Subject	R.E	Year Group	9	Sequence No.	2	Topic	Religion science
							and God

Retrieval	Core Knowledge	Student Thinking
What do teachers need retrieve from students before they start teaching new content ?	What specific ambitious knowledge do teachers need teach students in this sequence of learning?	What real life examples can be applied to this sequence of learning to development of our students thinking, encouraging them to see the inequalities around them and 'do something about them!'
Who designed the world in Christianity and Islam?	What is the design argument? Teleological (design) argument: the argument that God designed (made) the universe because everything is so intricately made that it could not have happened by chance. Analogy: when a similarity is suggested between two things – between something know and something new and unknown. Anthropic Principle: modern version of the design argument by F.R. Tennant that argues that God designed the world so that everything was right for human life to develop. Design argument- According to one version, the universe as a whole is like a machine; machines have intelligent designers; like effects have like causes; therefore, the universe as a whole has an intelligent designer, which is God. William Paley's watch analogy- Paley likened the universe to a watch. Like a watch, he said, the universe consists of many complex parts functioning in harmony towards some useful end. In a watch the various parts are ordered such that they measure time; in the universe, such that they support life. The two are, in this respect, similar. This comparison forms the basis of Paley's argument for intelligent design.	Through knowledge gained in this topic students will get to develop their own personal beliefs and focusing on British Values. They will get the opportunity to make cross curricular links too. They will consider how they can make a more harmonious society. They will do this through the following activities: • What other real-life examples are complex that they may need a creator (God)? • Does William Paley's argument help explain the universe we live in? • Does the Cosmological argument help explain why the universe was created? • Does the creation argument make sense in our world when it is heavily influenced by science? • Which argument makes more sense to the society we live in Literalist or Non-Literal? Why?

What is the Cosmological argument?

Cosmological: to do with the nature of the universe.

Cosmological argument: a proof for the existence of God based on the idea that there had to be an uncaused cause that made everything happen.

What is the creation story?

Creation: the act by which God brought the universe into existence.

Cosmological argument in summary-

- 1. Everything which exists has a cause.
- 2. The universe exists.
- 3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.
- 4. That cause is what we call God.

Many Christians believe that the cosmological argument is supported by the creation account in Genesis.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."

Genesis 1:1-3

This account states that before the universe was created only God existed and at God's command the process of creation began.

Criticisms

The cosmological argument depends on a central principle, which is "nothing comes from nothing."

What could be some criticisms of the cosmological argument?

- Perhaps the universe had no beginning.
- Perhaps the universe just started and there was nothing that made it start. It just started.
- If it is claimed that everything must be made, then it is fair to ask, 'Who made God?'

- Could God have created the Big Bang? Chicken and the Egg.
- Where is evolution happening in our world today?
- Is Islam more compatible to the world and creation than Christianity?
- Can there be a God when there is suffering in our world?
- Suffering happens but can everyone live a pain free life? Can everyone live to an old age healthy and happy?
- Does religion ruin our world? Or is it human interpretation of religion?

What created the Universe: God or science?

In the Bible the world was created in six days and on the seventh day God rested.

Fundamentalist (literal) Christians: believe that the statements in the Bible are literally true and are a central basic belief that are essential to Christian faith.

Liberal (non-literal) Christians: believe that the Bible's authors were guided by God, but that not everything they wrote is a literal account of what actually happened.

Big Bang Theory

The scientific view of how the world began

The world began with a 'big bang' about 14 billion years ago. First, the universe began to expand and then it cooled down, forming stars, the Earth and other planets

Evolution

The theory that life has evolved (changed) from simpler forms, over millions of years.

A change in inherited traits in a species.

Similarities between religion and science

Non-literalists and scientists agree and believe in the BIG BANG

Scientists- Evolution did happen.

Non-Literalists - God started evolution

Scientist – evolution is natural process

<u>Differences between religion and science</u>

Creationists and scientists disagree because...Scientists do not believe God could scientifically make the world in the 6 days.

Creationists believe man came from Adam and Eve. Scientists – believe we came from apes ISLAM AND THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE Muslims believe Adam was the first man of earth and the first prophet in Islam. Adam was created from dust in the ground, he is regarded as the father of the human race. What is the difference God gave Adam understanding and the names of all things. between fundamentalist and God then asked Adam to tell the angels the names of some objects that they did not know but he did. liberal? In order to prevent Adam from being lonely, God created Eve and they lived in the Garden of Bliss. Is Science and Religion compatible from what Adam is important to Muslims as God gave him understanding and in turn Adam passed on his knowledge we have studied to the rest of the human race through his descendants. previously? Muslims regard the existence of the universe as proof for the existence of Allah, the Creator. They also believe that the Qur'an is a divine revelation from Allah and so cannot be guestioned. However, it is possible to interpret the Qur'an in different ways. Some Muslims say that the Big Bang can be seen as additional evidence of Allah's creation and can therefore be accepted as scientific truth. However, because it does not include reference to a designer and creator, it is at best incomplete, describing the process that Allah used in creation. Most Muslims believe that if there are any disagreements between the two theories, the teachings found in the Qur'an are correct. The words of Allah are superior to the words of human scientists. Some Muslims take a less literal view but do not lessen the role of Allah. They focus more on the meaning of the story. At the heart of the story is the belief that Allah is great. This is a central belief that forms part of the five times-daily call to prayer.

