

Religious Education Y4/5 Summer Term 1



Do Christians have a duty to God and his creations?

Knowledge

- The Bible tells the Creation story in the book of Genesis: the first book of the Bible.
- Many Christians have a literal belief that God created the universe and all life in six days and rested on the seventh day.
- Many Christians see the creation story as symbolic: they do not believe that every detail of the creation story is true but they do believe that God was responsible for the beginning of the universe and that the story gives messages about the importance of humankind and the way we treat the rest of creation.
- Many Christians believe that God gave humankind the responsibility to look after creation, live in harmony with nature and use it wisely; this is called stewardship.
- Some Christians believe that humankind are in charge of the world on God's behalf and have the right to rule over nature and use it for their own benefit; this is called dominion.
- As stewards of creation, many Christians believe that they have a responsibility towards the environment, ensuring the planet is cared for and preserved.
- Many Christians believe that we should all be global citizens, working as a team to care for the planet and each other.
- Part of the work of Christian Aid is to encourage people to be global citizens and create a more environmentally sustainable world.



Vocabulary

creation = God's act of creation the universe and all living things

Creationist = a branch of Christianity involving literal belief in the Bible's account of creation

custodian = someone who has responsibility for taking care of or protecting something

dominion = control, power (in a Christian sense, over the world and nature)

Genesis = the first book of the Old Testament in the Bible, which tells the story of creation

global citizenship = having respect and responsibility for the whole world, all people and creatures

literal = interpreting words in their exact sense, without any symbolism or exaggeration

stewardship = the job of looking after something (in a Christian sense, taking care of God's creation)

sustainability = using the Earth's resources (e.g. oil, natural gas, water, metals) in a way that can continue for a long time and avoids damage to the environment

symbolic = interpreting words beyond the literal meaning, representing or conveying an idea or message

