

# CREATION



Acacia Corner

## Interactive Study

Use what you have at home!

No Photocopies Needed



# GAMES!

Works great in International  
Setting with limited resources

Sunday School Lesson Plan for kids ages 5 - 10  
Large Group Setting

# Introduction



My name is Ellen Ombati and I am the creator and developer of the Acacia Corner, an online resource center for Sunday School Teachers

and Youth Workers in an African context. The Acacia corner was named after the acacia tree whose roots go very deep. When everything is dry and there is drought, the acacia tree still is a center of life. At the Acacia Corner, it is my desire to see our students with a faith that goes deep. No matter what life throws at them, that they may possess a life giving faith in God.

Aside from the Acacia Corner I am a Licensed Pastoral Counselor through the NCCA, homeschool teacher/mom, artist, and curriculum developer. I have lived and served in Kenya with my family since 2006. During that time I saw the hardships that Kenyan teachers face. Many have a class size of 50-60 kids, 1 dedicated teacher and very limited resources. Sunday school classes may meet outdoors or, if they are lucky, in a classroom with

only desks and a chalkboard as a resource. For them, finding a curriculum that does not require a lot of money to acquire materials, a lot of preparation, and that is written for an African context, is nearly impossible.

During the time I have lived in Kenya, I have been able to develop a curriculum for teachers that works. None of the lessons require multiple photocopies or hard to access resources. Most of the teaching aids and materials are items found in a typical Kenyan home. I have also included interactive story telling as a memorable and exciting way to teach the scriptures. All of the lessons have been tested, edited and approved by Kenyan teachers and students in their own classrooms. Many of the lessons as well also have a Swahili translation. Furthermore, although these lessons are written for an African context, it is my hope that they may be used in other places as well, such as in VBS or other mission fields.

I hope that you enjoy the lessons and find them not only easy to teach, but that the students you teach will grow in their relationship with God and learn about Him through His Word. They may not only learn the facts of the Bible, but experience the story and think about how to apply it to their own lives.

Ellen Ombati

The Acacia Corner

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## Genesis 1



**Big Idea:** Our God is a great big God.

**Items needed:** 1 white sheet, 2 blue sheets, 2 flashlights (Torches), several branches, (rocks and sticks – optional)

**Memory verse:** Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (NIV)

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## STORY:

(Note: This lesson is written for large groups. If your class is smaller than 50 kids you may want to bring in rocks, sticks and other items to act as the plants and animals in the lesson.)

Say: Today I want to tell you a story about God, but I am going to need your help. I know that you all have heard this story, so you will be the best ones to help me tell it again. This story is from the Bible and is found at the very beginning in the book of Genesis. (Show the kids the Bible.)

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep."* (Gen. 1:1-2 NIV)

Can you imagine what that might have been like? Let's imagine that we are looking into the deep. There is nothing, no light, no form and it goes on forever. It is just darkness.

*"And the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."* (Gen. 1:2 NIV)

So we know now that there was water and God was there. His Spirit was hovering. OK, now can I have two kids to hold this white sheet and pretend to be the Spirit of God? [Show the kids how to "hover."]

**Can I ask a few volunteers to wave their arms like water.** [show the kids how to act like water/ waves - remember that there was no form so the waters were everywhere and not collected. They can also move around the room at this point since the waters were everywhere and not staying in one place. Show the Spirit of God kids how to hover over all of the waters. They can continue hovering over God's creation for the entire length of the story.

***“And God said, [Shout in a LOUD DEEP voice – how you imagine God] ‘Let there be light!’ (Gen. 1:3 NIV) [Have someone shine a torch on and off several times ending with the torch off.] God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” (Gen 1:4 NIV) And this was the first day.***

***“And God said, ‘Let there be [space] between the waters to separate water from water.’ (Gen 1:6 NIV) [Instruct the water kids to form two bodies of water. Put the kids together into three groups – two groups should be close to the floor, but separate and the other group to be higher. The Spirit of God should still hover.] So God separated the waters and called the one that is above the sky. This was the second day. And remember now, there was still no form. No sea, no ocean, rivers, or lakes. It is all just water everywhere.***

***“And God said, ‘Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.’ (Gen. 1:9 NIV) [Instruct the water kids who are on the floor to now come together to form one body of water. Also ask for about twenty more volunteers to be the dry land. These kids link hands and create a circle to represent the earth. The earth can encircle the waters. Then they can rotate as the earth does.] And that is just what happened. “God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.” (Gen 1: 10)***

***"[Then] God said, 'Let the land [have plants],"*** (Gen. 1:11 NIV)  
**Can I have three volunteers to act like plants?** [Have three kids come up – inside of the earth and place their arms like trees or flowers. Give them the branches to hold.] **And there were all kinds of plants, trees, grass and plants that have fruit. And the plants grew and multiplied. This was the end of the third day. "And God said, 'Let there be lights in the sky to separate the day from the night. These lights can mark the days, seasons and years and they will give light to the earth."** (Gen 1:14-15 NIV) **And that is just what happened and God saw that it was good.** [Have a child shine the torch onto the sky sheet to act as the Sun. Another child should shine a second torch onto the wall to create the moon..]

***And God said, 'Let there lots of fish in the waters, and let birds fly in the sky.*** (Gen 1: 20 NIV) [Ask for two to three volunteers to be fish and two to three volunteers to be birds. Instruct the fish to swim in the waters and the birds to fly in front of the sky sheet. Ask another section of the room to make bird sounds.] **So God created everything in the sea and all the birds of the air. And God saw that it was good. This was all created on the fifth day.** (Gen 1: 21 NIV)

***Then God said, 'Let there be all kinds of animals in the land!*** (Gen 1:24 NIV) [Have children to volunteer to name their favorite animal and come to the front to play that animal. They must move among the plants that are in the earth. Ask the third section of the room to imitate the sounds of animals.] ***"And God saw that it was good."*** (Gen 1:25 NIV)

***“Then God said, ‘Let us make mankind, in our own image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish, the birds and all the animals.’ (Gen 1: 26 NIV) [Ask for two children to play people and to move among the animals on the dry ground taking care of the animals.]***

***“So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky and every living creature that moves on the ground.’ (Gen 1:28 NIV) [Instruct the kids playing people to now stand before you and you give them their instructions from the Lord. The kids playing the spirit of God should now hover around you as you speak to the people and the animals.]***

***“Then God said, ‘I give you every seed bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.’ (Gen. 1:29 NIV) [Tell the kids playing people to continue being people again and now have all the animals, fish and birds to stand before you as you give them their instructions from the Lord.]***

***“And to all the beasts of the earth, and the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground - everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.” (Gen. 1:30 NIV)***



***“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And this was the end of the sixth day.”*** (Gen. 1:31 NIV) [Instruct the kids playing animals, birds and fish to go back and continue being animals, birds and fish.]

**So now all the heavens and the earth were completed in full.** [Tell everyone to act out their parts together. After they have had a chance to act out creation in its full tell everyone to be quiet and still.]

***“By the seventh day, God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day He rested from all His work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it, he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.”*** (Gen. 2:2 NIV) [Instruct all the kids to now go back, sit down and rest.]

# Credits



Scripture taken from:

Homeschool Mom's Bible, New International Version. Grand Rapids:  
Zondervan House, 2012. Print.

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