



LOWER ELEMENTARY LEADER GUIDE



Each week we achieve our goal of reaching kids and their families for Christ by making programming for children
Fun, Intentional, Scriptural, and Helpful.

Fun

The fun level of our activities should reflect the fun level of our God. 28nineteen™ KIDS teaches God's Word in a way that is attractive and memorable to the children. God is not boring, and neither are we! And, if children have a great time, they will want to return ... with friends!

Intentional

We are intentional about knowing these children's names and needs. God hand-picked the children who attend your church every weekend. They are precious to Him and they are precious to us! The focus of 28nineteen™ KIDS is always on reaching children and their families for Jesus Christ.

Scriptural

28nineteen™ KIDS is an unapologetically Bible based curriculum. In other words, we stand on the Word of God. All of our Bible Study and Worship lessons come directly from the Bible and teach our children straight biblical truth.

Helpful

Our goal is to teach children to be "doers of the Word, and not merely hearers" (James 1:22). To do this, we teach practical applications of biblical truths in each lesson. The children should leave with a challenge or an action to live their lives for Christ.

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Lower Elementary Bible Study

MAIN POINT

The Bible is so rich! Every time we read a Bible story, be it the first or the fiftieth time, God can teach us something new. To help everyone stay on the same page, 28nineteen™ KIDS narrows in on one main point from the Bible story. Everything we do intentionally teaches the Bible story and this one point.

LEADER DEVOTION

The goal of the leader devotion is to help your leadership learn the lesson personally first. Secondly, our goal is to help your leadership feel an empowerment and excitement to share what they have learned with their classes. For this reason, each lesson begins with the same devotion for all leaders on an adult level. Background information, be it historical, cultural, or biblical, is incorporated to make the study richer in meaning for your leaders as well as for your kids. Additionally, the leader devotion helps your leadership team, be they Bible study teachers, worship leaders, or classroom helpers, to be on the same page.

ACTIVITIES

Activities help kids stay engaged in the learning process while having fun. Each activity has a specific purpose and connects to the Bible lesson and main point for the day. Teachers can easily make this connection for themselves and their kids by reading the “Make the Connection” section below each activity.

- **Welcome Activities:** Many children find it difficult to walk into a group comfortably, thus it's helpful to have an activity that draws a child in and immediately gets them engaged. Welcome activities are designed to help all children feel they can confidently participate. These activities also serve as an introduction to the main point of the Bible lesson.
- **Crafts with Purpose:** 28nineteen™ KIDS does not have a craft for each lesson. Instead, crafts are included in lessons when they make sense and can be the most helpful to the kids as they learn.
- **Variety of Energy Levels:** Each lesson includes a variety of activities ranging in energy levels. Leaders can choose the activities that best fit the needs of their classes.

FAQ

This section is for you, leaders! Learning big truths often leads to big questions. If a child asks, we want you to be prepared.

BIBLE LESSON

Bible lessons are clearly outlined into four sections: Intro, Read the Bible, Present the Gospel, and Application.



Intro: Short for “introduction,” this section helps leaders grab kids’ attention, quickly review past lessons, teach the overarching theme of the series, and get kids excited about the Bible story.



Read the Bible: Now we get to the good stuff! In this section, leaders encourage kids to read in the Bible as they discover God’s Word for themselves.



Present the Gospel: The Bible is one big story, and it is all about Jesus! Each lesson seamlessly ties the Bible story to the truth of the Gospel. Leaders teach the truth of the Gospel and encourage kids to respond. Because we never know how many opportunities we will have to interact with each child, we never miss an opportunity to talk about Jesus.



Application: Our goal is to teach children to be “doers of the Word, and not merely hearers” (James 1:22). To do this, we teach practical applications of biblical truths in each lesson. The children should leave with a challenge or an action to live their lives for Christ.



Clues: Throughout the Bible lesson, kids read clues that direct them to the Bible.

MEMORY VERSE

The goal of the memory verse activities is long-term understanding and memorization of Scripture. For this reason, 28nineteen™ KIDS focuses on one verse or passage during each series. Throughout the series, kids are encouraged to memorize these verses in fun and interactive ways. Just like the activities, each memory verse section has a “Make the Connection” section to help teachers explain the meaning and practical applications of the verses kids are memorizing.

