



RE
Creation and science:
conflicting or complementary?

Lynher Autumn 1 2023

LO: I understand that Genesis 1 can mean different things to different people.

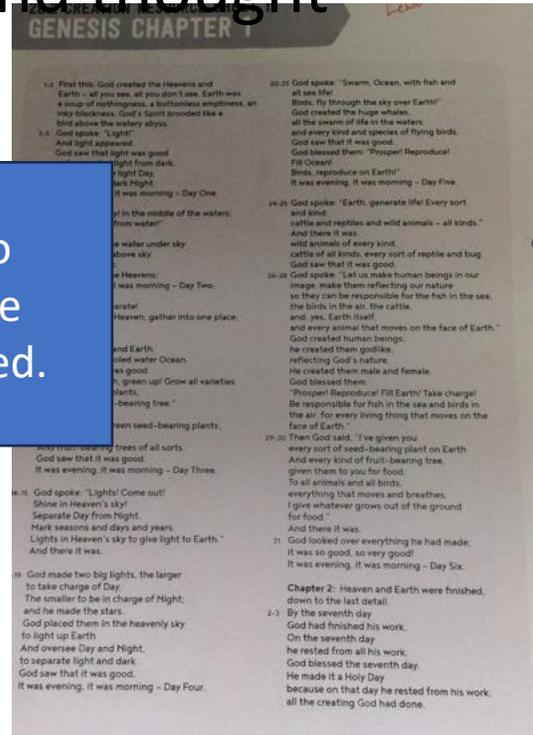
- We read Genesis 1 and interpreted what it meant to us and what it may mean to some Christians. We compared it to evolution and cosmology to see if there were any similarities and differences. We then asked lots of questions about the beginning of life and thought how it could be answered by either Genesis 1 or science.



Why doesn't Genesis mention dinosaurs? Why is the universe here? Does my life have a meaning?



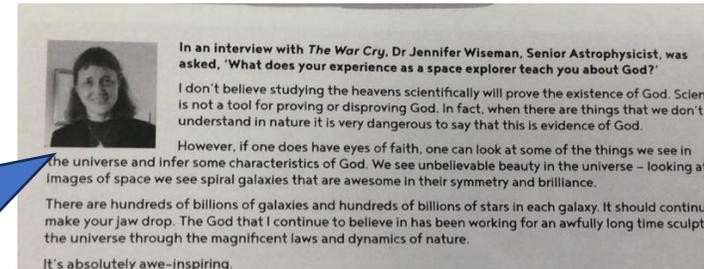
We drew pictures to demonstrate how we believe life was created.



I understand why many Christians find science and faith go together.

I wonder if she ever has conflicts with her own religious and scientific views?

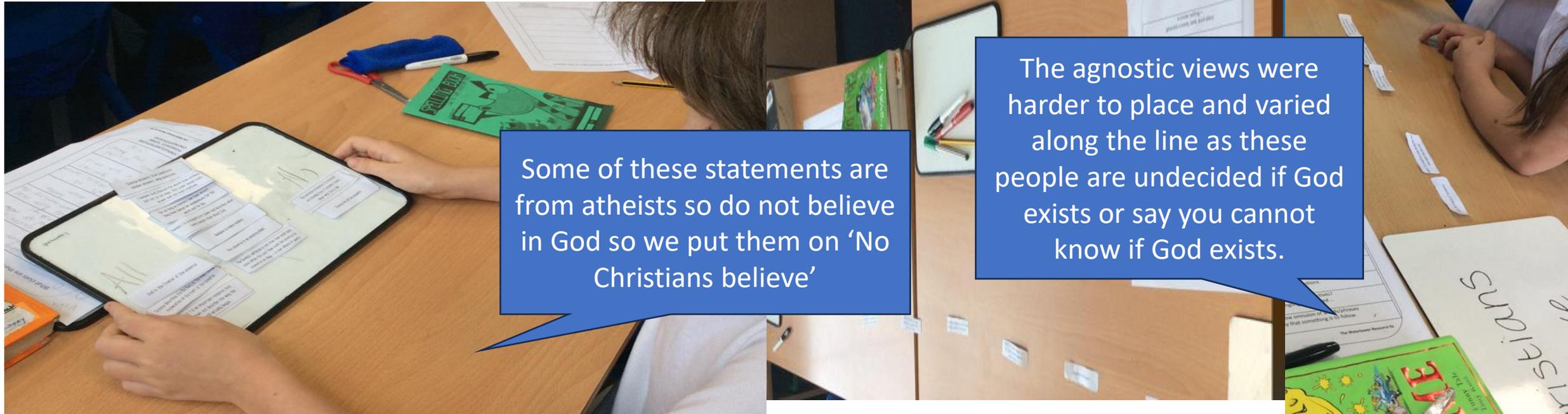
We read about a scientist – Dr Jennifer Wiseman - who is also a Christian. We thought about how she would answer questions about how life was created.



What does your experience as a space explorer teach you about God? I don't believe studying the heavens scientifically will prove the existence of God. Science is not a tool for proving or disproving God. In fact, when there are things that we don't understand in nature it is very dangerous to say that this is evidence of God. However, if one does have eyes of faith, one can look at some of the things we see in the universe and infer some characteristics of God. We see unbelievable beauty in the universe — looking at images of space we see spiral galaxies that are awesome in their symmetry and brilliance. There are hundreds of billions of galaxies and hundreds of billions of stars in each galaxy. It should continue to make your jaw drop. The God that I continue to believe in has been working for an awfully long time sculpting the universe through the magnificent laws and dynamics of nature. It's absolutely awe-inspiring

I understand some Christian beliefs about life and creation.

