

Humanist Beliefs



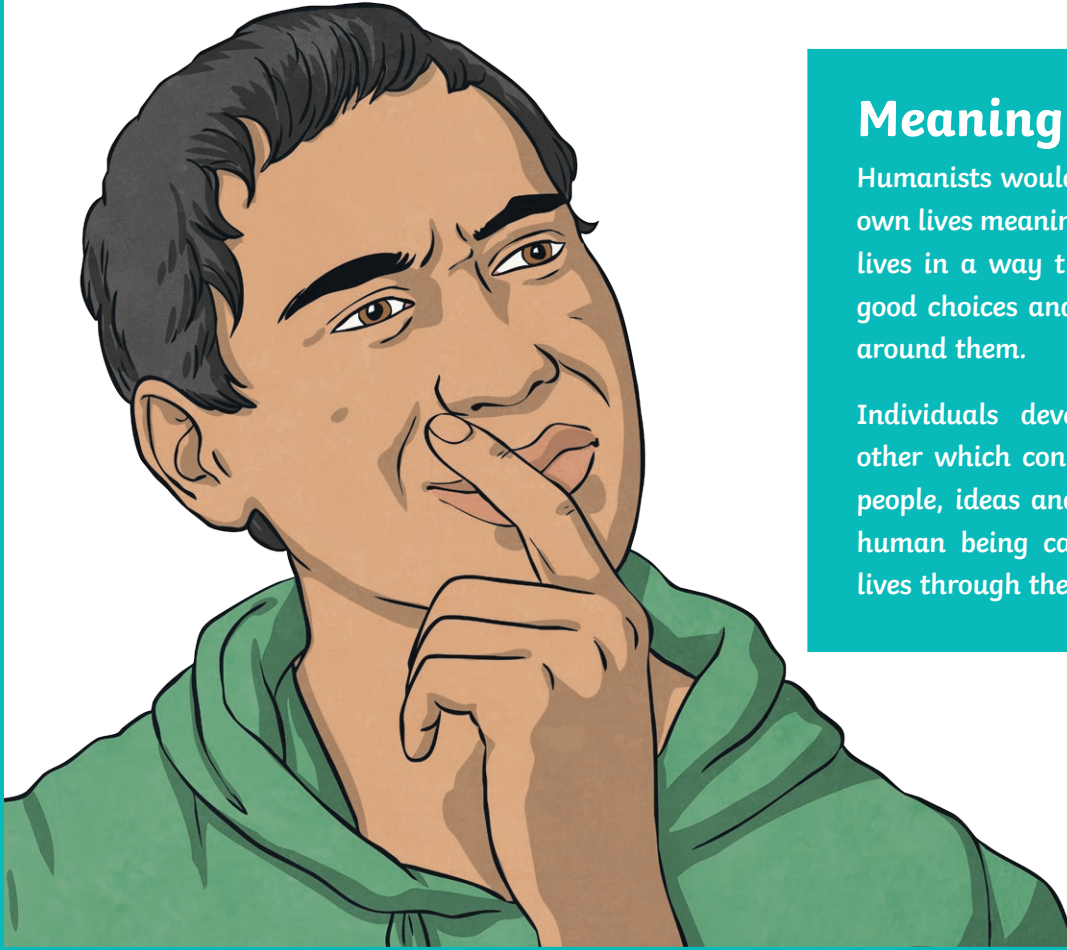
Reason

A statement or fact that explains why something is the way it is - why someone does, thinks, says or behaves in a certain way.

Humanists believe that we shouldn't be ruled by our feelings. Instead, we should think about how we feel, and act based on reason and logic.

Ideas are based on facts, not on emotions or feelings.