Some Muslims have difficulty with the idea that the human species is subject to the same laws of natural selection as all other species, since the Qur'an teaches that humans have a special, supervisory role in creation.

Other Muslims view evolution as simply Allah's way of creating life, and believe that Allah created the environment which drives evolution and oversees the natural processes whereby species evolve.

What do atheists and agnostics believe?

Agnostic- a person who believes that nothing is known or can be known of the existence or nature of God.

What do Christians and Islam believe about creation?

<u>Atheist-</u> a person who disbelieves or lacks belief in the existence of God or gods

There are many different ideas about God- Here are some below.

some people say that they EXPERIENCE the presence of God in their lives, perhaps through answers to their prayers;

some people say there must be a FIRST CAUSE of everything and that must be God;

some people say that if you could SEE God, then that would not be God;

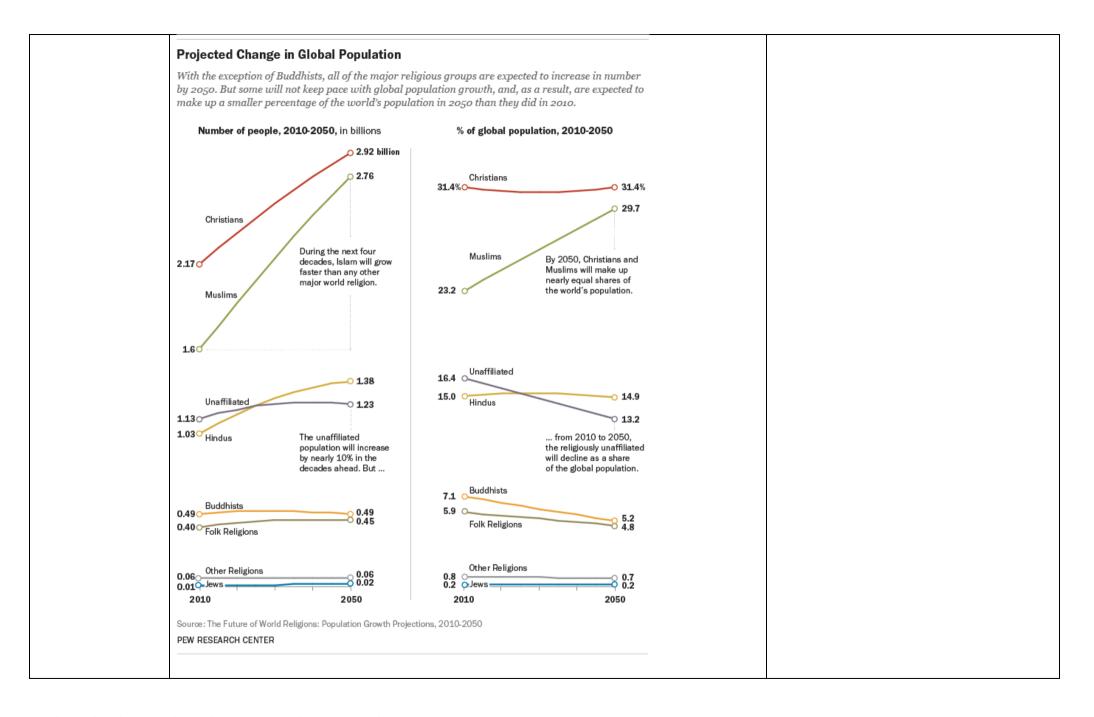
some people say that if you could prove the existence of God, there would be no need for FAITH: life is a TEST, and belief in God is part of that test

Many humanists accept the existence of things like childhood cancer do not PROVE there is no omnipotent (all powerful), benevolent (all loving) god, but they may feel it makes one incredibly unlikely.

Humanists can believe different ideas about religion. For examples there are different views below about the Bible.

- Humanist A thinks that this text belongs to a previous age when people didn't understand science.
- Humanist B thinks that this text is like poetry. It tells us something about human nature but isn't something that really happened.
- Humanist C thinks that this text is an important part of our history and heritage.

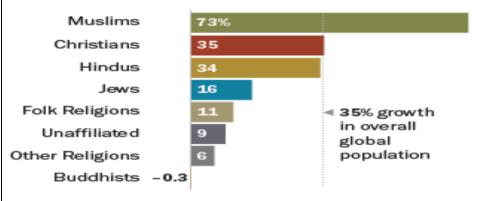
What is the Big Bang theory?	Will religion disappear in the next century? Richard Dawkins I believe that in the not so far future religion as we know it will simply by obsolete and become part of history.	
	Science will conquer the minds of everyone eventually.	



Islam Growing Fastest

Muslims are the only major religious group projected to increase faster than the world's population as a whole.

Estimated change in population size, 2010-2050



Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

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Countries That Will No Longer Have a Christian Majority in 2050

	MAJORITY RELIGION 2010	% OF Population 2010	MAJORITY/LARGEST Religion 2050	% OF Population 2050
Australia	Christians	67.3%	Christians	47.0%
United Kingdom	Christians	64.3	Christians	45.4
Benin	Christians	53.0	Christians	48.5
France	Christians	63.0	Unaffiliated	44.1
Republic of Macedonia	Christians	59.3	Muslims	56.2
New Zealand	Christians	57.0	Unaffiliated	45.1
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Christians	52.3	Muslims	49.4
Netherlands	Christians	50.6	Unaffiliated	49.1

Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

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The short answer is religion is on the wane in western Europe and North America, and it's growing everywhere else.

