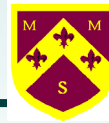




## Knowledge Organiser RE

### Upper Key Stage 2

Does it matter what we believe  
about Creation?



### Key Vocabulary

Creator

Creation stories

Scientific theories

Multifaith

Stewardship

Tawhid

Aum

Beliefs

Universe

Divine

Big Bang

Evolution

Waheguru

Tawhid

### Key Questions

How has the world been changed or damaged by man? What views do people of different faiths have about creation? Does belief in a creator God really make a difference to the way people treat the environment? Do people have to believe that God made the world to care about it? What other motivation could there be? Do you look after the environment? Why? Do you think the reason for looking after the world matters? Would you feel differently if you believed the universe was made by God or by accident? What are the consequences of not caring for the environment?

### Key Content

Most of the world faiths have a **creation story** and a key part of each account is that the Earth/**universe** has been created. Whether by the word of God, or hatching from an egg, created from the body parts of a **divine** being, each myth/account puts a **Creator** at the centre.

For many believers, especially Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims, there is no contradiction between the religious account and the modern **scientific theories** of the **Big Bang and Evolution**. For Sikhs and Hindus in particular, there is a belief that the universe has been created and destroyed many times. After each creation it evolves, until it is destroyed again. Hindus believe that the avatars of Vishnu (Rama, Krishna, Buddha etc.) have intervened in this universe to maintain it, but that in the end it will be destroyed. Sikhs do not believe that God (**Waheguru**) intervenes directly, but that wise people (Gurus) can connect with the divine and act to preserve the world.

Both Sikhs and Hindus believe that the world began with a word (the words of Waheguru) or the sound "**Aum**." A similar sense of unity can be seen in Islam, with the belief in the oneness of God (**Tawhid**). The Qur'an and Hadith speaks of Allah's creation of the world and other passages encourage respect for the Earth. "The Earth is green and beautiful and Allah appointed you his stewards over it. The whole earth has been created a place of worship, pure and clean. Whoever plants a tree and diligently looks after it until it matures and bears fruit, is rewarded".

The Christian and Jewish creation accounts are taken from **Genesis** in the Old Testament. There is more discussion in Jewish and Christian circles about the difficulty of reconciling these accounts with the modern theories. Genesis is taken by both Jews and Christians to give humankind **responsibility or stewardship** over the earth. There are passages in **Deuteronomy** about the care of trees, and many Jewish believers will never cut down a fruit tree. Jesus talks about the way that God cares for the earth and the creatures he has created.