

# UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

## HUMANISTS ARE CURIOUS ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND THEM.

They believe if we want to understand how the world works we need to **ask questions**, **think carefully**, and **look for evidence**.



Humanists believe the world is a **natural** place. They believe **science** can help us to understand it. When we have questions about what happens around us, they think we should look for natural explanations. They don't believe in anything supernatural. (If there was a noise in the night, a humanist is more likely to believe it was caused by the wind than it was caused by a ghost.)

'The world is a natural place with no supernatural side. I can't see any evidence or reason to believe in anything supernatural. The world is wonderful enough without it.'



**JULIAN WEBB,**  
Young Humanists

Humanists don't believe in a god. They don't see any good evidence to believe. They recognise that there are many stories about gods in holy books, such as the Bible, but they believe that these are just stories, not true stories.

**SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN A GOD IS CALLED AN ATHEIST.**

Although humanists don't believe in a god, they recognise that many people do. Humanists support **freedom of belief**. That means they believe people should be allowed to believe what they want. It's OK to disagree. We should not let our disagreements get in the way of friendship.



## QUESTIONS

- True or false: humanists believe the world is a natural place.
- True or false: humanists believe in a god.
- What is the word that describes someone who does not believe in a god?
- Do humanists believe that everyone must believe the same?