

At the beginning of the Bible, the first story is of God creating the world and everything in it. This story can be used to help us reflect on the Responsibility that we all have for the environment and animals, and how we can care for the world.

God's creation. Genesis 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.

God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number." And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind."

Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.