ZOOM PUZZLE

God has many characteristics and many names, but He is one God. To help kids visually understand this truth, we developed a puzzle. Kids take home pieces of the puzzle as they learn who God is. You can order these puzzles at 28nineteencurriculum.com.



CLUE 1

ELOHIM: God is Creator.

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MEMORY VERSE

"Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philipians 2:9-11



zoom!

Bible Lesson: The Mystery of the World
(Genesis 1-2)

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLIES



ACTIVITY 1:

Art supplies, Memory verse sheet (*page 81*)

ACTIVITY 2:

Animal cards (*pages 83, 85, 87, 89, 91*), Scissors, Music, Music player

BIBLE LESSON:

Clues (*page 93*), Decoder (piece of red cellophane)

ACTIVITY 3:

Creation pictures (*pages 95, 97, 99*), Balloons, Trash bags

ACTIVITY 4:

Modeling dough

ACTIVITY 5:

ELOHIM papers (*pages 101, 103*), Music, Music player

Zoom!

LEADER DEVOTION

Read Genesis 1-2:3; Isaiah 40:28-31; Psalm 121:1-2; 139:13-14.

At first, the question “Who is God?” sounds simple; however, the more we think about it, the harder it becomes to answer. God is so many things. He is Creator. He is Provider. He is just and merciful and kind and loving. He is Father, and He is Friend. The list goes on and on. Our God is not only bigger than words can describe; He is bigger than our imaginations. Studying the individual names of God allows us to “zoom in” on a single aspect of God’s character, breaking down the “Who is God?” question into more manageable concepts.

The first name of God in the Bible is “Elohim,” God the Almighty Creator, and represents the plural Trinity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Even this one name is packed full of information about our God. Throughout the Bible, God is praised for His work of creation. He made everything perfectly and on purpose, including you and me.

As you study the name Elohim and the fact that God is the Creator, you may want to do some things you may not normally do, such as spending time outside or looking up scientific facts and processes. Doing so will help you look at all of creation as God sees it – His. Every scientific law man has discovered was first created by God. Sir Isaac Newton, for all of his intellect, did not create gravity. Through the intelligence God created in him, he was able to discover God’s creation. Copernicus, for all of his keen powers of observation, did not create a sun-centric universe. Elohim did and allowed Copernicus to discover a small piece of the system He put into place at the dawn of time.

The name Elohim reminds us we serve a God who is big enough and powerful enough to have created everything; yet, He is still involved in the small things. In Isaiah 40, God reminds us He is a source of strength to those who wait on Him. In Psalm 121, God reminds us He is not sleeping in our times of need. He is awake and aware. He is both the Creator and the Maintainer. In Psalm 139, God reminds us He knows us intimately – in such a small and detailed way, unexpected from One with such enormous power. God made us wonderfully.

Elohim is the Almighty Creator. He deserves our worship.

For more Bible study on Elohim, read Job 38-41; Isaiah 43:1-3, 7; Revelation 4:11.

WELCOME

ACTIVITY 1 • MEMORY VERSE

MATERIALS: Art supplies, Memory verse sheet (*page 81*)

DIRECTIONS: Tell kids to draw pictures around the words in Philippians 2:9 that will help them remember the verse and what it means. (Ex. Draw a “4” above the word “therefore” and a name tag above the word “name.”) Work with kids to give them ideas if they need help.



MAKE THE CONNECTION:

During our new series, ZOOM, we are studying the different names of God. Philippians 2:9-11 tells us Jesus has the best name of all. Jesus deserves our worship, because Jesus is God. Many of you were very creative when drawing pictures for the words in the verses. Today we will learn the first name of God used in the Bible, Elohim, which means Creator. God is Creator!

ACTIVITY 2 • ANIMAL CARDS

MATERIALS: Animal cards (*pages 83, 85, 87, 89, 91*), Scissors, Music, Music player

DIRECTIONS: Hand each person one animal card. Be sure to hand out an equal amount of heads, bodies, and legs. Have kids move around the room while you play the music. When the music stops, kids must form groups of three to make an animal with their cards (head, body, and a set of legs). When kids have gotten into groups, have them make up a name and a sound for that animal. Start the music and have the kids move around the room again. Play several times, so kids can make several silly animals!



