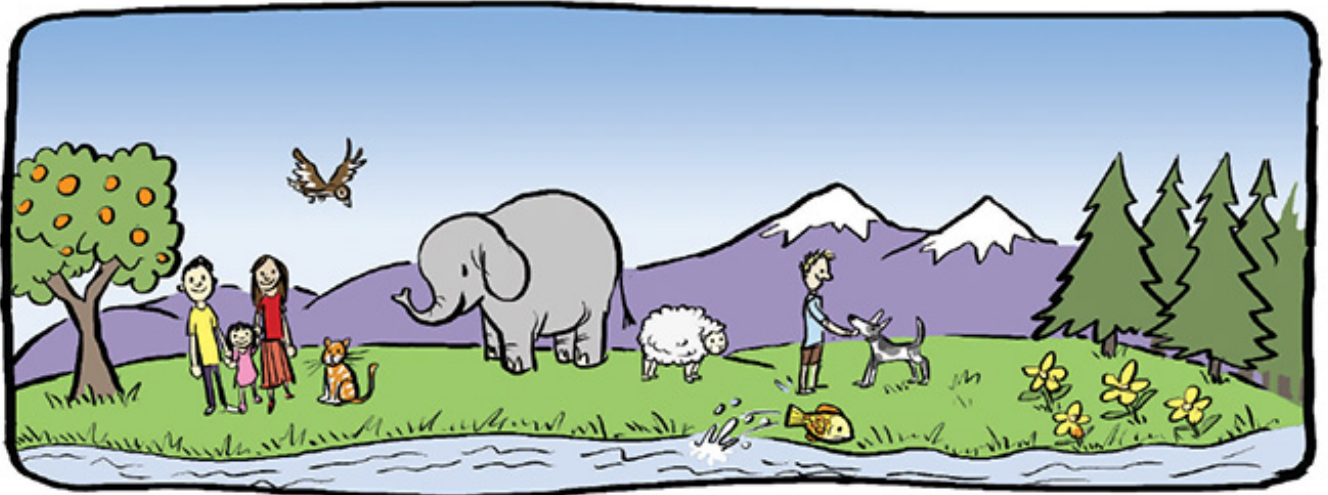


Stewardship and treatment of animals

Christianity Year 8

THE EARTH AND ALL THE PEOPLE, PLANTS AND ANIMALS
ARE GIFTS FROM GOD.



GOD WANTS US TO TAKE CARE OF THESE GIFTS.

What will this booklet cover?

1. Christian creation story
2. Stewardship and teachings about the treatment of animals
3. Treatment of Animals and groups that fight for their rights
4. Animal testing
5. Deep dive- Should people eat meat?

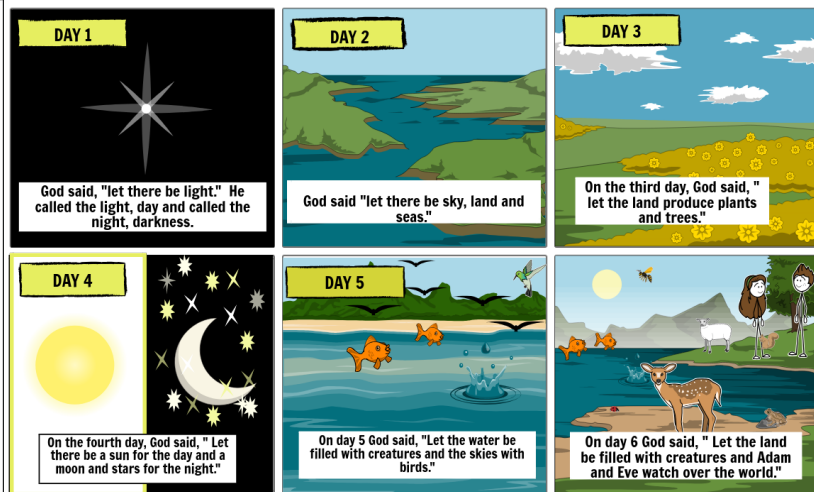
Christian creation story

Task 1-

Research the Christian creation story and story board it into your book

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=teu7BCZTgDs>

Title:	Date:	Author:



Create your own at Storyboard That

Task 2 – answer the questions in full sentences

- 1.Explain what God tells humans to do to animals on day 6?
- 2.How might this influence how Christians treat animals?

CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS ANIMALS

Animals are part of God's creation, and according to the Bible, animals were made before humans so it is humans responsibility to look after and care for them.

Different Christians have different viewpoints regarding the treatment on animals. Some Christians think that as we are the most important creatures on the planet we should be able to do as we please with animals.

Other Christians believe that as we the most powerful we should do everything we can to look after animals and treat them with the utmost respect.

STEWARDSHIP

A 'steward' is someone in charge of something valuable for someone else and who is involved in caring responsibly.

The idea of stewardship is taken from the creation story, the world was created by God. Humans were created in order to look after the earth for God.

