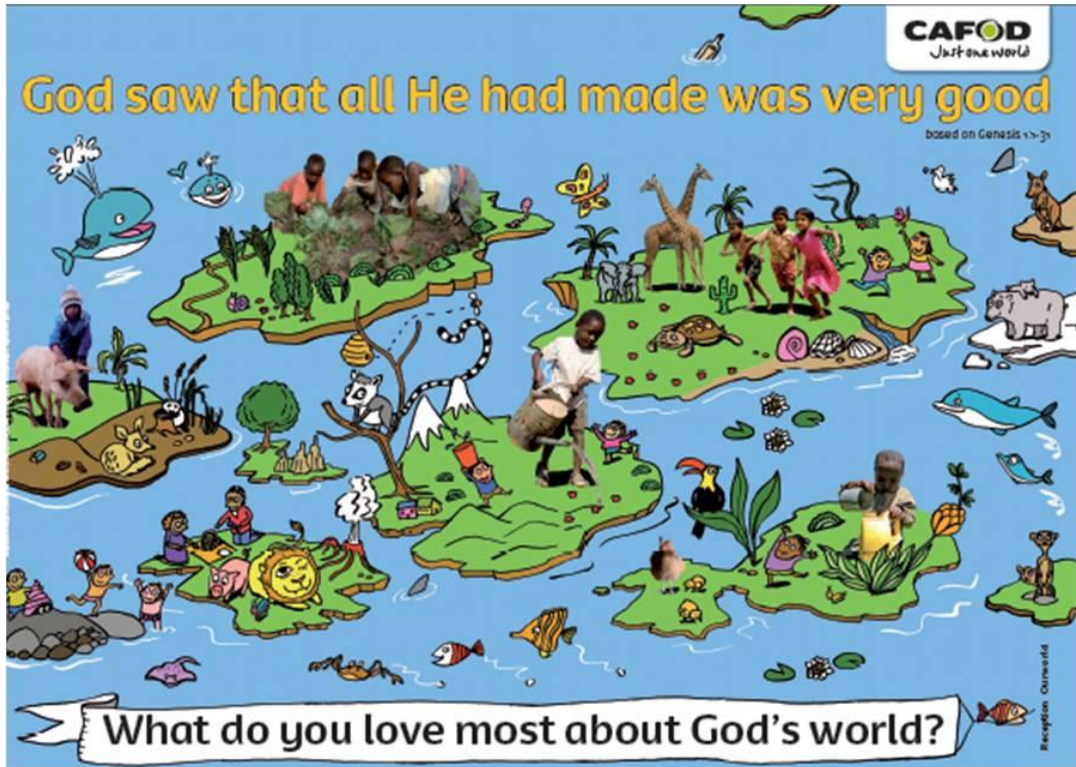


## Teacher notes for Our World Reception poster

*Download the poster here.*



### Before the topic begins (EXPLORE)

Encourage children to spend some time looking at and exploring the poster. Ask them to think about and/ or discuss what they see going on in the poster.

Suggested activities for the children:

- Pick out their favourite part and say why they like it
- Work in small groups to act out scenes from the poster
- Pick out individuals or animals and tell a story about them

### During the topic (REVEAL)

The poster can be used alongside the Our World lesson plans, to help reveal to the children that God gave us this wonderful world. *Download the lesson plans here.*

**Scripture:** God saw that all He had made was very good (based on Genesis 1: 1-31).

Read the piece of scripture together with the children and discuss what is meant by it. Link the discussion to children's learning around Genesis – i.e. *God created the world and said, "Indeed it is very good"* (see *Our World lesson plans - Reveal, Focus Week 1*). Pick out different elements to discuss e.g. people, animals, trees, flowers etc. Discuss who made all of these things.

**Focus question:** What do you love most about God's world?

Read the question together with the children. Encourage the children to pick out what they love in the poster. Ask the children what else do they love in God's world? What is missing from the poster that they love?

**Discussion activity:** Invite the children to talk about what they can see in the picture. Encourage them to relate what they see in the poster to their own experiences – for example, ask the children when did you: go to the beach? go for a picnic? take care of animals? etc Then ask the children to think about what they loved most/enjoyed about the experience. Encourage the children to think of their own questions that they would like to ask the people/animals in the poster.