MAKE THE CONNECTION:

- What was your favorite made-up animal?
- What was your favorite made-up animal noise?

God is very creative. Genesis 1-2 tells us He made all the different kinds of animals in just one day, and everything He made was good.

The Mystery of the World (Genesis 1-2)



BIBLE LESSON

Before the Bible Lesson, hide clues 1-5 around the room (page 93). Each clue relates to the Bible Lesson. Have kids scramble to find the clues before grabbing their Bibles and sitting down.



INTRO

During our series, ZOOM, we will begin to answer the question “Who is God?” by ZOOMING in on the different names of God. The Bible gives God a lot of different names that all mean different things. Each name gives us a small clue to the big picture of who God is.

- How many names do you have? Do you have any nicknames?

You may not have any nicknames, but you definitely have more than one name. You are Son or Daughter to your parents. You are Brother or Sister to your siblings. At different times, you can be Helper, Athlete, Musician, or Friend. Those who have given their lives to Jesus have the name Christian.

Each of those names means something different. You are Son or Daughter, but that is not all you are. You are Friend, but that is not all you are, either. Each of these names ZOOMS in on one part of who you are as a person.

Today we are going to ZOOM in on the first name of God found in the Bible.



Who has CLUE #1?

Give the person who found Clue #1 a “decoder” (a piece of red cellophane). Let them read the first clue to the class. Clue #1 reads, “Elohim is the first name of God found in the Bible.”

The first name of God found in the Bible is Elohim (El-oh-heem). Where can we find this name of God in the Bible? I think we need another clue!



Who has CLUE #2?

Give the person who found Clue #2 a “decoder” (a piece of red cellophane). Let them read the clue to the class. Clue #2 reads, “The Mystery of the World. Genesis 1:1.”



READ THE BIBLE

Read Genesis 1:1.

In our Bibles, the word “Elohim” is translated in English as “God,” because Elohim is one of the Hebrew names used for God. Elohim means “The All-Powerful Creator.” God is the all-powerful Creator. Genesis 1-2 tells us the story of how God created the world in six days before resting on the seventh day.

On the first day, God created light. He looked at His creation and saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:6-8 tells us that on the second day, God created the sky. He separated the sky from the ocean, and saw that it was good.

On the third day, God created dry land and plants. When He was finished, He looked at everything He created and saw that it was good.

On the fourth day, God created the sun, moon, all of the planets, and the stars. God looked at all He had created and saw that ... you guessed it! It was good.

On the fifth day, God created every different kind of bird and every different kind of animal that lives in the sea. That is amazing! We are still discovering new sea creatures today! Our God is extremely creative and extremely powerful. God looked at all that He had created and saw that it was good.

On the sixth day, God created all of the different animals on the earth. God made giraffes, zebras, donkeys, alligators, dogs, cats, and more. Then God made something very special. God made people.

Read Genesis 1:26-28.

God made people differently than He made the animals. God made us to be in a

perfect relationship with Him. At the end of the sixth day, God looked at everything He had made and saw that it was very good.



PRESENT THE GOSPEL

God made the world perfect. He created everything in perfect order. He created you and me to live in a perfect relationship, a friendship, with Him. Everything God made was good. But God did not want to force us to love Him. Instead, God gave us a choice: we could choose to love Him and obey Him, or we could choose to do things our own way, to sin. The Bible tells us in Romans 3:23 that every single person who has ever lived has sinned – except Jesus. The punishment for our sins, our wrong choices that go against God, is death and separation from God. When we sin, our perfect friendship with God is broken.

Thankfully, God loves us so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to take our punishment. Even though Jesus had never done anything wrong, He chose to die on the cross for all of the wrong choices you and I have made. After He died, Jesus came back to life three days later! Jesus is God, and because of Jesus we can be friends with God again.

ADMIT that you have sinned. BELIEVE Jesus is God's perfect Son who died on the cross for your sins and came back to life. CHOOSE to put Him in charge of your life from now on. Make Jesus the Lord, the Boss of everything you do, say, and think. Then God will create a clean heart in you, as you are forgiven for your sins and welcomed into a forever friendship with God! (Psalm 51:10)



APPLICATION

God is Creator. It makes sense to see the name Elohim in the story of Creation. Where else does the Bible refer to God as the Almighty Creator?



Who has CLUE #3?

