**Facilitators Notes - Creation VS Evolution Part I**

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| 1. **Introduction**   **Activity # 1**  Brainstorm topic | Tonight, we’re going to tackle the topic of Creation vs Evolution.  Discussed in Christian circles / maybe at connect groups   * Possibly as a child especially as part of school curriculum * Can seem like Christians simply don’t believe in science * Or that Christians believe in the bible with their “blinkers on”   Read: - John 1:1-3 (amp) *- “In the beginning [before all time] was the Word ([*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1&version=AMP#fen-AMP-26046a)*]Christ), and the Word was with God, and [*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1&version=AMP#fen-AMP-26046b)*]the Word was God Himself. 2He was [continually existing] in the beginning [co-eternally] with God. 3All things were made and came into existence through Him; and without Him not even one thing was made that has come into being.”* |
| 1. **Creation Vs Evolution** | We get quite saturated with the idea that evolution is a proven fact and that believing anything different is outside of logic and science.   * Let’s make it clear that science and the bible go hand in hand * Why wouldn’t it, since God created the laws of physics and science. * Think of it like science is still trying to catch up with God e.g. What’s App   Ref : - Isaiah 40:22 (amp) tells us that the earth is round - *“It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; [It is He] who stretches out the heavens like a veil And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.”* Isaiah was written or completed in the 6th century BC – science believed in a flat world way back to the 14th AD – **2000k gap**  If everything was an accident and completely random, then your life, my life, the populace of the planet, doesn’t really matter beyond what we can all see: -   * We would simply do and act for ourselves * No one’s life would have any higher purpose of reason * Humanity would function like any other species of the natural order   Alternatively, if we are all created and designed and if God does exist, then our existence has a higher purpose. Eternity is a reality and what we do and how we live our lives really counts! Life goes well beyond having all our selfish desires met.  Ref Hebs 1:1-3 (amp) –  *3 “The Son is the radiance and only expression of the glory of [our awesome] God [reflecting God’s [*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+1-3&version=AMP#fen-AMP-29967a)*]Shekinah glory, the Light-being, the brilliant light of the divine], and the exact representation and perfect imprint of His [Father’s] essence, and upholding and maintaining and propelling all things [the entire physical and spiritual universe] by His powerful word [carrying the universe along to its predetermined goal].”*  . |
| **3. Evolution**  *Question # 1* | Evolution is the belief or theory that everything was created in a BIG explosion, what is commonly known as the big bang, and from that explosion, the universe began, planets were created, solar systems, galaxies, absolutely everything: -   * So the theory is that there was nothing, no planets, no solar system, nothing, just particles in existence in a vacuum. * And randomly, two of these particles collided, causing a huge explosion of energy, which then somehow created everything. * And on planet earth, over billions of years, atoms randomly collided to form molecules, which then collided randomly in the right conditions to form complex materials, which then collided randomly in the right conditions to form proteins, and then DNA, and then eventually, life. * The idea is that over time and random iterations, a single cell organism was formed, which then, over billions of years, turned into more complex organisms, which eventually turned into human beings and animals, etc.   *Question: - As long as I believe in the bible, why should I care about the creation-evolution issue?* [https://creationministries.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-creation/#](https://creationministries.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-creation/) |
| **4. Creation** | Creation is the belief that firstly, God is real, and secondly, that He is the One who created everything. He created the universe, the earth, life on our planet, and human beings, and all within 6 days, and on the 7th, He rested.   * With human beings, He created us uniquely and individually * Uniquely different from every other creature * Humans were created in His own image.   Ref: - Gen 1:27 *“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them (Gen 5:2; I Cor 11:7; Mat 19:4; Mark 10:6-8).”*  The image of God (Latin: imago dei) refers to the immaterial part of humanity the human spirit. It sets human beings apart from the animal world, fits them for the dominion God intended them to have over the earth (Gen1:28) and enables them to commune with their Maker. It is also a likeness mentally, morally, and socially.  Jesus confirms the biblical version of creation and its accounts of Genesis: -  Read: -Mat 19:4-6 (amp) *“He replied, “Have you never read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, …* |