- We sorted some statements on a continuum line: from All Christians believe... to No Christians believe... We then placed the statements on the line. There were a few definite answers for this, but we needed to explain our reasons for where we've placed them on the line.



Some of these statements are from atheists so do not believe in God so we put them on 'No Christians believe'

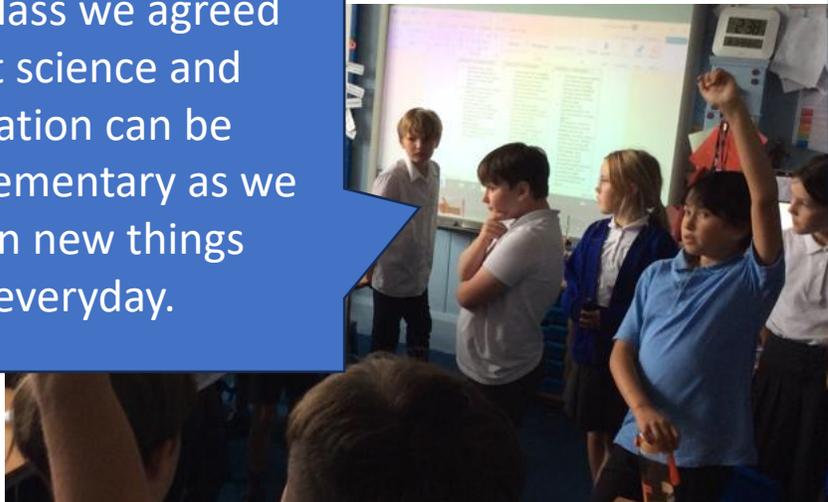
The agnostic views were harder to place and varied along the line as these people are undecided if God exists or say you cannot know if God exists.

I can discuss the statement: 'Genesis explores why the universe and life exists. Science explores how the universe works the way it does'

We produced lots of questions that could be answered by only science and only religion. We got into different groups and acted out our scenarios. We then debated whether Science and religion could complement each other.

GROUP 1 LITERALISM	GROUP 2 ATHEISM	GROUP 3 UNSURE?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is it possible to have a creator because if we came from apes, who created the apes?• You say there's a Big Bang? Then who created space?• What's more important? The Big Bang or God making Earth with animals and people? A Big Bang or a belief in God?• If the Bible were not real, what would be the point of it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do the people who wrote the Bible know how it was created because they weren't there?!• How could one person have all that power?• How do people know that apes and dinosaurs were the only people alive?!• If the dinosaurs weren't mentioned in the Bible, how come there are so many fossils? How did people know about the seven days of creation as nobody was there?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Science shows that yes there could have been a Big Bang, but religion shows that God could have made the Earth.• Science can explain some of the miracles in the Bible.• Dinosaurs aren't mentioned in the Bible because people at that time didn't know about them so it would have confused them.• The Bible was written in the language that people understood at the time so it wouldn't talk about everything scientists know

As a class we agreed that science and creation can be complementary as we learn new things everyday.



Science cannot answer all the questions, some people turn to their own world views to answer them.



What we did in LKS2: Placed the concepts of God and Creation on a timeline of the Bible's 'big story'. Made clear links between Genesis 1 and what Christians believe about God and Creation. Described how and why Christians might pray to God, say sorry and ask for forgiveness



Knowledge within Christianity

Some Christians do believe that the text of the creation story is literally true — the earth is only a few thousand years old, God created it in six days of 24 hours

Some Christians see the creation story as communicating a message about the nature of God the Creator rather than the mechanism of creation.

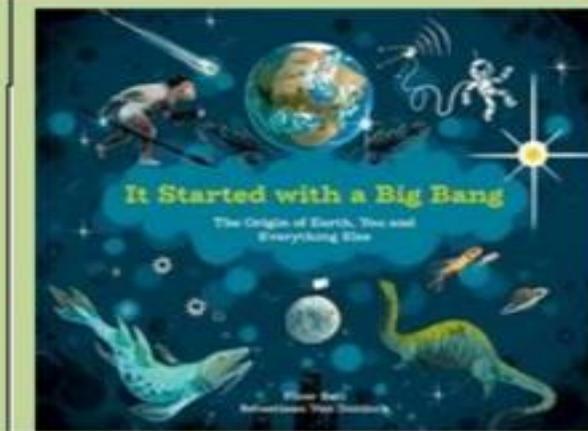
Some Christians believe that science addresses how questions about the universe, its origins and mechanisms, whereas religion — in this case, Christian belief in a Creator — addresses why questions: why is there a universe at all? Why do humans matter?

Skills

The ability to debate issues of religious significance with reference to evidence and argument

The ability to consider the thoughts, feelings, experiences, attitudes, beliefs and values of other

Exciting Books



Our Endpoint

To debate if science and religion are complementary or conflict with each other.

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Genesis	The first chapter in the Christian bible
Conflicting	Incompatible or contradictory
Complementary	forming a satisfactory or balanced whole, in this case - different viewpoints coming together
Creation	The making of something
Cosmology	the study of the origins of the universe
Evolution	how life developed from simple origins

Personal Development: To learn there are different views on how the universe was created and accept views may differ from their own. **Jobs:** Scientists, philosopher, teacher.