great boat called an ark. The ark was to be big enough for Noah and his family, for two of almost every animal and for seven of some kinds of animals.**

**The ark was very big and it took Noah a long time to build it. The Bible doesn't tell us what the other people thought. Maybe they laughed at Noah. Maybe they thought he was crazy. But the whole time Noah was building the ark, those people could have changed their minds and started obeying God. Instead, they just kept right on disobeying God.**

**When the ark was finished, a father and a mother of each kind of animal came to the ark. Noah did not have to go and look for the animals. God caused the animals to come**

to Noah. Can you name an animal that would have been on the ark? (Allow for responses.)

You are right, because God put some of every kind of animal in the ark. Noah and his family also went inside. Then God himself closed the door. He had promised to keep them all safe.

Then it happened just as God said! Raindrops fell from heaven. (Have the children help you make raindrop motions by wiggling their fingers.) This wasn't just any storm; this storm lasted forty days and nights. The water rose higher and higher. Soon it covered the land. Then it covered the houses. Then it covered the trees. Only Noah, his family, and all those animals in the ark were safe. After many days, the floodwaters began to go down. Finally, the land appeared again. The ark stopped on the top of a mountain. When the land was completely dry, Noah was able to lead his family and all of the animals off the ark. The earth looked fresh and new.

God kept His promise to keep Noah safe. Now God made another promise. He promised Noah that He would never send another flood that would destroy the whole earth. As a sign of His promise, God caused a beautiful rainbow to form in the sky. Now, if you see a beautiful rainbow, you can remember that God always keeps His promises. He will keep His promises to you.

#### CELEBRATION TIME

Here is a Bible verse that tells us about God. It says, "All your words are true" (Ps. 119:160). God will always do what He says He will do. He always keeps His promises. Say this verse with me and say it the way I do. (Repeat the verse, emphasizing a different word

each time. Another option: Have the children become a rainbow by giving each one a length of colored paper streamer. Have the children wave these as they say each emphasized word.)

**ALL your words are true.**



CUBBIES YEAR 1

### THANKSGIVING

Story Time: Thankfulness

Lesson Aim: To give thanks to the Lord.

Memory Verse: “Always giv[e] thanks to God . . . for everything” (Eph. 5:20).

Lesson Materials:

- Colored paper
- Markers
- Scissors

### QUIET TIME

**What do we say when someone gives us something or does something for us?** (Allow for responses.) **That is right. We say, “Thank you.” We thank people for their kindness to us. We should also thank God when we pray because He has given us many things and because He has done so much for us. What is something for which you are thankful?** (Allow children to respond.) **It is right that we are thankful for all God’s blessings. We can be thankful every day, but today we are going to talk about a special day that is set aside for giving thanks. First, let’s pray and thank God for His blessings. (Pray.)**

### STORY TIME

**A long time ago, before the United States was even a country, a group of people, called Pilgrims, came to this land. A pilgrim is someone who makes a journey. (Have the**

Cubbies walk in place.) **This group of Pilgrims wanted to live in a place where they could love and worship God. The Pilgrims knew that they could trust God to take care of them so they made a very hard journey across the ocean to get to this new place. The Pilgrims did not have big jet airplanes or comfortable cruise ships to take them across the ocean. They had to ride in big, slow, sailing ships that tossed up and down, and swayed side to side during bad storms. They did not have a lot of food or medicine. Many of the Pilgrims got very seasick on the rocking ship.** (Have the Cubbies sway in their seats and hold their stomachs.)

**The Pilgrims arrived at their new home at the beginning of winter. There were no warm houses to live in and no supermarkets where they could buy food. What do you think it would be like to camp outside in the winter?** (Allow for comments.) **The Pilgrims were very cold.** (Have the Cubbies hug themselves and pretend to shiver.) **The winter was long and hard. There was not enough food and many of the Pilgrims got sick and died. But, the Pilgrims knew they could trust God to take care of them.**

**Then God sent someone to help the Pilgrims. He sent people who already lived in that land. Do you know who these people were?** (Some Cubbies may know the answer.) **That's right. God sent Native Americans, or Indians. As spring came, the Indians showed the Pilgrims how to plant corn, and how to hunt and fish.** (Have the Cubbies make planting motions and pretend to throw a line in the water. You can also have them put their hand over their eyes as if searching for game but do not have them pretend to shoot a bow and arrow.) **The Indians taught the Pilgrims how to live in the new land.**

**When the harvest came, the Pilgrims had plenty of food. They had houses and the Indians were their new friends. God had taken care of them and they were very thankful.**

**The Pilgrims held a great feast to celebrate. They invited their Indian friends. Together, they prayed and thanked God for all He had done for them. This is why we have the holiday we call Thanksgiving.**

**There is a verse in the Bible that describes people who act like the Pilgrims did: “Always giv[e] thanks to God . . . for everything” (Eph. 5:20). Sometimes it was very hard for the Pilgrims, but they trusted God and were thankful to Him for His care.**

**Are you always giving thanks to God? You don’t need to wait for Thanksgiving to thank Him. Let’s pause a moment and thank God for all He’s done for us.** (Have a quiet time and encourage the children to thank God quietly in their hearts, then close the prayer yourself thanking God for each Cubbie.)

