

Discussion Questions

If you could ask God questions about creation what would they be? Why do you think God gave you a spiritual life?

In what ways do symbolic stories (parables) help people to understand important truths? Can you think of an example?

Who does Pope Francis call his brothers and sisters? Who are God's co-workers?

What gifts do you have? Why can't we see God? How can we be a co-creator? What might a de-creator do?

Key Vocabulary

Genesis

poetry

Creator

image and likeness

dignity

equality

Big Ideas

In this branch, pupils will revisit the first story of Creation from the book of Genesis as they look again. Pupils' attention will be drawn to look more deeply at the words and meaning in this powerful poem.

pupils will revisit the Pope's letter *Laudato Si* and know it is about caring for our common home. Pope Francis reminds us of the importance of the first account of Creation. Pope Francis draws attention to the intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbour and with the earth itself.

Sources:

The Religious Education Directory

Vine and Branches

Autumn 1 Branch 1: Creation and covenant.

Knowledge Lens Content

Hear

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- That the Creation stories in Genesis use symbolism to explain the relationship between God, human beings, and the world.
- That in the first account of the Creation one day is 'made holy' (Gen 2:3).
- That the Church teaches that 'Creation is the common work of the Holy Trinity'.

By the end of this unit of study pupils will have encountered the following key texts:

- The first account of the Creation, Genesis 1:1-2:4.
- Extracts from either Psalm 8 or 19 in praise of Creation.
- In an age-appropriate way, LS 66 and 88.

Knowledge Lens Content

Believe

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know that the Church teaches:

- God is the Creator of the Universe who made everything out of ‘free and unselfish love’.
- That all human beings are made in God’s image and all people have dignity and are created equal.
- A way in which human beings’ image (imitate) God is through care for each other, and that caring for Creation is one of the ways we care for each other. Additionally, failing to care for Creation is a way people turn away from God’s love.

Celebrate

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Extracts from a psalm of Creation.
- How the praise of Creation is expressed in the prayer and Liturgy of the Church (e.g., St Francis’s Canticle of the Creatures; the Offertory prayers; a Prayer for our Earth in Laudato Si’).

Live

By the end of this unit of study, pupils will know:

- Ways in we can show care for God’s world (stewardship) as part of our care for each other.
- Ways in which people can give thanks for the blessing of Creation, including spending time in prayer.