

Religious Education Year 8

Spring 1 Blended Learning

Booklet

Religion and life part two:

The world around us

Name:

Form:

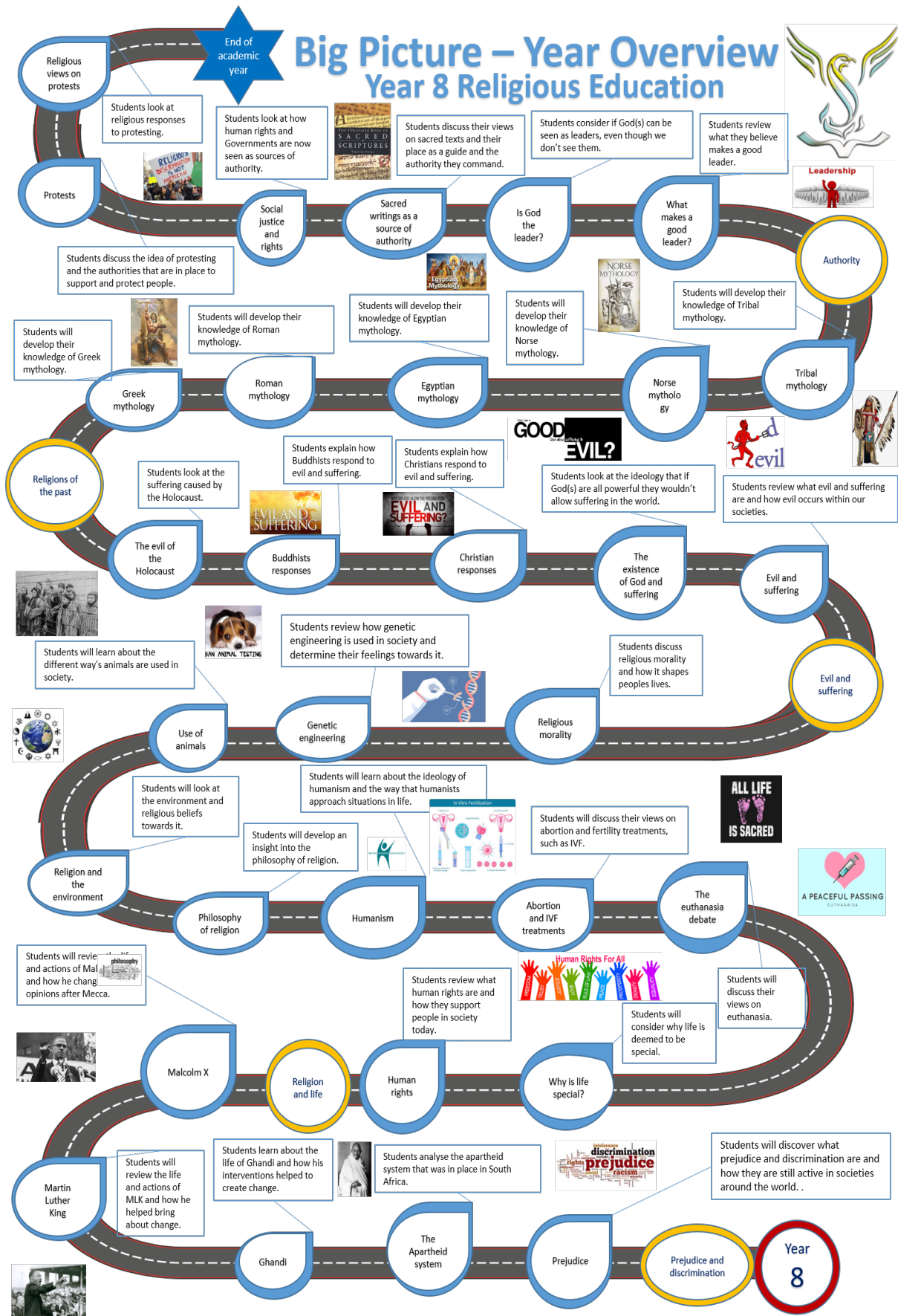
Aim to complete one lesson each week. Write out the title and LI and then complete the tasks.

All video links are online using the ClassCharts link.

The Knowledge Organiser on pages 5 & 6 has all the key information and vocabulary to help you with this unit.

