

Exploring Creation Stories

Learning objective: To understand and compare different creation stories and recognise how they explain the origins of the world.

Answer the following questions about how different religions and cultures explain the beginning of the universe. Use the word bank to help you with your spelling.

Word bank: Genesis · Cosmos · Symbolism · Beliefs · Tradition · Divine

1. In the Jewish and Christian tradition, which book of the Bible contains the story of how God created the world in six days? (1 mark)

2. Many creation stories use 'symbolism'. What do you think it means when a story uses a symbol rather than a literal fact to explain something? (2 marks)

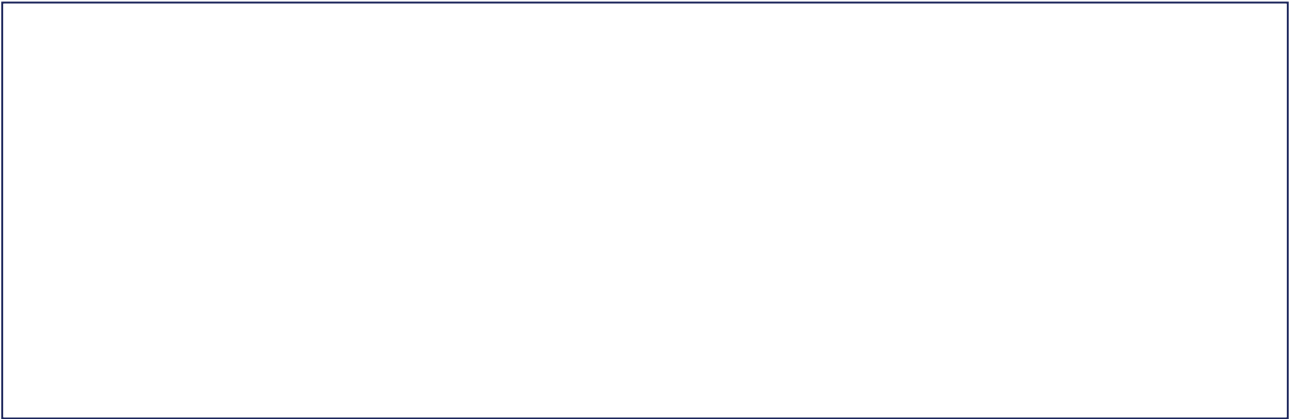
3. Describe one thing that is similar in many different creation stories from around the world (for example, the use of water, light, or a powerful being). (2 marks)

4. Why do you think different cultures have different stories to explain how the world began? (2 marks)

5. If Max the monkey wanted to find out the scientific explanation for the start of the universe, which theory might he research instead of a religious story? (1 mark)

6. How do creation stories help people understand their place in the world today? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of your favourite part of a creation story you have learned about in class. Be sure to include labels for the different elements of nature you have drawn.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a picture of their favourite part of a creation story. The box is currently blank.

Extension challenge: Research a creation story from a culture you haven't studied yet. Write three sentences explaining who created the world in that story and how they did it.