



Creating with God

# Week 1 - Clay

**Big Idea:** God Created the World!

**Key Verse:** "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." - Genesis 1:1

**Summary:** With clay and a little imagination, we can mold a great many things. Families will learn that God created the universe and everything in it in just 6 days. (Genesis 1:1-27)

**Materials Needed:** A Bible, Modeling Clay or Play-Doh, Two Blindfolds, A Timer

**Application:** Knowing God created us is one of the most important messages of the Bible. We are not accidents; we were made by a creative God who loves us. Any time we create with our hands, we are reminded that we were made in the image of our creative God!

## Craft & Learn

**Craft:** Set out a variety of colors of clay, or Play-Doh, to be used by family members. Encourage each person to make an animal, plant, or something else found in nature. Have each person share their creation with the family.

Challenge your family members to make a specific animal, plant, or something else found in nature. See how many different shapes they can make.

**Lesson:** Modeling clay isn't just a great way to create art. It's a great way to have fun! Modeling clay can be anything you want it to be. You can make an animal, or a person, or an alien. You can craft it with your hands, or you can use tools. You can bake it and harden it in an oven to become a permanent masterpiece - or you can smash it and start all over again!

The only limit to modeling clay is your imagination. If you can dream it up, you can create it. I can't help but think that's exactly how God made our world. God had a plan to create a beautiful place with light and dark, water and land and sea, plants and fish and birds and animals. And let's not forget people!

Our God is a creative God, and every time we make art, we show that we are created in God's image. Let's thank God for the amazing world he made, and for giving us imagination as well.

**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for all your hands have made. In Jesus' name, Amen!

## Explore the Bible

**Introduction:** From the day you are big enough to sit at a table, you are encouraged to be creative. Did you know that? Often, when we are all toddlers, we are given washable markers, crayons, or if we're lucky some finger paints. Whatever it is, we are encouraged to be creative and use our imaginations.

*What is your favorite kind of art to create?*

Modeling clay is a fun way to create art because it allows us to use our hands and craft something three-dimensional. When we let our imagination run wild, we can use modeling clay to create just about anything. We can create animals, houses, cars, boats, airplanes, and smiley faces. And even if you're not good at crafting the fine details, just about anyone can take a ball of clay and roll it into a snake!

Modeling clay is all about using our hands to make something from what seems to be nothing. When we open the Bible, we see that's exactly what God did in the beginning. The first thing the Bible tells us about God is that He created the world. I think that shows us that God has a lot of creativity and imagination if He thought of EVERYTHING in the whole world!

**The Story:** Read the Creation Story - Genesis 1:1-27

**Main Point:** God didn't need 4 years, 4 months, or even 4 weeks to create the world. He created the whole world - the oceans, the land, the sky, the animals, the birds, the fish, the plants, everything - in six days. He not only made every unique creature on Earth, he designed everything to fit together perfectly for life to thrive on this planet.

Our God is creative. He made the whole world and everything in it. Then he made people in his image to share and enjoy his beautiful world.

Knowing that God made us is one of the most important messages in the whole Bible. Sometimes we can get discouraged and frustrated. We can get down on ourselves when we feel like things aren't going well. Remember that you were created by a creative God. Remember he made this whole world for us. Most importantly, remember He sent His one and only Son to die on the cross to take away your sins, because He loves and cares about His creation that much!

**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for making us each unique in your own image. Thank you for giving us each a creative spirit. And thank you for continuing to love and care for us each day. In Jesus' name, Amen!

## Family Game Time

### Blind Elephants:

**Materials Needed:** Modeling Clay (or Play-Doh), a Timer, and Blindfolds

**How To Play:** Choose two family members to play this game at a time. Give each one a lump of modeling clay (or Play-Doh), and blindfold them both.

On “go” - Each player will have 90 seconds to try and create an elephant with their clay while blindfolded.

At the end of 90 seconds, have the players remove their blindfolds and examine their work. Then let the other family members decide whose masterpiece wins that round.

Continue head to head competition till everyone has had a chance to blindly create.

### Human Sculptures:

**Materials Needed:** None

**How To Play:** Have family members work together to become human sculptures.

Designate one family member as the “Sculptor” who will call out a shape or item for the other family members to create, working together, using only their bodies. (Some examples include: a motorcycle, an airplane, a house, a dinosaur, etc.)

Try to snap a picture of each sculpture that is created.

Give each family member the opportunity to be the “Sculptor”

## Family Discussion Starters

### Kindergarten - 2nd Graders:

**Read:** The Creation Story - Genesis 1:1-27

**Questions:**

1. How many days did God take to make the world?
2. What did God make on each day of creation?
3. How did God make people?
4. How do we know we were made in God's image?

**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for making us and loving us. In Jesus' name, Amen!

### 3rd Graders - 5th Graders:

**Read:** The Creation Story - Genesis 1:1-27

**Questions:**

1. How did God make the world?
2. How did God make people?
3. Why do you think God made us in his image?
4. How do we know God loves us?



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