We have a responsibility to not only care for the planet but also the people on it.

Stewardship also rules out exploiting people, e.g. buying crops for less than they are worth.

HUMANITY AND ANIMALS

Most Christians accept that humans were given a responsibility from God to look after and care for all animals.

Some Christians argue that animals are similar to humans and they should be given the same rights. However, the main difference seen by Christians between humans and animals is that humans are said to have a soul. So it could be argued that humans are more important than animals.

More strict Christians do not believe that animals have rights but their teaching focuses on the duties humans have towards animals. Animals should be looked after and cared for but the rights of humans should always be put above the rights of animals.

Christian response to the treatment of animals

Order the following uses of animals in your books with number 1 being most acceptable use of an animal and number 7 being least acceptable use of an animal.

- work
- fur
- hunting
- food
- medical testing
- cosmetic testing
- entertainment



Imagine that you are setting up a brand new country, and you have to make a **list of rules protecting animals and their usage**. What would your rules be? You need to think of at least 5 and you must give a reason for each one...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Do ANIMALS HAVE RIGHTS?

Humans are the most importance race, they can do what they want.	Sometimes animal testing is important because it leads to advances in science.
Just because they can't speak doesn't mean we should do what we please.	Humans have teeth specifically for eating meat, so it is completely natural.
Animals feel pain in the same way that humans do.	As we're the most powerful, we should look after everything else.

TASK: Separate the above statements into arguments for and against animals having rights, then, write them into a table.

TASK: Welcome to Christian Radio! Today's broadcast will be about the rights and responsibilities of human beings.

The topic to be addressed is this: "Human beings can do whatever they like to animals". Discuss.

Write at least 1 page of script between a group of people discussing the above statement. You might want to include

1. *A Christian approach.*
2. *An atheist approach.*
3. *Someone who doesn't believe in animal rights.*
4. *Someone who does believe in animal rights.*



Animal rights groups

Information
AND task

You are going to investigate two animal rights groups and decide whether you think violence is an acceptable method of trying to save animals. You are going to make a newspaper article on **PeTA** or create a new group that fight to protect animals

Your newspaper article needs to include the following:

- The logo for your animal rights group.
- What they believe.
- Examples of their work.
- Whether you agree with their actions or not. Be really Opinionated! Use your best vocabulary and play on emotions



The **Animal liberation Front** is an **illegal** organisation that believes breaking the law is ok to protect the rights of animals.

The ALF is responsible for lots of **break ins into labs** where experiments on animals take place.

The ALF has also **threatened doctors and professors** involved in testing on animals

The ALF believe that people who experiment on animals are not being fair to the animal so they believe this makes their illegal actions ok.

PeTA

- Not all animal rights groups use criminal tactics.
- Many use lawful means to try to effect a change in the law e.g. PETA – People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.
- Animal rights activists regularly protest outside laboratories peacefully.
- They also create high profile advertisements to raise awareness of animal cruelty through the media.





The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Foundation is a UK-based charity dedicated to establishing and protecting the rights of all animals.

Like humans, animals are capable of suffering and have interests in leading their own lives; therefore, they are not ours to use – for food, clothing, entertainment, experimentation or any other reason. PETA and our friends around the world educate people about cruelty to animals and promote an understanding of the rights of all animals to be treated with respect.

PETA works through public education, research, law making, special events, and celebrity involvement and protest campaigns.

We believe in non-violent protests and have been involved in a number of television campaigns to try and teach others of the importance of animal rights.

Saving calf's from being taken from their mothers

From the moment the baby cow (calf) enters the world they may be taken from their mother so they can be milked, and the milk then bottled and taken to shops for people to buy. Is it fair that a young calf doesn't get to be with their mother?

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





Picture OF PeTA

Task

What PeTA believe -

An example of how you could lay it out
You can copy into your book or on paper

Examples of their work

1.

2.

3.

Do you agree with their actions?
Yes or no and why
I agree/disagree with PeTA
because.....

Religious viewpoints

Followers of all the world faiths are clearly expected to show respect for all parts of creation and there are clear guidelines laid down about the treatment of animals. Generally these can be summed up as follows:

- Animals should be treated well and properly looked after.
- If an animal is to be killed it should be done humanely.
- Animals must only be used for food or other beneficial purposes.
- Animal breeding or experimentation for luxury goods is forbidden.

Read through the information sheet on the next page and watch the videos. Then answer the questions in full sentences in your book.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68J7WffwZ10> – Escaping Animal Testing Lab – Hamstrong
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANUoAdXfA60>

1. Define animal testing and stewardship.
2. What are the main reasons animals are tested on?
3. What products can be tested on animals?
4. Is animal testing allowed in the UK?
5. What alternatives to animal testing does the information sheet give?
6. How would a Christian respond, use one of the teachings you have learnt to support your answer. 1 paragraph of writing. Link back to stewardship and the creation story = Point-Evidence-Explanation

Information about animal testing

Why does animal testing take place?

