

## YEAR 8 CREATION REVISION

NAME .....

CLASS/TEACHER .....

**Content: Understanding different views about the creation of the World and the importance of looking after the Earth.**

- **Genesis**
- **Different Christian interpretations of Genesis**
- **The Big Bang**
- **A Hindu Creation Story**
- **Stewardship**

**Students to read each section and then complete the relevant questions at the end of that section.**

## Genesis

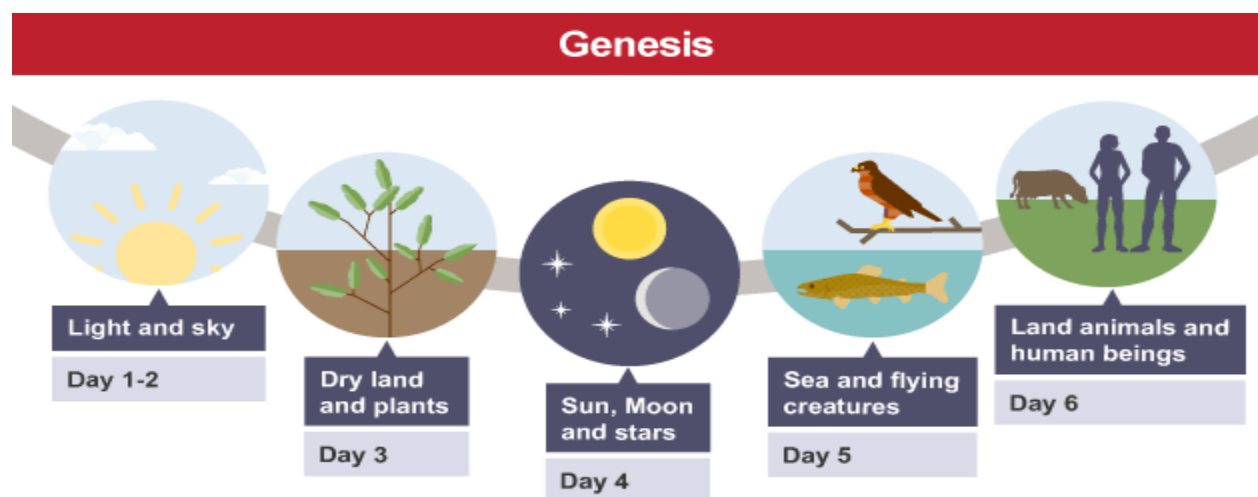
### What does the Bible tell us?

**Genesis** is the first book in the **Bible**, it means **origin**. This book explains to Christians how the world was created. Christians believe God is **omnipotent** (all-powerful) which means God can do anything. In Genesis it explains that God created the world in 6 days and rested on the 7<sup>th</sup> day.

### **Genesis 1**

This account goes on to describe the seven days of creation:

- **in the beginning** - God started creation
- **the first day** - light was created
- **the second day** - the sky was created
- **the third day** - dry land, seas, plants and trees were created
- **the fourth day** - the Sun, Moon and stars were created
- **the fifth day** - creatures that live in the sea and creatures that fly were created
- **the sixth day** - animals that live on the land and finally humans, made in the image of God were created
- **by day seven** - God finished his work of creation and rested, making the seventh day a special holy day.



**Genesis Questions:**

**1. Genesis means....**

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**It tells Christians about...**

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**2. Omnipotent means...**

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**Believing in God being omnipotent is important when you look at Genesis 1 because...**

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**3. Draw pictures to simply explain the 7 days of creation found in Genesis 1.**

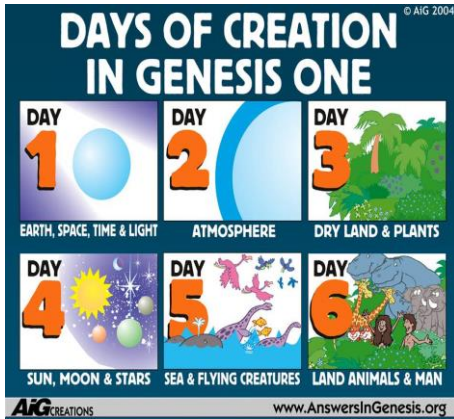
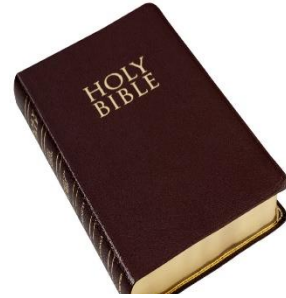
**For example:**



**Day 1:**

**Different interpretations of Genesis**

There are different ways to read and understand the Bible.



Some Christians believe that the Bible stories, including the Genesis account, should be taken literally. This means that the biblical accounts are to be taken as fact, ie that God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh, and that no alternative or scientific theory is considered.

