

**Teaching and learning ideas and activities**

Select and adapt as appropriate to suit your class, and to ensure pupils achieve the outcomes.

*RE. aspect.*

**What do people say about science and believing in God?**

Recall the work done in Unit U2.2. Note the statement explored at the end of that unit: *Genesis explores why the universe and life exists. Science explores how the universe works the way it does.* Go back over some of the different responses people give to relationship between science and Christian beliefs in this unit.

*Science aspect.*

*Science Christian beliefs.*

Here's a summary of some different views: see if pupils can match the quotes to the headings:

<p><b>The Bible is right, science is wrong</b></p> <p>'I think the Bible is God's Word. It is completely true. When the Bible says God created the universe in six days, then that must be true. The science story must be wrong.'</p>	<p><b>Science and the Bible are doing two different things</b></p> <p>'I believe God created the universe, but the Bible is not a scientific textbook. It tells us truths about humans and our purpose in life – to follow God. Science is one way we can follow God – it tells us all kinds of things about the way the world works.'</p>	<p><b>Science is right about the way the world works; the Bible is right about human relationship with God.</b></p> <p>'As a scientist, I think the scientific method can bring us the evidence for the Big Bang and evolution. But I believe that the fact that there is an orderly universe at all is because there is a Creator God behind it all. Knowing about God is outside science but very important.'</p>	<p><b>Science is right, the Bible is wrong.</b></p> <p>'As a scientist, I want to be able to check and test whether ideas are right. The Bible is not testable in the same way. It may have some helpful ideas but it does not give us accurate scientific knowledge.'</p>
--	--	---	--

Find out about some scientists and how they have made sense of the relationship between science and religion. Here are some resources you might use, where Christians reconcile their faith and their science. [www.neverofftopic.com/re-topics/re-year-7/the-creation-sleuths/](http://www.neverofftopic.com/re-topics/re-year-7/the-creation-sleuths/) and [www.faradayschools.com/re-topics/re-year-7/creation-sleuths-continued/](http://www.faradayschools.com/re-topics/re-year-7/creation-sleuths-continued/)

Faraday Schools Project includes lots of resources, including short video explanations: [www.faradayschools.com/library/video-gallery/](http://www.faradayschools.com/library/video-gallery/)

Interview clips with scientists who are also Christians: a range of topics [www.testoffaith.com/resources/subCategories.aspx?sub=true&id=13](http://www.testoffaith.com/resources/subCategories.aspx?sub=true&id=13)

Jennifer Wiseman is a good example: [www.testoffaith.com/resources/resource.aspx?resource=true&catid=13&id=156](http://www.testoffaith.com/resources/resource.aspx?resource=true&catid=13&id=156)

Start with her personal story clips 1 & 2 <http://bit.ly/1V1o1G>

She also talks about *how* and *why* questions here: [www.faradayschools.com/primary/different-types-of-explanation/](http://www.faradayschools.com/primary/different-types-of-explanation/)

Prof Denis Alexander talks about interpreting Genesis 1: [www.testoffaith.com/resources/resource.aspx?id=510](http://www.testoffaith.com/resources/resource.aspx?id=510)

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**  
These activities will help pupils to work towards achieving the following expected outcomes:

- **Make sense of belief:**
    - Identify and explain what religious and non-religious people believe about God, saying where they get their ideas from
  - **Understand the impact:**
    - Give evidence and examples to show how Christians sometimes disagree about science and faith
  - **Make connections:**
    - Reflect on and articulate some ways in which believing in God is valuable in the lives of believers, and ways it can be challenging
- Sample 'I can...' statements**
- ...give at least one explanation why someone can be a scientist and also believe in God
  - ...give at least one explanation why someone might say that you cannot be a Christian and a scientist
  - ...give an example of what difference it makes for someone to be a scientist and to believe in God
  - ...express some of my own ideas about the connections between science, faith and God.