

CELEBRATIONS/FESTIVALS

KEY STAGE 1

CELEBRATIONS

- ❖ Birthdays

FESTIVALS

- ❖ Light

KEY STAGE 2

CELEBRATIONS

- ❖ Feelings
- ❖ Joining and belonging

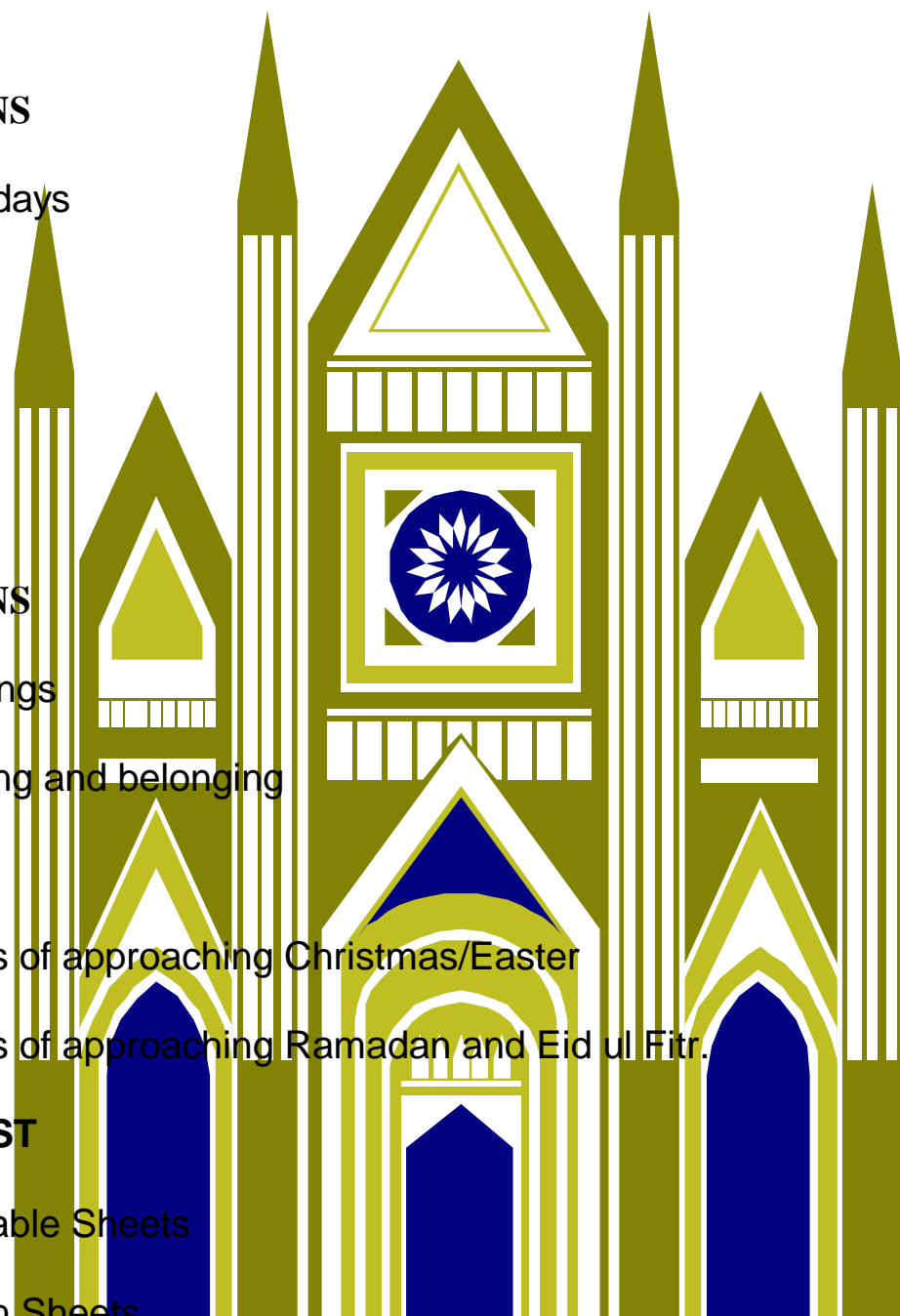
FESTIVALS

- ❖ Ways of approaching Christmas/Easter
- ❖ Ways of approaching Ramadan and Eid ul Fitr.