This view is not one that is promoted by the **Catholic Church**. The Church teaches that the Bible accounts and stories have to be understood within the time that they were written. The authors of the biblical books had limited knowledge of science and the world, so the Genesis account was their way of trying to explain what they believed.



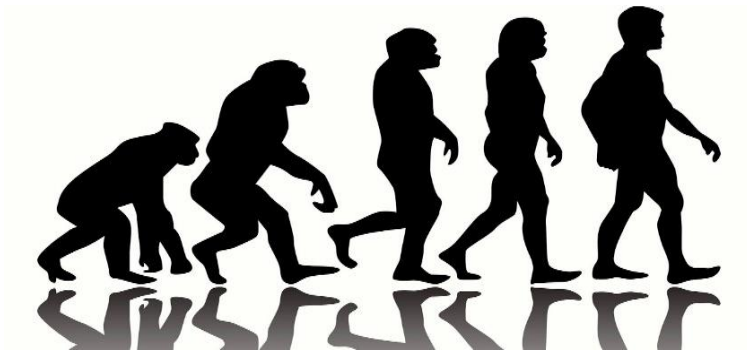
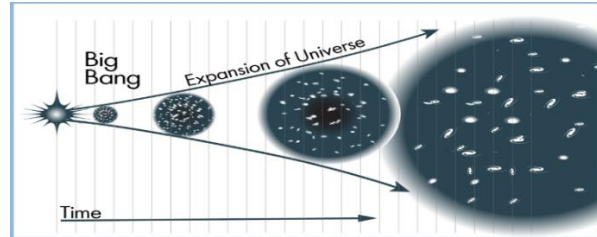
The Church interprets the Genesis account alongside science and reason to try and understand the key message – that God is responsible for the creation of the world. Science may be able to explain how the universe was created, but Christians believe that religion explains the reason it was created.

	Who?	Key Belief
<b>Literal</b>	Fundamental Christians	Genesis story is an accurate account of creation
<b>Non-Literal</b>	Catholic Church	The Biblical accounts are to be understood alongside reason and science



## The Big Bang

The **Big Bang** was a massive **heat explosion** that started the universe **13.7 billion years ago**. It's hard to know exactly why this event happened, but what we do know is that this explosive event started with a 'Big Bang' and burst of energy that was extremely hot. 1,800 trillion trillion degrees to be more precise. Within **less than 1 second**, the universe was born, and has been expanding and getting colder and colder by the minute. So the Big Bang is in fact. Well! Still Banging... **Because of the Big Bang, the universe was made, and it's continuing to expand ever since.**



**Evolution** is the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today **developed** from earlier types. The differences between them resulted from changes that happened over many years. The **simplest forms** of life arose at least **3.5 billion years ago**. Over time they **evolved** into the millions of species, or types, of living things alive today.

**The Big Bang Theory Questions:**

**1. The Big Bang Theory is...**

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**2. Explain one reason why people might believe in evolution.**

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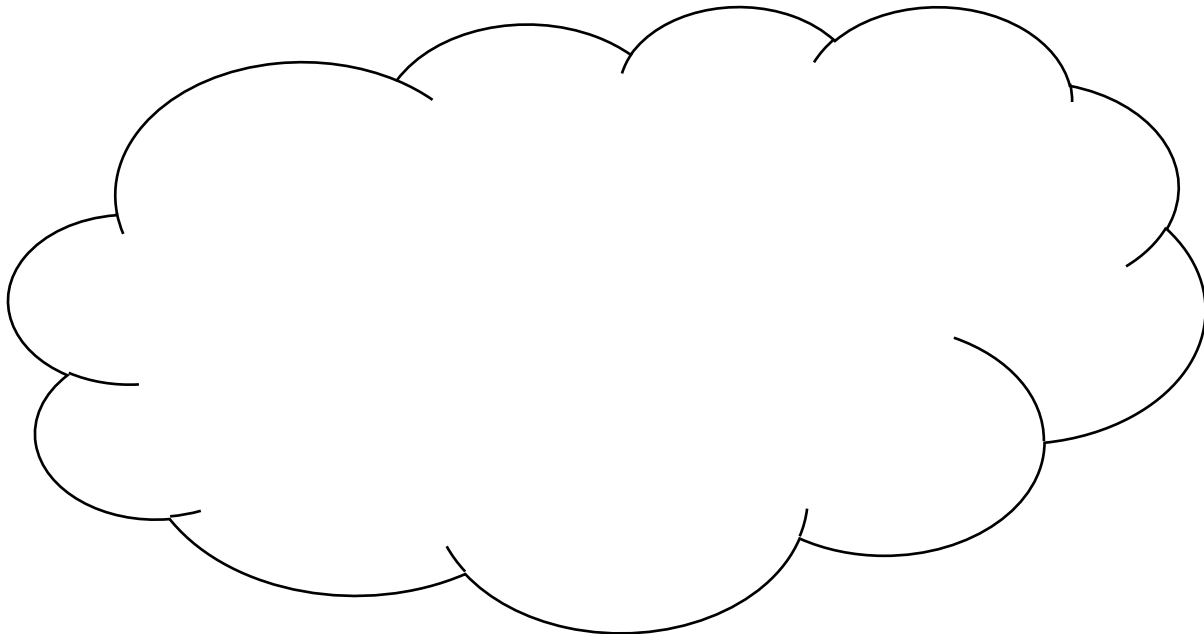
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**3. Inside the bubble write down 2 reasons why people might believe in the Big Bang Theory.**



