

Creation

Concepts: first story in Torah, we are God's partners in continual act of creation (i.e., caring for our world)

Vocabulary: tov=good

Props: iPad and creation song prop, paint-brushes, rainbow ribbons

Tips for Teaching This Unit:

1. On Simchat Torah, we rolled the Torah back to the very beginning and began to read it all over again! The first story in the Torah is when God created the world. How many days do you think it took? Can you count to six with me? Count to three on each hand, then demonstrate the sign for 'world.' Then do it again, this time singing the chorus to Six Days to Make the World. (With 2's and 3's, that may be too hard, so just count normally and roll closed fists.) Sing **Six Days to Make the World** ([audio](#)) or **Six Days to Make This Beautiful World** ([audio](#)); age appropriate for preschoolers. Use [iPad prop](#) pictures; ask children to identify what new things are added to the world each day before singing verse. Simplify the song by repeating each line with younger children; do hand motions.

Six Days to Make the World

by Lisa Baydush

Chorus:

1-2-3, 4-5-6

It took six days to make the world (repeat)

count to six with fingers

rolling hands

In the beginning, **light and dark (echo)**

In the beginning, **day and night (echo)** oh...

finger bursts; cover eyes

finger bursts; cover eyes

Then came the **land**, the **sky and sea (echo)**

Then came the **flowers and the trees (echo)** oh...

hands to the ground, up in air, makes waves

wiggle fingers for flowers; sign for tree

Next came the **sun**, the **moon and stars (echo)**

Next came the **animals, birds and fish (echo)** oh...

finger burst for sun, other hand for moon, both for stars

flap wings, swimming hands

Last came the people, **Adam and Eve (echo)**

Last came the people, **you and me (echo)** oh...

point to children, then to self

On the seventh day, **God took a rest (echo)**

That's why **Shabbat is our day of rest (echo)** oh...

head on hands

Six Days to Make This Beautiful World

by Lisa Baydush to the tune of Down on Grandpa's Farm

Chorus:

(It took) Six day, six days

To make this beautiful world! (repeat)

On the first day, God made dark and light (2x)

And then God said that it was good (it was good!) (2x)

On the second day, God made the land and sky and sea (2x)

And then God said that it was good (it was good!) (2x)

On the third day, God made the flowers and trees (2x)

And then God said that it was good (it was good!) (2x)

On the fourth day, God made the sun and moon and stars (2x)
And then God said that it was good (it was good!) (2x)

On the fifth day, God made fish and birds (2x)
And then God said that it was good (it was good!) (2x)

On the sixth day, God made animals and people (2x)
And then God said that it was good (it was good!) (2x)

On the seventh day, God took a rest (2x)
And that is why we have Shabbat! (2x)

2. **Seven Days** is a wonderful alternative with 4's through third grade. Use [pdf prop](#) to teach movements, then sing with [video](#). Point out the dynamics of how the word 'good' is sung. Make sign for 'God' with a loud whisper between verses.

Seven Days

by Ellen Allard

First day, day and night
And it was good!
God, God, God, God...
... Zip in each additional verse

ASL signs for day/night

Thumbs up

Sweep open palm through the air above head

First day, day and night
Second day, heaven and earth
Third day, plants and trees
Fourth day, sun and moon and stars
Fifth day, fins and wings
Sixth day, beasts and humankind
Seventh day, Sabbath rest

Arms reach up; arms reach down

Wiggling fingers grow like plants, then sign for tree

Finger bursts

Hands swim, arms flap

Thump chest like ape, then stomp each foot

Head on hands

3. Segue from creation to being partners with God in the continual act of creation. Ask students if they want to help me paint a beautiful world?! Use paintbrushes for **Painting a Beautiful World** ([audio](#)) ([prop](#)). Age appropriate for preschool.

Painting a Beautiful World

by Lisa Baydush

I'm gonna paint a beautiful world,
Do you wanna paint with me?
I'm gonna paint a beautiful world,
C'mon and paint it with me!

Blue paint, blue paint,
Gonna paint a blue, blue sky (repeat)

White paint... lots of fluffy clouds...
Yellow paint... a shining sun...
Green paint... the green, green grass...
Orange paint... lots of pretty flowers...
Red paint... apples on a tree...

We just painted a beautiful world for everybody to see;
We just painted a beautiful world, thanks for painting with me!

4. What can we do to keep our world looking beautiful? This is a natural segue to songs about doing Tikkun Olam, repairing our world. Sing my song **Helping Hands** ([audio](#)), zipping in children's ideas of what they can do to help our world, Ellen Allard's **Building a Better World** ([video](#)), or **We've Got the Whole World in our Hands**.

Helping Hands

by Lisa Baydush

Chorus:

Do a mitzvah with your helping hands today!
Do a mitzvah with your helping hands! (repeat)

My helping hands can pick up trash (turn off lights)
My helping hands can hug (share)
I like to use my helping hands
C'mon, everyone! (c'mon, show you care!)

Building a Better World

by Ellen Allard

We're building a better world (3x) one person at a time.

Chorus:

And the world goes round and round,
the world goes round and round and round (repeat)

We're building a world with friends... love... peace...

We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands

We've got the whole world in our hands!
We've got the whole wide world in our hands!
We've got the whole world in our hands!
We've got the whole world in our hands!

When we help each other, we help the world...
When we all recycle, we help the world...
When we pick up trash, we help the world...