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

**Let’s make something to show our thankfulness!** (Have several adult leaders help the children trace their hands on pieces of colored paper. Cut out the hands. The adults can help the Cubbies write something for which they are thankful on their paper hand, or have the Cubbies draw that item with crayons. Let the Cubbies help you arrange the hands on the wall or bulletin board for all to see. Have the children take turns telling the class what he or she put on their paper hand. Allow the children to make as many “thankful hands” as time allows.)



CUBBIES YEAR 1

### MISSIONS

Story Time: Serving the Lord by telling others about Jesus.

Lesson Aim: To help Cubbies understand what missionaries are and what they do.

Memory Verse: “But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31).

Lesson Materials:

- A map or globe
- Pictures of children representing different ethnic groups

### QUIET TIME

**Here is where we live.** (Point to the place on a map or globe.) **Did you know that there are boys and girls who live far away from us? Some children live here and here and here.**

(Point to different places all over the map or globe. Show the Cubbies pictures of children from different countries. Try to show a wide variety of cultures or ethnic groups.) **How many of these children do you think Jesus loves? How many of these children need to know about Jesus?**

(Allow for responses.)

**Do you know what a missionary is?** (You may have some children who know the answer.) **Missionaries are people who tell other people about Jesus. They tell the Good News that Jesus can forgive us for our sins. We will learn more about missionaries today, but first, let’s thank God for missionaries.**

## STORY TIME

Jesus commanded His disciples to go into all the world and tell people the good news that He died for their sins. After Jesus went up into heaven, His followers did just that. Many people became believers because of the disciples' message. When others saw how the believers loved each other, and when they heard the message of God's love and forgiveness, they began to call Jesus' followers *Christians*, because they acted like Jesus Christ.

One Christian man was named Philip. Philip lived in Jerusalem and loved Jesus very much. He wanted to serve God and tell others about Him. Philip was a missionary. He went from town to town teaching the Good News. Sometimes he spoke to crowds of people. Sometimes he spoke to small groups. Then, one day God sent an angel to Philip with a special message. The angel told Philip to travel down a road through the desert. The angel did not say why. Who can tell me what a desert is? (Allow for answers.) A desert is a hot, dry place. There would not be many people there. Do you think Philip wondered why he should go out into such a place? (Allow for responses.) Philip did not need to know why God wanted him to go through the desert. He trusted God and started down the desert road. We can imagine it was a hot and lonely journey.

Then Philip saw that he was not the only person on the road. Ahead of him was a chariot. A chariot is a type of carriage pulled by horses. Only rich, important people had chariots. The man inside the chariot was from a faraway country called Ethiopia. He worked for the queen of Ethiopia. This man had heard about God and had traveled all the way to Jerusalem to find out more about Him. Now he was going home, but no one had told him God's Good News. He did not know that Jesus had died to save him. God's Spirit told

**Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” As Philip got closer to the chariot, he saw that the man was reading aloud from Isaiah, a book in the Bible.**

**“Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.**

**“How can I, unless someone helps me,” answered the Ethiopian.**

**Philip said he would help. He got into the chariot with the man. As they rode along, Philip told the man about Jesus. After a while, the Ethiopian said that he believed in Jesus. Philip had helped the Ethiopian to believe. Now the Ethiopian man was a Christian too!**

**God knew all about the Ethiopian man and sent Philip down the desert road to help him. That day, Philip was a missionary to just one person.**

#### **CELEBRATION TIME**

**Can you remember what a missionary does? (Allow the children to respond.) That’s right. A missionary tells others about Jesus. Even though you are young, did you know that you can be a missionary? Whom can you tell about Jesus? (Discuss the children’s responses. The idea is that you can tell anyone and everyone about Jesus.) You can tell your dad and mom, your grandpa and grandma too. You can tell your friends and neighbors.**

**You don’t have to go to a faraway land to be a missionary. You can tell the people you know about the Good News. (Review the Good News of the Bible.) Another way you can be a missionary is by asking your friends to come to Cubbies with you. Your friend will learn about Jesus, just like you do.**