British law says that any new drug used for medicine, must be tested on at least two different types of live mammal. One of these must be a large non-rodent type animal. This is to make sure the drug works and doesn't hurt you.

Animal testing has also sometimes been used for developing:

- Household products like cleaners
- Agricultural chemicals – things that help cure illnesses in animals
- Industrial chemicals – like cleaners
- Pesticides – kills pests
- Paint
- Food additives



In some countries animals are also used to test beauty products (make-up and creams). But this is not allowed in Britain anymore.



Does it work?

Animal testing has helped to develop vaccines against diseases like measles, rabies and mumps.

Drugs to fight the effects of HIV and cancer rely on animal tests. Operations on animals helped to develop organ transplant and open-heart surgery techniques. However, an animal's response to a drug can be different to a human's and the stress the animals experience in the lab can affect the test

results

Are the animals hurt during testing?

Laws protect all lab animals from cruelty during testing. However, these controls have not stopped some scientists from abusing animals and the animals can get very stressed.

In favour of animal experiments:

Experimenting on animals is acceptable if (and only if):

- Suffering is minimised in all experiments
- Human benefits are gained which could not be obtained by using other methods

Against animal experiments:

Experimenting on animals is always unacceptable because:

- It causes suffering to animals
- The benefits to human beings are not proven
- Any benefits to human beings that animal testing does provide could be produced in other ways



Harm versus benefit

The case for animal experiments is that they will help to make things with great benefits for humans. So it can make it morally acceptable to harm a few animals. However, the level of suffering and the number of animals involved are both so high that the benefits to humanity don't provide moral justification.

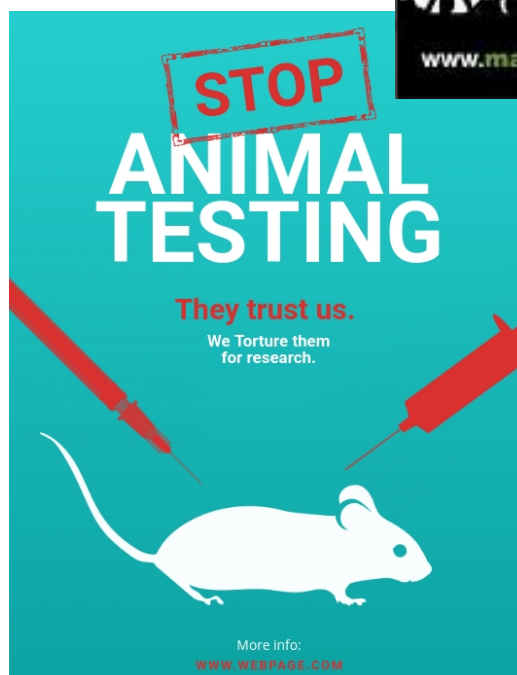
Is there an alternative?

Yes. Successful alternatives include taking human tissue samples and testing the drugs on them in a test tube. In some trials people have volunteered to be tested on. Also, some experiments are carried out using computer models and programmes, while others involve looking at large numbers of statistics.

Create a protest poster as if you were a part of an animal rights activist group.

It needs to be colourful and have a clear message.

Examples of what you could do -



Task

Moral dilemmas

Copy the table into your book and complete it. Arguments for animals being kept in the zoo? – They can help to keep animals that are endangered in the wild safe in a zoo
Against – they wot have lots of room to explore like they would in the wild

Dilemma: should animals be...	Arguments for	Arguments against	My opinion
... kept in zoos?			
... kept as pets?			
... used for food?			
... used for experiments?			
... used to entertain, for example, in a circus?			
... hunted for sport?			
Which dilemma did you find the <u>easiest</u> to make up your mind about? Why?		Which dilemma did you find the <u>hardest</u> to make up your mind about? Why?	

Jainists & Animal Rights

Jainism: A branch of Buddhism and Hinduism which is still followed today in parts of northwest India

Jainists take five vows, the first of which is to avoid harming any living being. The importance they attach to this vow sets them apart from other religious groups and even strict vegetarians. All of India's seven million Jains are vegetarian and they go to extreme measures to make sure they do not harm or injure any creature.

They will gently sweep the ground in front of them as they walk in case they tread on an ant, or any other insect in their path.



A Jain will wear a scarf or mask over their face to ensure not only that they do not accidentally swallow an insect but also to avoid disturbing any insects with their breath.

Jains are forbidden even to eat vegetables that grow underground such as carrots and onions. This is because pulling them up will cause harm to the soil and numerous very small creatures.

Should we eat less meat to save our animals?

Prepare a speech or presentation using what you have learnt from this topic to discuss the question. You can include both for and against arguments, statistics that you have researched and religious/non-religious opinions of people. You can refer to Jainism and their beliefs.

Make me believe in what you are speaking about!

“Animal testing is never acceptable”.

Do you agree?

I agree because.....

1.

2.

3.

I disagree because.....

1.

2.

3.