**Display activity:** Ask the children to draw their own world, inviting them to draw things that they love most about God's wonderful world. Put the poster at the centre of the display and include children's drawings around the poster. Include key words around the poster. Alternatively, ask the children to play the online interactive world activity to create their own version of God's wonderful world (available [cafod.org.uk/comeandsee](http://cafod.org.uk/comeandsee)). Print the children's work from the interactive activity to add to the display.

**Class worship:** Display the poster and use it as a focal point to give thanks and praise for God's wonderful world. Pick out individual elements in the poster to focus upon e.g. giraffes, trees, the sun – give thanks and praise for each one. For further ideas, see *Our World lesson plans - Reveal, Focus Week 2: Praising God for our Wonderful World*.

**Practical activity:** Encourage the children to imagine what could be happening beyond each of the edges of the poster. Place a large piece of paper underneath the poster and invite the children to continue to draw the scene. Remind the children to think about what makes God's world wonderful as they are drawing. It may be easier to focus on one particular aspect of the poster at a time, for example by dividing the poster into quarters.

**Values activity:** Use the poster to introduce the children to one of key principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) i.e. that we are called to stewardship. For a child-friendly description of the key principles of CST, go to [cafod.org.uk/comeandsee](http://cafod.org.uk/comeandsee)

Ask the children to find ways that the children in the poster are taking care of God's wonderful world (e.g. conserving water, growing things, looking after animals etc). For more ideas see *Our World lesson plans - Reveal, Focus Week 1 and 2*. Extend the children to think of other ways to care for God's wonderful world, using examples from their own lives. Some key questions: what do you do to care for the world? Do you make the most of God's creation?

### Beyond the topic (RESPOND)

The poster offers an opportunity for children to apply their learning to other areas of their lives, as well as make connections in their learning to other curriculum areas (for further ideas see topic web on page 4).

**Final celebration:** Display the poster in a final celebration at the end of the topic. Celebrate the children's new knowledge of what we love and wonder about our world and their understanding that God gave us this wonderful world.

### Background information

In the poster is a photograph of Azmera from North Ethiopia. Azmera's story can be found in the *lesson plans, Focus week 2: Taking care of God's world*. Azmera is getting water with her mother in a village in North Ethiopia. She is showing one way of taking care of God's world.

### **COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE; LITERACY**

Use the poster to spot different things in the world - name and label each item. Sort the items into groups (the poster is available online at [cafod.org.uk/comeandsee](http://cafod.org.uk/comeandsee) - print the poster and cut out items to sort into groups).

Ask the children questions about the poster to open up discussions e.g. What can you see? What are the animals/ children doing? Where are they going?

Encourage the children to think of a story for the different characters on the poster - Where are they? What are they doing? Where are they going? etc Children could act out the stories.

Ask the children to think about the message in the bottle (near the top of the poster). Invite them to imagine what the message says and where it might have come from. Talk about what message they might want to send out to the world.

Alternatively, create a message in a bottle to deliver to the class - the message could relate to something the children have been learning about, from which they could do some follow-up work.

Ask the children to think about which part of the poster they would choose to live on? Why? What do they love about it?

### **EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN/PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

Draw or paint elements of God's wonderful world.

Choose an image from the poster to make a model of.

Pick out animals in the poster and ask children to imitate their movements. Play movement games or join the movements together to form a sequence.

## **Our World Reception**

### **MATHEMATICS**

Numbers: Count items in the poster e.g. animals.

Shape, space and measures: Use the poster/map to introduce or consolidate language of position.

### **PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Talk about the different characters in the poster. How do you think they feel? What would make them happy/sad?

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD**

Pick out items from the poster and discuss whether they are natural world or man-made, and how they are still the work of God.

Pick out items in the poster to begin discussing similarities and differences in the world. Discuss how the children's own lives might compare to children who live in other parts of the world.

Use the poster to introduce the children to the idea of maps. Look at examples of other maps e.g. maps of the UK and maps of the world.

Cut out images from the poster and talk about where they might be found in the world. Stick them on a globe or world map.

Discuss the photograph of Azmera - for more details, see *Our World lesson plan, Focus Week 2*. What is she doing? How is she taking care of God's wonderful world? Discuss the importance of water. What else can we do to take care of our world? Explore other environmental issues.