

## Ellie's Storytime: How the World Began

*Learning objective: To understand and compare different creation stories from world religions.*

Read the story below with Ellie the elephant. Use the word bank to help you answer the questions. Write your answers in the boxes provided.

Ellie the elephant loves to remember old stories. Today, she is sharing tales about how the world began. Many people have different ideas about the start of everything. In some stories, the world was made by a creator who carefully shaped the mountains, the rivers, and the bright stars in the sky. These people believe the world is a special gift that needs to be looked after. In other stories, the world grew from a small seed or a quiet dream. Even though these stories are different, they all teach us that the world is a wonderful place. People tell these stories to explain why we are here and how we should treat the earth. Ellie remembers that every culture has its own special way of explaining the world. Listening to these stories helps us understand what others believe. Whether the world was made in a day or grew over a long time, these tales remind us to be kind to nature and to each other. Ellie smiles, knowing that every story is a treasure to keep safe in her memory.

*Word bank: Creation · Beginnings · World · Beliefs · Stories · Nature*

**1. According to the text, what are two things a creator shaped in some stories? (2 marks)**

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**2. What are two ways the world began, according to the stories Ellie mentions? (2 marks)**

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**3. Why do people tell creation stories? (Think about why they want to explain the world.) (2 marks)**

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**4. How does Ellie feel about hearing different stories from different cultures? (2 marks)**

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**5. Do you think it is important to learn about stories that are different from your own? Why? (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a picture of the world as you imagine it might have looked at the very beginning of time.



*Extension challenge: Talk to a partner about a story you have heard before. Does it explain how something in nature, like a tree or a river, was made?*