Give the person who found Clue #3 a "decoder" (a piece of red cellophane). Let them read the clue to the class. Clue #3 reads, "Isaiah 40:28-31."

Read Isaiah 40:28-31.

God is strong. He is strong enough to create the entire world in only six days, and He is strong enough to help us. God, our Creator, deserves our worship.



Who has CLUE #4?

Give the person who found Clue #4 a “decoder” (a piece of red cellophane). Let them read the clue to the class. Clue #4 reads, “Psalm 139:13-14.”

Read Psalm 139:13-14.

God created you, and God created me. He loves us very much, and God does not make mistakes. God created you, and it was good. God, our Creator, deserves our worship.



Who has CLUE #5?

Give the person who found Clue #5 a “decoder” (a piece of red cellophane). Let them read the clue to the class. Clue #5 reads, “Psalm 121:1-2.”

Read Psalm 121:1-2.

The Creator of the universe is on our side, when we choose to put Him in charge. God, our Creator, deserves our worship.

PRAY



ACTIVITY 3 • CREATION CRAZINESS

MATERIALS: Creation pictures (pages 95, 97, 99), Balloons, Trash bags

DIRECTIONS: *Before Class*, cut out three or four sets of Creation Pictures and put each picture inside a balloon. Blow up the balloons. Put each set of balloons in a trash bag.

During Class, review what God created on each day. Split your class into equal groups. Give each group a bag of balloons. Be sure there is at least one balloon for each child.

On your mark, kids must pop the balloons and work together to put the pictures in the order that God created each item. (Ex. A picture of plants should be put before a picture of the sun, etc.) Let groups use their Bibles to help them with the order. When all pictures have been put in the correct order, teams must lie down on the ground to “rest”. The first team to rest wins.



MAKE THE CONNECTION:

God created a lot in six days.

- Why do you think God created light and color?
- Why do you think God created plants and animals?
- What is your favorite thing that God created? Why?

God created everything on purpose and for a purpose. Everything God created was good. He made everything PERFECTLY! Let's take some time, right now, to worship God and thank Him for our favorite things He created.

LEAD YOUR CLASS IN PRAYER. Tell the kids you are going to pray, leaving a silent space for them to complete the sentences to God themselves, in silent prayer.

(For example, “Dear God, I love that You created _____. I think You are great because _____. Thank You for _____.”)

ACTIVITY 4 • CREATION STATION

MATERIALS: Modeling dough

DIRECTIONS: Hand each person a small amount of modeling dough. Have your kids mold their dough into one of their favorite things God created. As time allows, let kids mold the dough into another favorite thing God created.



MAKE THE CONNECTION:

- What is your favorite thing God created and why?

God created so many good things. God is Elohim, the Almighty Creator. He made everything just by speaking. God is amazing and deserves our worship – the focus of our hearts.

ACTIVITY 5 • SPELL IT OUT: ELOHIM

MATERIALS: ELOHIM papers (*pages 101, 103*), Music, Music player

DIRECTIONS: Hand one paper to each player. If your group does not evenly split into groups of six, give some players two consecutive letters. Play music. Have kids walk around the room until the music stops. When the music stops, kids must get in groups of six to spell out the name “Elohim.” When everyone has found a group, have the group state the meaning of the name “Elohim” and one thing God created. Start the music again. Have kids get in different groups each time you stop the music.



MAKE THE CONNECTION:

Who is God? God is many things, and all of them are good. Today, we ZOOMED in on Elohim, the name of God that tells us God is the Almighty Creator. Everything God made was good and perfect.

- What does that tell you about God?
- Does God make mistakes?
- Is God creative?
- Is God powerful?

Our God is amazing, and that is just the first name of God. It is only one small piece of who God is. Each name gives us a small clue to the big picture of who God is.



FAQ?

Q: Aren't there a lot of theories about how the world was made?

A: Yes there are, and we are not going to go into that right now. The bottom line is those theories are just that – theories, guesses. In here, we are going to stick to the facts. The facts are God was there when He created the world, not us. We will teach what is in the Bible, because the Bible is God's Word.

Q: Are we like animals?

A: Yes and no. Our bodies function a lot like animals' bodies, but God made us differently. Genesis 1:26 says God made us in His image. He made us to have a relationship with Him. God made people special and loves us very much.

