"What About the Ice Age?"

My son told his teacher that he was tired of learning about the Ice Age because there is nothing about it in the Bible and he shouldn't have to learn about things that aren't in the Bible. Any advice?

The quick and simple answer to your question is that yes, there was an ice age, but there is disagreement as to its extent, length of time, and actual time of occurrence. Standard old earth (this would include old earth creationists; see our article Christian Views of Science and Earth History) rendering concludes that there were several ice ages over the last 50,000 years with the ice advancing and retreating several times. Young earth creationists also accept an ice age but there was only one and it occurred much more recently (within the last 10,000 years) as a post-flood event.

The dilemma you write about can indeed prove difficult for young minds at times. They have difficulty drawing a distinction between learning about something and believing it is true. In my article How to Talk to Your Kids about Creation and Evolution I address this in section seven titled, "Responding to Evolutionary Theory." I basically suggest you tell your kids that simply demonstrating knowledge about evolution is not the same as believing it. You can always phrase your answer this way, "According to evolution . . ." This way you can demonstrate you understand the material but not necessarily believe it. I also address this in the section "Cultivate a Teachable Spirit" in the article Campus Christianity.

I think you'll find both of these articles helpful.

Respectfully,

Ray Bohlin Probe Ministries