



Religion	Baha'i
Denomination	
Question answered:	In what ways do science, belief and religion interact and what difference might this make? (KS3 Q1)
Key concepts, questions, and outcomes:	What is truth? Who has the 'truth'? Who or what decides what is 'truth'? How do Science and religion work together in the Baha'i faith?
Key teaching points:	Thinking behind science and the thinking behind religion. Are they part of the same continuum?
Prior knowledge:	Baha'u'llah – leader of the religion

Core Vocabulary:			
Scientific analysis	facts	Baha'i writings	Rationality
Virtues	materialism	interact	faculty
Baha'u'llah	superstition	harmony	revelation
ideology			

Summary of answers:
<p><b>Speaker 1:</b> Science is one of the noblest virtues of humankind. God has endowed people with the ability to reason, rationality and the ability to apply scientific analysis and to be able to follow the scientific method. The Baha'i faith believes in the independent investigation of the truth and that it is something all should apply to every decision. In this way, people will develop an open mind and an attitude towards learning.</p> <p><b>Speaker 2:</b> For many thousands of years science and religion have been seen as separate, opposing things, incompatible with each other. In the Baha'i faith, they are seen as working in harmony with each other, like two wings of the same bird. Science without religion is seen as materialism; religion without science is seen as superstition.</p> <p><b>Speaker 3:</b> One of the things that attracts the third speaker to the Baha'i faith is the harmony of science and religion. Both religion and harmony are aiming towards the truth and so there should be no disagreement; this unlike what is seen in the world today.</p>
Next Steps:
<p>Pupils think about their own belief and worldview: how does science and religion interact for them? Why? How did they get their knowledge or opinions? Look at other worldviews. How do those worldviews compare to Baha'i and their own views? How does the Baha'i thinking about the interaction of science and religion affect a Baha'i's life and choices made, e.g. jobs, family life, diet, etc.</p>