## A Hindu Creation Story

Hindus believe that there is One Supreme Spirit of the universe. This Spirit is God. Hindus also believe that God can be seen in many different ways, so for Hindus God can take on the shape of different gods and goddesses. There are several creation stories in Hinduism. Here is one of the creation stories from Hindu mythology.

Before this time began, there was no heaven, no earth and no space between. A vast, dark, ocean washed upon the shores of nothingness and licked the edges of the night. A giant cobra (snake) floated on the waters. Asleep within its endless coils lay the Lord Vishnu. He was watched over by the mighty serpent.



Everything was so peaceful and silent that Vishnu slept undisturbed by dreams or motion. From the depths a humming sound began to tremble, Aum. It grew and spread, filling the emptiness and throbbing with energy.

The night had ended, Vishnu awoke. As the dawn began to break, from Vishnu's navel (belly button) grew a magnificent lotus flower. In the middle of the blossom sat Vishnu's servant, Brahma. He awaited the Lord's command. Vishnu spoke to his servant: 'It is time to begin.' Brahma bowed. Vishnu commanded: 'Create the World.' A wind swept up the waters. Vishnu and the serpent vanished.

Brahma remained in the lotus flower, floating and tossing on the sea. He lifted up his arms and calmed the wind and the ocean. Then Brahma split the lotus flower into three. He stretched one part into the heavens. He made another part into the earth. With the third part of the flower he created the skies.

The earth was bare. Brahma set to work. He created grass, flowers, trees and plants of all kinds. To these he gave feeling. Next he created the animals and the insects to live on the land. He made birds to fly in the air and many fish to swim in the sea. To all these creatures, he gave the senses of touch and smell. He gave them power to see, hear and move.

The world was soon bristling with life and the air was filled with the sounds of Brahma's creation.



**A Hindu Creation Story Questions:**

**1. There are many God's and Goddesses within Hinduism because...**

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**2. Who is Brahma?**

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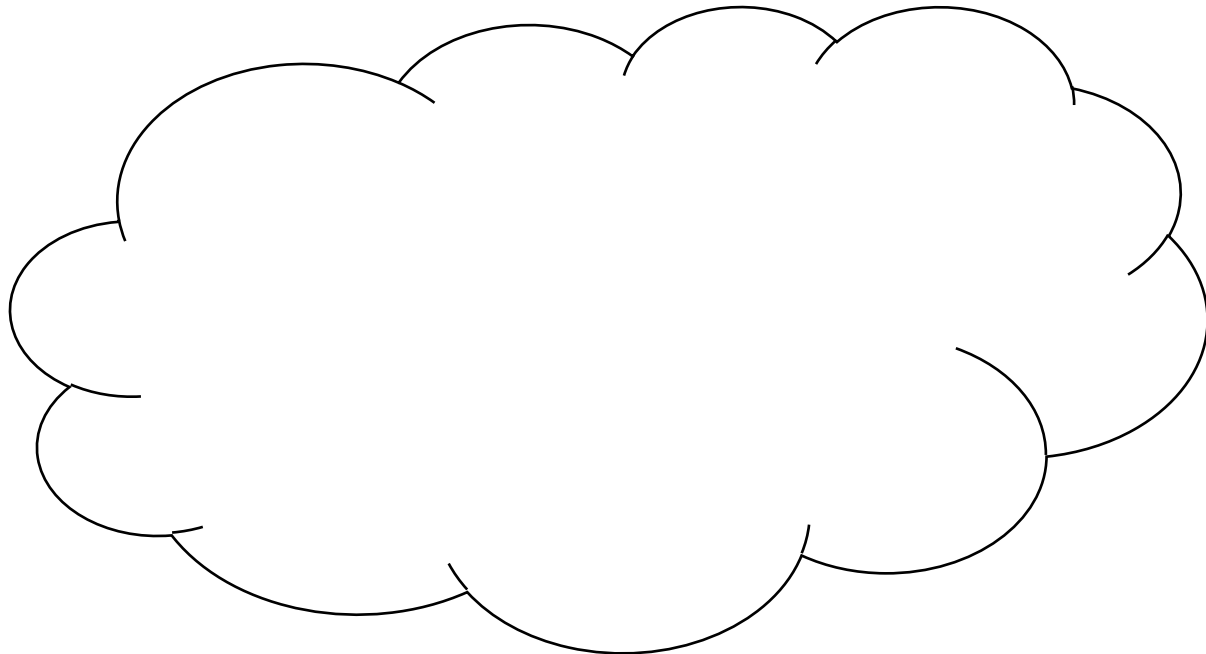
**3. From where did Brahma appear?**

