

Genesis 1:1-25 *Wonders of Creation*

In the beginning God created the sky and the land.
Everything was dark.
So God said, "Let there be light."
And there was light.
God saw that it was good.
God called the light 'day' and the darkness 'night'.
God said, "Let there be water."
And so it was. God called the dry land 'earth' and the water 'sea'
and God saw that it was good.
God said, "Let the earth be filled with plants and trees." And so it was.
Plants and trees grew on earth full of fruit and vegetables.
God saw that it was good.
God said, "Let there be two great lights in the sky.
A great light to shine in the day,
and a smaller light to shine in the night."
God made the stars too.
God saw that it was good.
God said, "Let the seas be filled with living creatures
and the skies be filled with flying creatures." And so it was.
Great sea creatures and every kind of winged creature filled the seas and skies.
God saw that it was good.
God said, "Let the earth be filled with every kind of living creatures;
wild animals and tame, reptiles that crawl on the earth."
And so it was. God filled the world with every kind of animal and reptile.
God saw that it was good.

- 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 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. from space, knowing the diversity of the world, volcanoes, icebergs, rainforests, deserts.)

Genesis 1: 26-31 *Made to be like God*

Then God said: "Let us make people to be like ourselves.

Men and women who can know and love me and know and love one another; and I will give them charge of the fish of the seas, the birds of the sky, and all the animals wild and tame and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth."

So God created men and women who could love and care for the world and everything in it and could love and care for one another; men and women who could know God and love and serve God.

God blessed them and said to them: "Fill the world with people; look after the world; look after one another; take care of the fish and the birds, the animals and the reptiles, the trees and the flowers and the plants." And so it was.

God saw all creation and indeed it was very good.