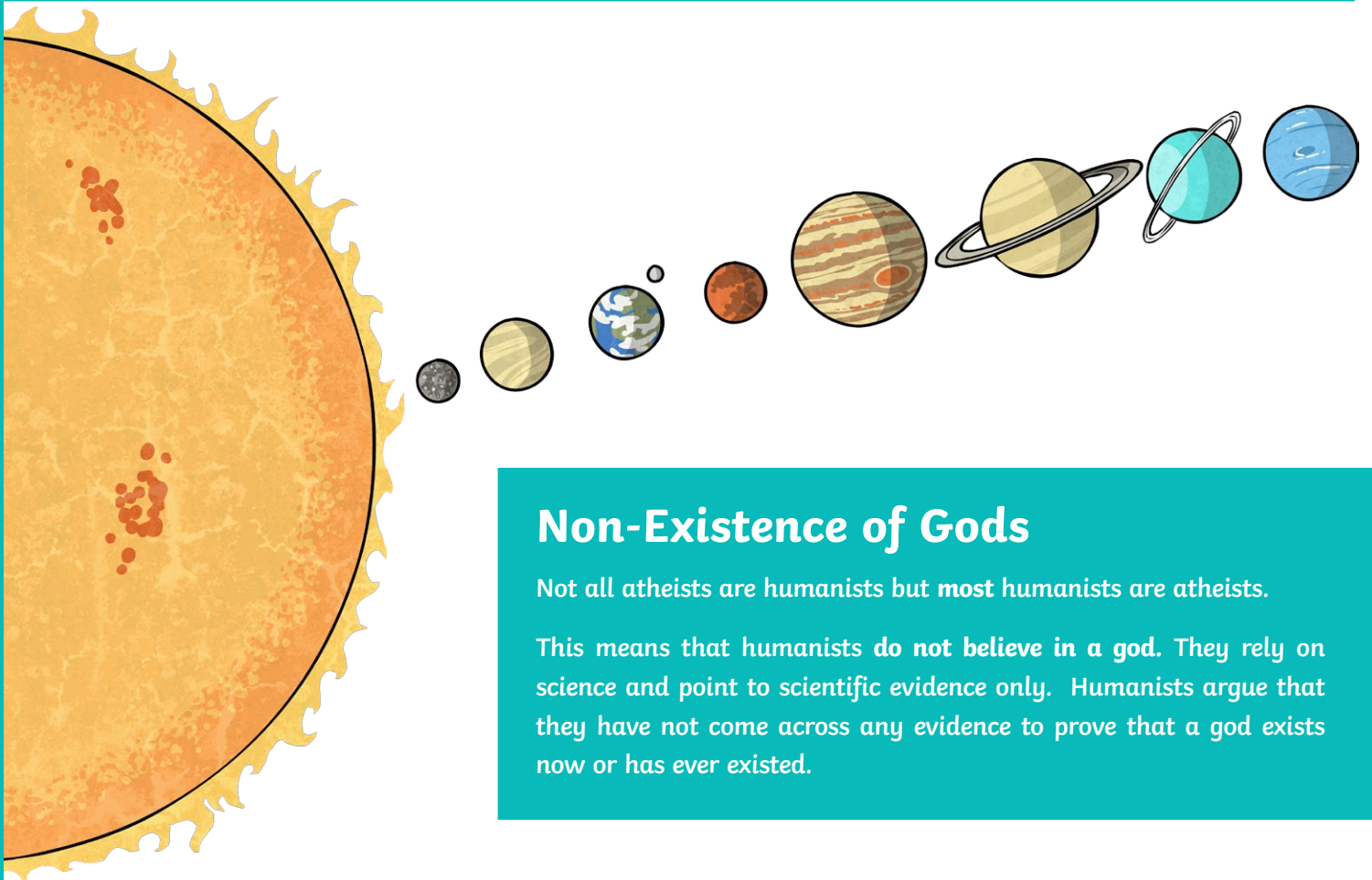


Meaning of Life

Humanists would argue that humans give their own lives meaning. People do this by living their lives in a way that is good. They try to make good choices and take an interest in the world around them.

Individuals develop relationships with each other which connects them to a wide range of people, ideas and the world. In this way, each human being can find meaning in their own lives through their ideas, thoughts and actions.

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Non-Existence of Gods

Not all atheists are humanists but most humanists are atheists.

