

## LESSON 1: The wonders of God's creation.

### CONTENT

Look at the *Wonders of Creation* PowerPoint on the RE page. It shows the reading of Genesis 1: 1-25. You might wish to play some peaceful music as you view the PowerPoint.

The book of Genesis is not meant to be a scientific account of how the world began. It is a beautiful poem which tells us the truth about the goodness and creative power of God. It also helps us to understand the harmony and interrelatedness of all creation. This is called the integrity of creation.

People of every time, in every place, have been struck by the beauty of the world and wondered about its beginnings.

How did the world begin? Scientists are always searching to discover more about how the world began. Some spend their whole lives researching and share their results in books, on television and on the internet. They are always discovering more about our beginnings and the beginnings of the world.

### SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q What does the text from Genesis tell you about the writer?
- Q What questions do you think the writer asked about the world?
- Q What did the writer want people to know about God?
- Q How do you think the many parts of God's world are in harmony with each other?
- Q What do you think is meant by the integrity of creation?
- Q What are some of the ways people can look at the world today that the author of Genesis could not and what do you think this means for us? (e.g. space, knowing the diversity of the world, volcanoes, icebergs, rainforests, deserts.)

St Francis (1181-1226) cared greatly about God's creation and God's people. Share and reflect on his Canticle of the Sun – it is included as a PowerPoint today too.

### YOUR ACTIVITY

- Find an image of nature. This might be your garden, somewhere near your home or an image which you have found online. Using this image as a starting point rewrite the Canticle of the Sun to show your thanks for the nature in our world. You may wish to make links to Genesis, your own beliefs and the word. Ensure that you include why Christians are thankful to God for creating the world.