Upload all work onto ClassCharts for feedback.





ZOOM IN... MY LEARNING JOURNEY:

Subject: RE Year: 8 Unit: 1

AIMS

- To introduce students to:
 - Understanding how Prejudice and discrimination have been practices in the past.
 - Build on previous skills including group discussion and essay writing.
 - Determine if there is still an issue with racism in today's society.

DEVELOPING COURAGE

- C Writing, speaking and listening to others Using body language to help communication.
- O **Freedom to speak safely in class without fear of failure.**
- U Showing respect for others in the team and valuing their contributions.
- R Staying with a problem until it is resolved.
- A Monitoring performance and sharing in successes.
- G Taking on roles and responsibilities that support others in the learning environment.
- E Working in a positive atmosphere.

PREVIOUS LEARNING

- Pupils will have previous knowledge from year 7.
- Pupils should have a good base of knowledge of the six major world religions and their views on equality..

WHAT WE KNOW/REMEMBER

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RECOMMENDED READING

- BBC Bitesize RE
- BBCTeach.com
- Seneca learning

PERSONAL OBJECTIVES

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CAREERS

- Teacher
- Religious leader
- Public servant.

UP NEXT

- Human rights
- Euthanasia
- Abortion and IVF treatments.



Religion and Life

DARS Task



Christians, Jews and Muslims all believe that God created the world in 6 days. And that he puts humans in charge of creation.



Sikhs believe that God created the world. They believe that Waheguru (God) existed independently until he spoke then created the world. They believe that he is still protects and that life is controlled by him.



There are many different stories and beliefs in Hinduism about the creation of the world.
E.g. The breaking of an egg.

Brahman is the creator and he overlooks it through Vishnu, Shiva and Brahma.

The 'Aum' sign was the first sound at the start of creation.



Buddhists do not believe in a God or a creation story.

They believe in the truth of the noble man Siddhartha Gotuma (The Buddha).

He believed the world existed as a result of suffering, impermanence and uncertainty.

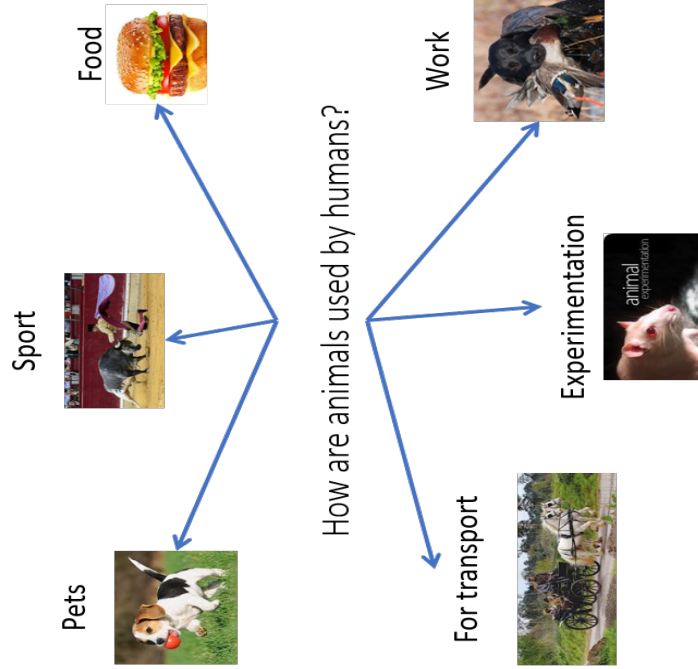


Environmental damage is believed by many people to be the greatest threat to the planet and to human survival.

Religious and non-religious teachings about the world and humans' place in it affect attitudes towards caring for the environment.

Religious and ethical beliefs have inspired some people to take action in order to save the environment.

Environmental issues mean that we need to think about our attitude to the world and consider our sense of responsibility to it.

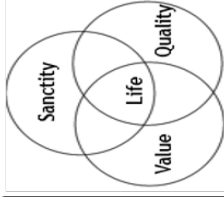


Dreamtime is the foundation of Aboriginal religion and culture. It dates back some 65,000 years. It is the story of events that have happened, how the universe came to be, how human beings were created and how their creator intended for humans to function within the world as they knew it. Aboriginal people understood the Dreamtime as a beginning that never ended. They held the belief that the Dreamtime is a period on a continuum of past, present and future. The Dreamtime is a commonly used term for describing important features of Aboriginal spiritual beliefs and existence. Aboriginals believe that the Dreamtime was way back, at the very beginning of time. The land and the people were created by the Spirits. They made the rivers, streams, water holes the land, hills, rocks, plants and animals. It is believed that the spirits gave them their hunting tools and each tribe its land, their symbols and their Dreaming.



