

Creation and science—conflicting or complementary?

What our children should already know (LKS2)

That many Christians believe in God the Creator who cares for all creation.
That many Christians believe that humans should listen to God.
That the Bible shows Christians how God wants them to behave.

Key Vocabulary

Genre	A style or category of art, music or literature
Bible	The Christian holy book
Genesis	A book or part of the bible which talks about Creation. Means origin.
Creation (Christianity)	The act of bringing the world into existence out of nothing
Science	Knowledge about the world based on facts learned through experiments and observations
Conflicting	Serious differences between beliefs or opinions
Complementary	Things that are different but make a good combination
Cosmology	The study of astronomy involving the origin and evolution of the universe
Evolution	The changes in a species over generations based on the theory of natural selection
God (Christianity)	The one who created and rules over the world

Questions we want our children to be able to answer

- Do all Christians believe that Genesis is strictly true and that God created the world in 6 days?
- What do different Christians believe about how the world was created?
- What type of text do some Christians say that Genesis is?
- Are some scientists Christians? What do they believe?
- How do some Christians link the text of Genesis to science?
- Are Genesis and science conflicting or complementary?
- What might Christians find inspiring about the story in Genesis?

Understanding Creation section of the Big Frieze



Final Outcome

Children will reflect and write to answer the question: 'Are the creation story and science conflicting or complementary?'

SMSC Links

Spiritual - Discuss beliefs about Creation in Christianity; chance for children to reflect on their own views

Moral - Understand that there are different beliefs even within a religion and show respect for the opinions of others; promoting a safe space for children to reflect and explore answers to the questions posed.

Social -
Cultural -

Key Milestones

- Identify what type of text some Christians say Genesis 1 is, and its purpose
- Taking account of the context, suggest what Genesis 1 might mean, and compare their ideas with ways in which Christians interpret it, showing awareness of different interpretations
- Make clear connections between Genesis 1 and Christian belief about God as Creator
- Show understanding of why many Christians find science and faith go together
- Identify key ideas arising from their study of Genesis 1 and comment on how far these are helpful or inspiring
- Weigh up how far the Genesis 1 creation narrative is in conflict, or is complementary, with a scientific account, giving good

Key Figures

Charles Darwin thought of the theory of natural selection

Arthur Wallace separately and independently thought of the theory of natural selection.

Key Events

- Day 1 Light and Dark, Day and Night
- Day 2 Sky and Heavens
- Day 3 Ocean, Earth, plants
- Day 4 Sun and Moon, separating seasons
- Day 5 Sea life and birds
- Day 6 Land animals and humans
- Day 7 God rested

Similarities to Other Religions

Judaism—Genesis is also within the Torah.
Islam—The Qu'ran says that the Earth was created in 6 days.

Choices

- What do you believe about how the world was created?
- How would you interpret Genesis?
- Do you believe that Christianity and science can be complementary?