

Creation Stories: Understanding Our World

Learning objective: To explore and compare different creation stories and understand their significance to religious communities.

Read the text carefully with Ellie the Elephant, then answer the questions below to test your understanding.

Across the globe, human beings have always wondered about the origin of the world. Creation stories are special narratives that explain how the universe began and why life exists. Ellie the Elephant, who loves history and stories, explains that while every religion has its own unique account, these stories often share common themes. For instance, many traditions describe a purposeful beginning where order is brought to chaos. Some stories focus on a supreme creator who crafts the Earth with care, while others focus on the natural elements working in harmony. For many people, these accounts are not just tales from the past; they are sacred truths that guide how they live today. They often teach the importance of stewardship, reminding us to protect the planet and treat all living things with kindness. By comparing these diverse stories, we can appreciate the different ways people find meaning in the world around them. Whether written in ancient scrolls or passed down through generations by word of mouth, these accounts help us understand the values that different communities hold dear.

Word bank: belief · origin · universe · significance · stewardship · sacred · narrative

1. According to the passage, what is the main purpose of a creation story? (2 marks)

2. What does the text suggest about the relationship between creation stories and how people live their lives? (2 marks)

3. Why might a community choose to pass down their creation story through 'word of mouth' rather than writing it down? (2 marks)

4. In what way does the author suggest that creation stories are connected to the concept of stewardship? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is important for people to learn about creation stories from religions other than their own? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene that represents the concept of 'order from chaos' as described in the passage, using patterns and colours inspired by Zara the Zebra.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast two different creation stories you have studied. Explain why you think different cultures created different explanations for the origins of the universe. What might happen if humans stopped telling these stories?