| **5. Scientific Evidence**  *Question # 2* | Obviously this is a huge topic and people spend their entire lives mulling over the details, but what we have seen is that nothing has disproven the biblical account.  There’s no actual evidence that animals have evolved over the years: -   * Even the so-called “missing link”, where fossils have been found, upon complete reconstruction, they find that they’re more human or they’re more ape-like.   What you’ll find is that most fossils found are incomplete and a lot is assumed when reconstructing them.  The bible, while not a scientific book, is still scientifically accurate. And the only way a non-scientific book can be scientifically accurate is if it is truth: -   * The bible is full of truth – it is the infallible word of God.   Ref: - John 17:17; Jesus said, *“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth!”*   * We don’t need to see it to believe it. * But when we do look at the science, when can see that the science actually confirms the bible.   *Question: - Why do biblical creationists fight science?* [https://creationministries.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-creation/#](https://creationministries.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-creation/)  One thing we need to understand and have faith in is that creation is miraculous and as far as our existence and life as we know it is concerned, it is a onetime event.  For our planet, for earth and the universe, we trust in God’s word – that He created the heavens and the earth in 6 days, miraculously and in His power, at the very beginning.   * This helps us to understand that God isn’t still creating new and different things today or throughout history. * He set everything into motion at the beginning. Life continues from that point. * That’s not to say that God isn’t active today, because we know that He is and we see Him perform signs and wonders and miracles all the time. * He isn’t using evolution to continue or to improve on His creation. |
| **6. Noah & the Flood**  **Video # 1**  **Activity # 2**  **Kahoot - Aileen** | **Catastrophe or Not**  Why is this a topic of contention?  **Pre-reading Genesis 6 - 9**   * The truth is, it’s not something that people purposely pick on because they care about it great amounts or anything, * it’s more a topic of contention or debate because it comes across incredibly outlandish and people generally have a basic idea of what the story is about. * Plus, anything that extreme would leave evidence and there should be proof of such an event.   Ok, so let’s begin with Noah and the flood. What do you guys know about it? Just main points.  Noah’s ark: go.   * It’s a fairly simple and basic story that people generally know. * The complication is that because of its simplicity, and it’s widespread understanding, it’s also one of the first stories that people will try and find fault with when it comes to the legitimacy of the bible. * How could there be a worldwide flood? * Did God really kill all those people? * How did all the animals fit into the ark?   **Watch video: -**  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KcC0BHd9jI>  **Authenticate from the scriptures: -**   * **Ref Gen 6-9; Story of Noah and his family – The Global Flood -** * **Jesus - Ref Matt 24:37,38**   *37For the coming of the Son of Man (the Messiah) will be just like the days of Noah. 38For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the [very] day when Noah entered the ark ….*  **Noah - Ref Hebs 11:7**  *7By faith [with confidence in God and His word] Noah, being warned by God about events not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his family. By this [act of obedience] he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness which comes by faith*.   * **Peter - Ref I Pet 3:20**   *20who once were disobedient, when the great patience of God was waiting in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons [Noah’s family], were brought safely through the water.*   * **Preacher - Ref 2 Pet 2:5**   *5and if He did not spare the ancient world, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought [the judgment of] a flood upon the world of the ungodly;* |