The term **sanctity of life** means the extent to which human life is considered precious. Apart from Buddhism, all major religions believe that God was responsible for creating life, therefore life is sacred because of its God given nature. In this regard, religious followers may believe that life was given by God and therefore God should be the only one to end it. For most people, each life should be considered special and therefore be safeguarded.

The **value of a persons life** is also an important consideration. Some people would deem this to mean the numerical financial value of a persons life, however others believe that it is not a number or value, but the fact that each life has a value and that because of that it should be shielded and protected.



The **quality of a persons life** can link to the type of lifestyle a person lives. If they are comfortable and free from pain they could be considered as having good quality of life. However a persons quality of life could be regarded as their freedom, dignity and opportunities to live their life. A good example of this could be if a person has an operation that saves their life, but then has to live in extreme pain for the remainder of their life, is this a good quality of life?

An abortion is the termination of pregnancy and is legal in England and Wales under strict conditions. For most religious believers, human life is sacred and a gift from God which is to be respected and protected.

Before a legally induced abortion can take place, two doctors must agree that:

- the woman is less than 24 weeks pregnant
- it is necessary to prevent grave damage to the woman's physical or mental health, or any of her existing children

Abortion is always legal, even after 24 weeks, if:

- there is a serious threat to the woman's health or life
- there is substantial risk that the child will be born with physical or mental abnormalities and be seriously disabled

Passive euthanasia –

Doctors stop providing treatment to a patient, so that the persons natural process of dying can occur quicker. For example, when a person is not resuscitated after a heart attack.

Active euthanasia –

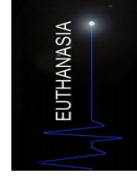
Steps are taken to end someone's life, for example lethal dose of medication.

Voluntary euthanasia –

When a person asks a doctor to end their life.

Non-Voluntary euthanasia –

Patient is too unwell to request to die, however doctor takes action as it is deemed the best action for the patient.



Involuntary euthanasia –

Patient is able to provide consent but does not, however their life is ended anyway.

Lesson 1 Religion and philosophy.

1. LI: To explore how we prove that things are real and exist.

Key question

How do we prove something is real?

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEc_jeGBVxs

the three main ways are.

1. Personal experience
2. Reliable evidence
3. Using reasoning or in-depth thinking to reach a conclusion.

DIPS –

Does the Loch Ness monster exist?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Wa319OXRNs>

Key questions

1. **Just because we cannot explain something, does it make it fake?**
2. **Does it matter if we cannot prove it?**
3. **Does it matter if we cannot prove that God(s) are real?**

DARTS

What is a theist?

A theist is a person that believes in the existence of a god or gods, especially belief in a personal God as creator and ruler of the world.

What Is an Agnostic?

An agnostic is anyone who does not claim to know whether any gods exist or not. This is also an uncomplicated idea, but it may be as misunderstood as atheism. One major problem is that atheism and agnosticism both deal with questions regarding the existence of gods. Whereas atheism involves what a person does or does not believe, agnosticism involves what a person does or does not know. Belief and knowledge are related but nevertheless separate issues. There is a simple test to tell if one is an agnostic or not. Do you know for sure if any gods exist? If so, then you are not an agnostic, but a theist. Do you know for sure that gods do not or even cannot exist? If so, then you are not an agnostic, but an atheist. Everyone who cannot answer "yes" to one of those questions is a person who may or may not believe in one or more gods. However, since they do not also claim to know for sure, they are agnostic. The only question then is whether they are an agnostic theist or an agnostic atheist.

What Is an Atheist?

An atheist is anyone who does not believe in any gods. This is a very simple concept, but it is also widely misunderstood. For that reason, there are a variety of ways to state it. Atheism is the lack of belief in gods; the absence of belief in gods; disbelief in gods; or not believing in gods. The most precise definition may be that an atheist is anyone who does not uphold the suggestion "at least one god exists." This is not a suggestion made by atheists. Being an atheist requires nothing active or even conscious on the part of the atheist. All that is required is not "confirming" a suggestion made by others.