RESOURCE LIST

Photocopiable Sheets

Information Sheets



Celebrations/Festivals

KEY STAGE 1 - CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

1. Read a story about birthdays - make a chart showing what month children's birthdays fall in.
2. Discuss why we celebrate birthdays - does everybody celebrate birthdays?
3. Plan a birthday party - food, cards, games, invitations, give children jobs to help run party.
4. Discuss/reflect on the party. What was good?
5. What special birthdays do people celebrate? Queen, Jesus, Muhammad, Guru Nanak.



KEY STAGE 1 - FESTIVALS



LIGHT - FESTIVALS OF LIGHT

1. Why do we need light? How does it make you feel?
2. Light in festivals
 - Chanukiah - Story of Judas - candlestick
 - Diwali - Rama and Sita - make Divas
 - St Lucia - Lucy Crown
 - Christingle - make a Christingle
 - Advent - wreath/advent candle

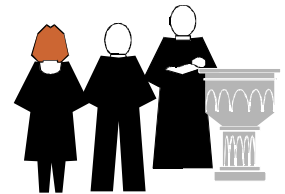
Explore festivals, discuss stories, make artefacts connected with light over several weeks.

3. Why do they use light? What does it mean?

KEY STAGE 2 - CELEBRATIONS - SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

FEELINGS:

1. **Happy**
- When do you feel happy?
eg on birth celebration
on marriage celebration
 - How do we mark these occasions?
eg christenings/baptism



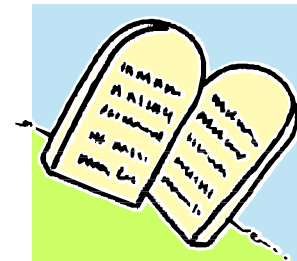
- Sikh naming ceremony.
Muslim birth call to prayer and declaration of faith.
Hindu name giving samskar (Namkara).
- Sikh marriage ceremony.
Muslim marriage ceremony.
Hindu Upanayana rite of passage to manhood.

Activities: Bring in photographs, special clothes, gifts.
Investigate names for different religions.
Gifts for babies/couples.

2. **Sad:**
- When do you feel sad?
eg on death of pet, friend, family member
 - How we mark these occasions.
 - Beliefs about death.

- Christianity belief in continuity of life after death. Sikhism - sleep and rebirth.
Hinduism - funeral samskar (purification and pyre).

Activities: Time capsule - what would you be remembered by?



JOINING AND BELONGING



- Which organisations do children belong to?
eg scouts, brownies, church groups, family.
- What does it mean to belong to something?
- Uniforms, meeting place, times, rules to follow.

Special ceremonies of initiation:

- What promises are made when joining various clubs.
- Amrit ceremony (Sikhism)
- Confirmation
- Bar Mitzvah

KEY STAGE 2 - FESTIVALS

Suggested Activities

1. Christmas

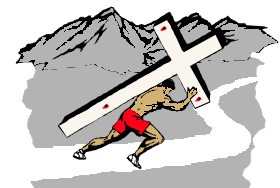
- Story of journey and birth - role play, feelings and emotions, birth certificate.
- Story of kings - significance of gifts, nativity scene.
Wise Men - what would you have brought?
- Story of shepherds - role play
- writing from view point.
- Newspaper article: Birth of Jesus.



2. Easter

Key Stage 1

- New life - hatching eggs, growing seeds.
- Easter gardening.
- Traditions - cards, decorated eggs, baskets, egg rolling.



Key Stage 2

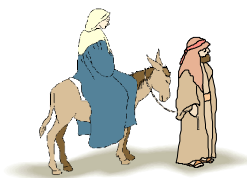
- Shrove Tuesday - make pancakes
- Ash Wednesday - chart of "confessions" and hopes for doing well.
- Lent - making choices between essentials and luxuries.
- Easter - stations of the cross, ordering.

CHRISTMAS

Different ways of approaching this topic:

KEY STAGE 1

- Simple narrative
- Animals
- Gifts
- Happy lights
- Special journeys
- Welcoming babies



KEY STAGE 2

- Lights
- Preparations and promises
- Customs
- Christmas round the world
- Bethlehem 2000 years ago (newspaper)
- Full narrative, including Epiphany.
- Victorian Christmas
- Christmas and commercialism



eg **Gifts**

The best present ever.