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**4. In the bubble write what Brahma gave to the plants and animals on the earth and explain one reason why they are important for us today.**

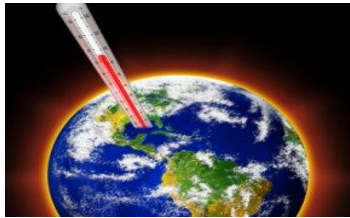


## Stewardship

Many of us have been to football games, concerts etc. Have you ever noticed the stewards? What is their job/role?

You guessed it!!

Their job is to ensure the safety of spectators who attend. In the same way that stewards are supposed to ensure our safety, Christians believe we are supposed to be stewards of the **planet**! This is called stewardship.



## Belief about God creating the world leads to these religious attitudes...

Christians believe in **stewardship**. This means that God gave us the **responsibility to take care** the world when it was created. This means that we should ensure that we are **helping** to look after the earth as we were given the **special role** to look after the planet. We should be helping to **reduce pollution** and ensure that we come up with ways to **combat global warming**.

Christians would argue that they need to consider the problems of the world not only because they are inhabitants of the world and so live in it, but also because they have a **duty to the planet**. The first book of the Bible is the book of Genesis. Genesis means **beginning/origin** and the book of Genesis describes both the creation of the world and the relationship between it, God, and humanity.

Christians believe that the Earth and **all of nature belongs to God who created it**. Humanity is only a part of that creation but it has been given **the role of stewardship**.

So for a Christian there are many reasons to feel responsible for the world...

- The world was created by God, as recorded in the book of Genesis.
- Humans were given stewardship of the world. (Genesis 1:26 - 27)
- The world was perfect when it was created.
- It is human greed, selfishness and envy that have destroyed the world.
- We have no right to exploit nature for our own gain.
- We have a duty to help solve these problems. Jesus taught by his example to care for the world.

**Stewardship Questions:**

**1. Stewardship is...**

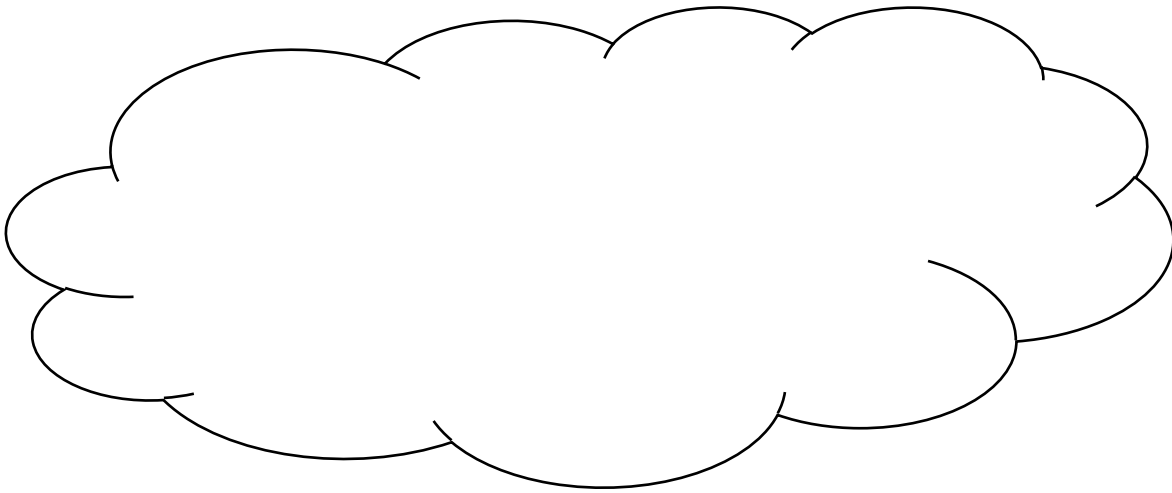
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**2. In the bubble explain as many ways as you can to help look after the environment.**



**3. In the table write down 3 reasons why Christians feel responsible for the world.**

Reason why we should look after the Earth	Why?
1	
2	
3	