Challenge yourself

Lemon and Herb	Medium	Extra Hot
Seeing is believing. Do you agree with the statement?	Everyone is entitled to believe what they want to. Do you agree? Explain your point of view.	Belief in a god or gods is a personal choice that a person makes for themselves. What do you think? Explain your response to the statement.
I think that seeing is / is not believing because...	I believe that everyone is entitled to their own beliefs because...	Belief in a god or gods is a person's choice they should make because...

Homework:

- 1) Read the section of the knowledge organiser titled environmental damage.

Lesson 2 Religion and the environment.

2. LI: To consider what we can do to look after our environment.

Key ideas

- Environmental damage is believed by many people to be the greatest threat to the planet and to human survival.
- Religious and non-religious teachings about the world and humans' place in it affect attitudes towards caring for the environment.
- Religious and ethical beliefs have inspired some people to act in order to save the environment.
- Environmental issues mean that we need to think about our attitude to the world and consider our sense of responsibility to it.

What does Stewardship mean?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxc9fcw/revision/7>

DARTS

   <p>Christians, Jews and Muslims all believe that God created the world in 6 days. And that he puts humans in charge of creation.</p>	 <h3><i>DARS Task</i></h3> <p>Sikhs believe that God created the world. They believe that Waheguru (God) existed independently until he spoke then created the world. They believe that he is still protects and that life is controlled by him.</p>
 <p>There are many different stories and beliefs in Hinduism about the creation of the world. E.g The breaking of an egg.</p> <p>Brahman is the creator and he overlooks it through Vishnu, Shiva and Brahma.</p> <p>The 'Aum' sign was the first sound at the start of creation.</p>	 <p>Buddhists do not believe in a God or a creation story.</p> <p>They believe in the truth of the noble man Siddhartha Gutuma (The Buddha).</p> <p>He believed the world existed as a result of suffering, impermanence and uncertainty.</p>

What can we do to look after the planet?

Research different things we can do to protect the planet and create a mind map in your book.

Challenge yourself



DIPS Task

Lemon and Herb	Medium	Extra Hot
<p>Are we all responsible for the environment?</p> <p>Consider if you agree or disagree with the question and write your response.</p> <p>I believe that we are / are not all responsible for the environment because...</p>	<p>To look after our environment we should...</p> <p>Finish the sentence giving ways that we can look after our environment.</p> <p>To look after our environment we should...</p>	<p>If there is such a thing as a god(s), they will make sure that the environment is cared for.</p> <p>What do you think? Explain your response to the statement.</p> <p>I think that if there is such a thing as a god(s), they will make sure that the environment is cared for because...</p>

Homework:

1) Read the section of the knowledge organiser titled Dreamtime.

Lesson 3 The Dreamtime.

3. LI: To examine what the Aborigines mean by 'The Dreamtime'.

Who are the aborigines? Use the links below to create a mind map of who they are and what they believe.

<https://dreamtime.net.au/creation/>

The Dreamtime

Aborigines believe that everything was created at the beginning of time during what is called 'the Dreamtime'. During this time...

- ❖ Giant ancestors lived on a **barren** Earth.
- ❖ The shape of the land began to change, rivers and hills appeared
- ❖ Dreamtime stories tell us how the features of the land and animals are special

The Dreamtime

DARTS Task

Dreamtime is the foundation of Aboriginal religion and culture. It dates back some 65,000 years. It is the story of events that have happened, how the universe came to be, how human beings were created and how their creator intended for humans to function within the world as they knew it. Aboriginal people understood the Dreamtime as a beginning that never ended. They held the belief that the Dreamtime is a period on a continuum of past, present and future. The Dreamtime is a commonly used term for describing important features of Aboriginal spiritual beliefs and existence. Aborigines believe that the Dreamtime was way back, at the very beginning of time. The land and the people were created by the Spirits. They made the rivers, streams, water holes the land, hills, rocks, plants and animals. It is believed that the spirits gave them their hunting tools and each tribe its land, their symbols and their Dreaming.