This means that humanists do not believe in a god. They rely on science and point to scientific evidence only. Humanists argue that they have not come across any evidence to prove that a god exists now or has ever existed.

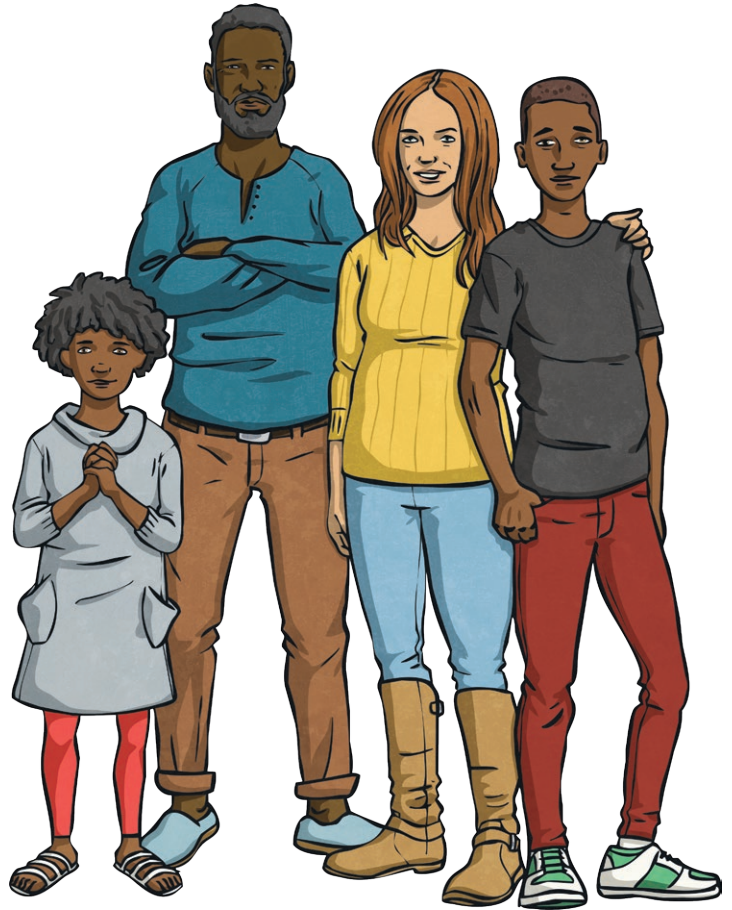
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Meaning of Life

Humanists would argue that humans give their own lives meaning. People do this by living their lives in a way that is good, based on reason.

Humans make choices and take an interest in the world around them. They develop ideas and give opinions, as well as pursue their own interests.

Individuals develop relationships with each other which connects them to a wide range of people, ideas and the world. In this way, each human being can find meaning in their own lives through their ideas, thoughts and actions.



Ethical Decisions

Humanists argue that in order to live good lives, humans need to make decisions by considering the positive and negative consequences of their actions. They do not believe it is possible to make perfect choices but we can use the information we have to make good choices for ourselves and others.

For example:

- We think about how to behave, knowing how it will make ourselves and other people think and feel.
- We can consider whether our actions will cause harm, and find alternative solutions to the problems that we are experiencing.



No Purpose to the Universe

Humanists don't believe in a god or that the universe was created by a god. They argue that the creation of the universe happened by chance or accident and there is no purpose or reason as to why the universe exists. (Religious people or deists would state that God created the universe and it has a purpose.)



Science

The scientific method is a way of observing, measuring and conducting experiments. It is designed to help work out what is true by stating ideas and gathering evidence to support them. Scientists are expected to report their findings honestly and find the truth.

Rationality and Reason

Humanists believe that we shouldn't be ruled by our feelings. Instead, we should think about how we feel, and act based on reason, rationality and logic.

Reason: A statement or fact that explains why something is the way it is - why someone does, thinks, says or behaves in a certain way.

Rational: Ability to think about things clearly, in a logical way. Ideas are based on facts, not on emotions or feelings.

Rationality: Being rational, being able to reason, holding rational opinions or beliefs.



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