| **8. Polystrate Fossils:** | Ok, so what evidence is there of a global flood?  One of the strongest pieces of evidence for a worldwide flood is the existence of what Rupke termed "polystrate fossils."   * Such fossils are found all over the world: especially in and around coal seams. * They are often in the form of  fossil  trees that were buried upright and which often cross multiple  layers of strata such as sandstone, shale, limestone  and even [coal beds.](http://www.earthage.org/Upright_Trees_in_Coal.htm) 1,2,3,4 * They range in size from small rootlets to trees over 80 feet long.  Sometimes they are oblique (or at an angle to) the surrounding strata, but more often they are perpendicular with (or standing 'upright' in) it. * For example, at Joggins, Nova Scotia, polystrate tree (and root) fossils are found at various intervals throughout roughly 2,500 feet of strata.  Many of the trees are from 10-20 feet long, 5,6 and at least  one was [40 feet long](http://www.earthage.org/polystrate/Fossil_Trees_of_Nova_Scotia.htm#A Mysterious 40 Foot Fossil Tree:). 5,6,7 |
| **9. The Fossils Themselves:** | Fossils don't form on lake bottoms today, nor are they found forming on the bottom of the sea.15  Instead, they normally only form when a plant or animal is [buried](http://evolution-facts.org/Appendix/a17e.htm) soon after it dies. 16 Therefore, the fossils themselves are evidence of a catastrophe such as a flood. |
| **10. Spontaneous Sorting of Layers:** | Laboratory experiments have shown that spontaneous sorting and layering occurs with a sand, mud and clay slurry.   * When the mixture slows down, the sand, mud and clay will spontaneously precipitate (or settle out) and form individual layers. * [Dr. Guy Berthault](http://www.sciencevsevolution.org/Berthault.htm) has performed a number of  [experiments](http://www.cnt.ru/users/chas/strat_en.htm) which demonstrate this. * 31,32,33See following links for more info and visual documentation: [Evolution: Fact or Belief?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcFHaWs3-7Q), [Experiments in Stratification](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5PVnBaqqQw8), and [Sedimentation Experiments](https://answersingenesis.org/geology/sedimentation/sedimentation-experiments-nature-finally-catches-up/). |
| **11. Extensive Strata and Pancake Layering:** | As we observe sedimentary strata throughout the world we see almost  everywhere flat-lying (or "pancake")  layered strata.   * Many of these layers are so [extensive](http://www.cs.unc.edu/~plaisted/ce/flood.html) that they cover [several states](http://cabazondinosaurs.com/DinoDig.html). For example, the [Tapeats Sandstone](http://iooe.org/articles/publications/Flood%20Worldwide%20Tapeats%20Sandstone.jpg) covers over half of the United States, and [drawings](http://www.earthage.org/polystrate/north_america%20according%20to%20Dana.htm) from [Dana's](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Dwight_Dana)  [Manual of Geology](http://www.amazon.com/Manual-Geology-DANA-JAMES-D/dp/114542936X) depict over 90 percent of the United States and Mexico, and half of Canada  under water. * We also know that the Grand Canyon was once under the ocean because of the marine fossils that have been found there. |
| **12 & 13.**  **A Whale of a Fossil:** | **Astonishing fossil discoveries of recent years - a graveyard of whales found beside the Pan-American Highway in Chile.**   * Researchers from the USA and Chile reported, in November 2011, a remarkable bone bed on the west coast of northern Chile near the port city of Caldera, about 700 kilometres (440 miles) north of the capital, Santiago.1 Excavations uncovered the remains of some 80 baleen whales of which more than 20 specimens were complete (figure 1).2 They also found other kinds of marine mammals including an extinct dolphin with tusks and a sperm whale.3 * Interestingly, some of those posting comments on these news reports suggested the creatures perished in Noah’s Flood. Robert Raeburn of Western Australia said, “The whales probably swam there when the whole world was covered in water, about 4000 years ago at the time of Noah. * They would then have been stranded when the waters assuaged (drained back) to expose the dry land. … This all makes sense when viewed from a ‘Bible’ perspective.” |
| **14 & 15.**  **Marine Fossils In The Mountains:**  **Video # 2**  **Read** | In Mountains all over the world one can find sea shells and other marine fossils.  These include the Sierras, the Swiss Alps, the Himalayas and many more (Ref Ps 104:6-9 (amp)  Video: - <https://creation.com/m/marine-fossils-on-mount-everest>   * Global flood would explain how they got there   **Read Ps 104:6-9 (amp)** |
| **16. Creation - Online References** | **CREATION ONLINE REFERENCES**  <https://creation.com>  <https://answersingenesis.org>  <https://creationministries.org/frequently-asked-questions-about-creation/>  **FACTS ON NOAH'S ARK**  <http://www.ldolphin.org/cisflood.html>  **RESOURCES FOR KIDS**  <https://answersingenesis.org/kids/> |