The Ancestors made particular sites to show the Aboriginal people which places were to be sacred. The Aborigines performed ritual ceremonies and customary songs near the sacred sites to please the Ancestral spirits and to keep themselves alive. Distinct tribes had different philosophies and beliefs about the Ancestors who made the world. Some believed that the Ancestors were animal-spirits. The Australian aborigines believed that the land they occupied was once not in existence like it is today. It was free from form or life, empty. They unquestionably believed that this was the way things once were because the ancestors had said so and they would never doubt their word. It was during what has become known as the Dreamtime.

Some Dreamings told of the mythical creators disappearing. They believed that the creators disappeared from the sight of mere mortals, but continued to live in secret places. Some lived in the tribe's territory in rock crevices, trees and water holes. Others went up into the sky above as heavenly bodies. Others changed into, or perhaps became natural forces such as wind, rain, thunder and lightning. It is believed that many of the creators continued to live on the land or in the sky above watching over them. These supernatural mysterious creators were often referred to as men and women who had the ability to change shape into animals and other creatures. The Dreamtime may be difficult for many of us to understand fully but it is part of who the Aboriginal people are, the very essence and reason for being here. It is all encompassing and will forever be at the centre of their existence as a people.



Task:

- Make up your own 'dreamtime' story to explain how an animal or place looked or acted a certain way.
- 4. Watch the following video on how the kangaroo got its tail to help you.
<https://youtu.be/xDJrnlDb08o>
- 5. Write a story or create a comic strip with pictures and titles.

Lesson 4 The use and abuse of animals.

6. LI: To understand religious beliefs about the treatment of animals.

Task one – Research what the following keywords are

7. Animal abuse
8. Animal experimentation

Tasks two – how are animals used by humans? Create a mind map.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zys3d2p/revision/4>

Religious beliefs about animals

- Animals were created by God
- Humans should use and care for animals
- God values animals
- God believes humans are more important
- Humans have souls
- Animals do not have souls
- God commanded Noah to create an ark, to protect the animals from the flood.



DARTS – Animal experimentation.

Positives	Negatives
Animal testing has contributed to many life-saving cures and treatments.	Animal testing is cruel and inhumane.
There is no adequate alternative to testing on a living, whole-body system.	Alternative testing methods now exist that can replace the need for animals.
Animals are appropriate research subjects because they are similar to human beings in many ways.	Animals are very different from human beings and therefore make poor test subjects.
Animals must be used in cases when ethical considerations prevent the use of human subjects.	Drugs that pass animal tests are not necessarily safe.
Animals themselves benefit from the results of animal testing.	Animal tests may mislead researchers into ignoring potential cures and treatments.
Animal research is highly regulated, with laws in place to protect animals from mistreatment.	95% of animals used in experiments are not protected by the Animal Welfare Act.
Animals often make better research subjects than human beings because of their shorter life cycles.	Animal tests do not reliably predict results in human beings.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JATJv8HIV8>

DIPS - Challenge yourself

Lemon and Herb	Medium	Extra Hot
Using animals to test products isn't right or just. Do you agree with the statement?	If test were not completed on animals humans could be at risk which is worse than animals'. Do you agree? Explain your point of view.	Animals should be considered equal to humans as we are animals too. Do you agree with the statement? Explain your response.
I believe that using animals to test products isn't right or just because... Or I believe that using animals to test products is right and just because...	In my opinion I feel that if test were not completed on animals humans could be at risk which is worse than animals because...	I believe it is important to recognise that animals should be considered equal to humans because...

Homework:

1) Read the section of the knowledge organiser titled sanctity of life.

Lesson 5 Genetic engineering.

LI: To consider if science is right or wrong on how it can create life.

Task one –

- Research what genetic engineering is
- Why it is used.
- What are the benefits
- What are the drawbacks

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zsg6v9q/revision/4>

<https://study.com/academy/lesson/genetic-engineering-lesson-for-kids.html>

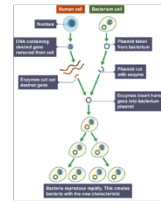


DARTS

Genetic modification, also called genetic engineering involves taking a gene from one species and putting it into another species.

