

WHY IS OUR SKY BLUE?

WITH THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

In many places Al-Quraan urges us to observe Allah (S.W.T.)'s creation to gain wisdom and come closer to him.

In Sura al-Ghasiya (ch. 88) verse 18 we are reminded:-

“And (look) at the sky, how it is raised high?”

If you are standing on the moon, gazing at the earth, the sun is shining brightly, but the sky above will be black as ink. The sky on the moon is always black, while the sky from the earth is blue.

Why?

Remember, if we did not have any air, the sky, from earth would have been black!

On earth the sky is only black at night. As soon as the sun rises high in the sky, it becomes blue.

It gets this colour from the sunlight passing through the air.

Sunlight has all the colours of the rainbow.

These colours are scattered as they pass through the air.

The colour blue is scattered most of all.

At sunrise or sunset, the sun's light comes to us through all the hot, dusty, smoky air close to the ground.

The smoke and the dust make the other colours, such as yellow, orange and red, to scatter.

Then the sky appears orange, or red, and the sun looks like a big orange ball.

If the air is clear, the evening sky may be only slightly pink.

Erupting volcanoes often throw a lot of dust high into the air.

While the dust is floating in the air, the sky will be very brightly coloured at sunset and dawn!

Worksheet

1) What gives colour to the sky?
