



CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte

The Cosmic Walk ritual was designed to provide some sense of the time and space of the universe story. This great mysterious story is still unfolding. What actually gave the initial spark of life remains a mystery. The creative power of this mystery is expressed in the first flaring forth of the original fireball over 13.8 billion years ago.

Allow ourselves to be drawn into the mystery and history of the unfolding universe, planet Earth, the emergence of life and our own evolutionary story as we walk this amazing journey.

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COSMIC WALK

1

The Great Flaring Forth

In the beginning was the Word: Dream: Dabar (translates as energy). The Great Flaring Forth 13.8 billion years ago was the first burst of Divine Energy. It held within itself everything that would be the Cosmos which is still evolving. The flowing water speaks of this creative energy which manifests itself in the vast diversity of life. The Human Being is potentially present from the first Flaring Forth, therefore we are part of the unfolding universe not merely onlookers.



COSMIC WALK

2

Galaxies

A billion years later, the primal stars, and galaxies took shape. Within the galaxies stars are born, live and die. Birth, death and resurrection is an ancient theme of the Universe.



3

Solar System

4.6 billion years ago our grandmother star within the Milky Way Galaxy gives up her life in a supernova event creating a whole new range of elements, out of which our Solar System is born.

“There she goes; the Blue Lady in white lace...I had the indescribable feeling that my maternal Planet was actually breathing...faintly sighing in her sleep. Flying back to Earth I felt like a small boy going home to his mother.”

Neil Armstrong



4

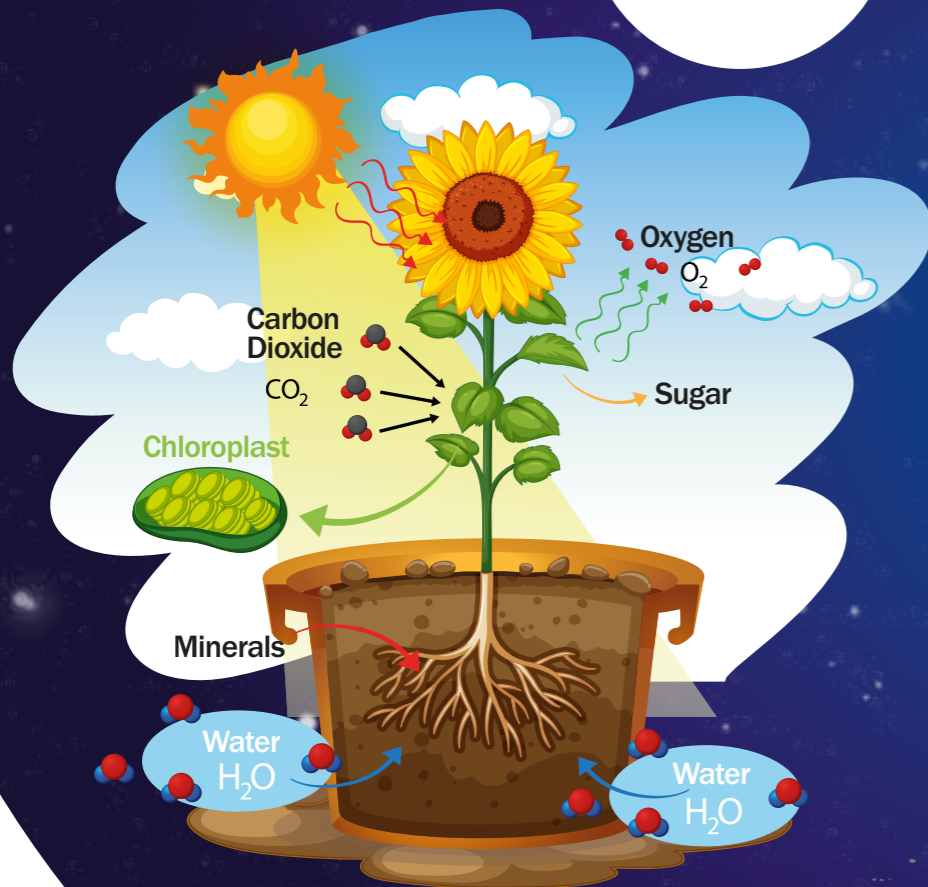
Photosynthesis

3.9 billion years ago life emerges.
Photosynthesis begins.

Scientific Formula: $6\text{H}_2\text{O} + 6\text{CO}_2 = \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 + 6\text{O}_2$

“For the rest of my life, I want to reflect on what light is.”

Albert Einstein




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Biodiversity

Through photosynthesis there is an explosion in biodiversity. Sexual reproduction evolves – 1 billion years ago. Through 4.5 billion years history of earth, living things interact and evolve in habitats called topsoil, grasslands, forests, swamps, deserts, rivers, lakes, and oceans. Healthy habitats contribute to a stable and healthy earth.



“Sun and Earth awakened Earth’s life...Earth’s life is lightening embodied and made flesh.”

Brian Swimme and
Thomas Berry

“...all things are connected. Whatever befalls the Earth befalls the sons and daughters of the earth. Man does not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. What he does to the web he does to himself.”

Chief Seattle 1854

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6

Visual perception

Organisms develop eyesight half a billion years ago. Earth sees herself for the first time and is dazzled. Visual perception is the ability to interpret the surrounding environment.

"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."

Helen Keller

