

The Big Bang. (Author's version)

A long, long time ago there was nothing except a tiny speck, too small for you to see. About 15,000 million years ago, this speck began to expand (grow bigger). It was orderly, like a balloon being blown up, but very quick like a huge explosion. The 'speck' has carried on expanding ever since. Our Earth, the other planets, stars and everything else in the universe developed as the stuff (matter) sent out by the explosion collected together and cooled. The conditions were right for life on our earth, and gradually different species began to develop from simpler forms of life. They gradually changed to adapt to their different surroundings. This is how animals and human beings came into being. It is a process called evolution.



The Genesis account of creation (Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a) (Author's adaptation)

There was nothing; just darkness and emptiness Then God spoke.

Day 1 "Let there be light" and there was light. Day and night had started. God was pleased.

Day 2 "Let there be ... Sky" and sky came into being. God was pleased.

Day 3 "Let there be ... Earth and Sea" and we got land and sea. God was pleased. He spoke again "Let there be all kinds of plants" and there were. God was pleased.

Day 4 "Let there be lights in the sky to mark time and to give light" so we got the Sun, moon and stars. God was pleased.

Day 5 "Let there be creatures in the sea and in the sky" and we got sea creatures, large and small, and birds. God was pleased.

Day 6 "Let there be animals on the earth" and there were. God was pleased. Finally God said "Let there be human beings, made to be like me and to look after my world. So men and women were made. God was pleased.

Day 7 God had finished his work and he rested.