It involves these steps:

1. Selection of the desired characteristic
2. Isolation of the gene responsible for the characteristic
3. Insertion of the gene into another organism
4. Replication of the transgenic organism



DARTS Task

Genetic modification can be used to produce plants that improve food production. For example, a plant may be produced with improved resistance to pests. However, there are ethical issues involved in genetic modification. There are concerns about the possible health risks of genetically modified food. For example, a genetically modified food might contain a substance that causes an allergic reaction in some people, or higher levels of a toxin naturally found in the food. Others think it is morally wrong to create new life forms, or to move genes between different species.

Using genetic modification has also been used in the cloning of plants and animals. Clones are genetically identical individuals. The cloning of plants has many important commercial implications. It allows a variety of a plant with desirable characteristics to be produced cheaply, quickly and on a large scale. The simplest way to clone a plant involves taking a cutting. A branch from the parent plant is cut off, its lower leaves are removed, and the stem is planted in damp compost. Plant hormones are often used to encourage new roots to develop. The cutting is usually covered in a clear plastic bag to keep it moist and warm. After a few weeks, new roots develop and a new plant is produced. This method is easy enough for most gardeners to do successfully. Another way of cloning plants is by tissue culture. It works with small pieces of plants, called explants. These are grown using sterile agar jelly that contains plant hormones and nutrients. This makes tissue culture more expensive and difficult to do than taking cuttings.

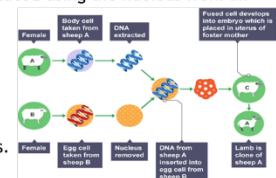
The cloning of animals has many important commercial implications. It allows an individual animal with desirable features, such as a cow that produces a lot of milk, to be replicated several times. But the process takes much longer than it does with plants.

Dolly the sheep

Dolly the sheep was the first mammal to be cloned. She was born in the UK in 1996 and died in 2003. She was produced using the nucleus from an udder cell (although other cells such as skin cells may also be used).

The stages of cloning a mammal include:

1. Removal of diploid nucleus from a body cell
2. Removing the nucleus from an egg cell
3. Insertion of the diploid nucleus into the enucleated egg cell
4. Stimulation of the diploid nucleus to divide by mitosis
5. The new animal is genetically identical to the animal that donated the nucleus from one of its body cells.



DIPS

DIPS Task

Challenge Question!

What do you think?



Do you think that genetic engineering should be allowed?

- Try to include in your response
- Your opinion on genetic engineering
 - I agree / disagree with this because....
- Supporting reasons why you have that opinion
 - I believe that genetic engineering is a good thing / not a good thing because....
- The positive outcomes of genetic engineering
 - The positive outcomes of genetic engineering are...
- The negative outcomes of engineering
 - The negatives of genetic engineering are...
- A conclusion to summarise your view
 - To conclude I believe that.....
 - On the other hand I still believe that....



Lesson 6 Religious approaches to environmental issues .

LI: To consider religious approaches to environmental issues.

Video to engage learners - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XAi3VTsDTxU>

Key questions

1. What is your viewpoint of the music video we just watched?
 - My opinion of the Michael Jackson music video is...
2. Do you think we need to change the way we think about the environment?
 - I believe that we need to change the way we think about the environment because...
Or
 - I believe that we do not need to change the way we think about the environment because...

DARTS

- Christians teach us that we should look after the Earth because we were asked to by God. However, some Christians believe that we should treat it how we want as god asked us to do whatever we want with Earth. God's intentions were to:
 - Provide us all his creations
 - God wanted humans to populate
 - God gave humans the responsibility to look after Earth



DARTS Task

- Jews believe that we should look after the Earth has god asked us to do so in the Bible
- Jews celebrate the Earth in many festivals.
- Jews believe in Stewardship like Christians.
- Karma is a concept in Hinduism and Buddhism. It is based on the principle of what comes around goes around. Hindus believe if they do something bad in this life then something bad will happen in your next life. Therefore, Hindus should be good in their current life.
- Another thing is that Hindus believe in Ahimsa-non-violence to all living things. Therefore, Hindus should not kill any animals. The Human role is not to separate from nature and everything is made by the same God
- Nature is sacred and reverence for all of life is important.
- Nature and man are together and by destroying nature you are only destroying man.



What do you think?

1. Watch the video on the Holy Island project

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AibVFndJ_w

2. Can religion play a role in teaching people to look after the earth better?

Final task

Why is it important to look after the planet for a religious person?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zxc9fcw/revision/7>