Look at giving presents (activity to show brightly wrapped, or biggest parcels are not necessarily the best

inside).

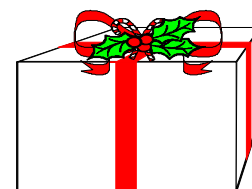
Best gifts may be free eg smiles, hugs and cuddles.

Feelings on receiving a gift.

Importance of saying thanks - may not receive gift in return story of St Nicholas.

Gift of Jesus - what sort of gift?

My gift box (to make) eg help out at home, feed the cat.



Progression:

God's greatest gift.

St Lucia.

Babushka and Papa Panov stories.

Secrecy aspects of present.

Symbolism of gifts - 3 wise men/shepherds.

'Amahl and the Night Visitors' Faber and Faber.

WAYS OF APPROACHING RAMADAN AND EID UL FITR

EID UL FITR

Suggested Activities for Key Stage 1

- Make a prayer mat - discuss its use, reasons for prayer.
- Discuss Ramadan - when is it light? What time does it get dark?
- Why do people not eat? What do they do instead?
- Put aside some time for reflection/make a special area.
- Celebrating Eid - plan a party, food, clothes, design cards, think of presents for your family.

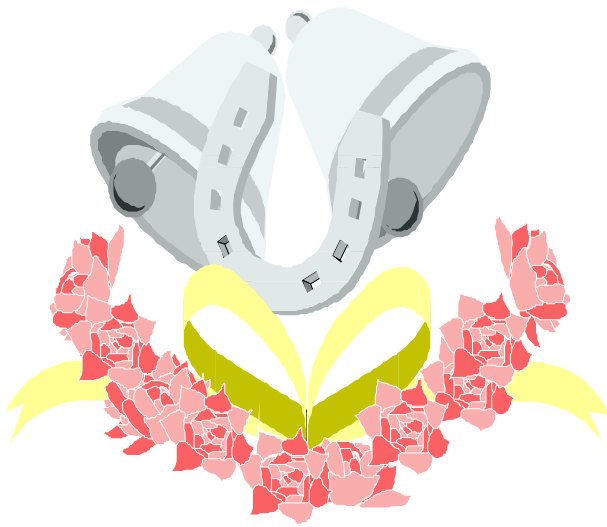
KEY STAGE 2

- Find sunrise and sunset times from local paper.
- Use traditional black string/white string method to decide when sunset/sunrise is.
- Plan nutritious meal for sunset time and nutritious breakfast to eat before sunrise.
- Sponsored "Go without playtime tuck" week.
- Plan party to celebrate Eid ul Fitr.

Invitations
Presents
Food
Entertainment

- Design welcoming card or jewellery for Eid celebration.
- Write diary entry for last day of Ramadan and Eid ul Fitr.

Other suggested topics - celebrations



Babies

Weddings

Birth celebrations

Memories

Belongings

Names

Beginnings

Festivals

Harvest - Food around the World

Chinese New Year

Hindu Festivals

Holi

Christmas

Easter

Sikh Festivals

New Beginnings

Founders Birthdays



Resources Celebrations And Festivals

CELEBRATIONS

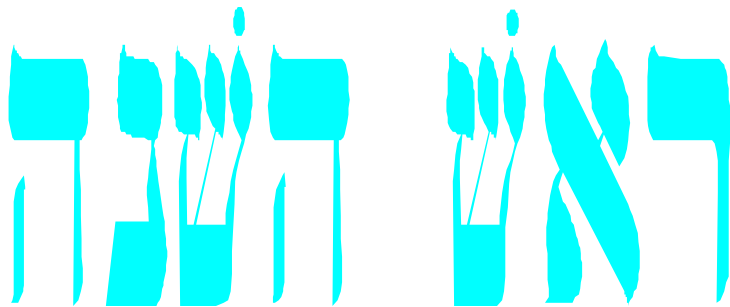
Ideas Bank Sikhism/Hinduism/Islam		Folens
Brainwaves Christianity	C Moorcroft	Folens
Westhill Project Muslims 1	G Reed and J Rudge	Stanley Thornes
Instant Art for Teaching Christianity	H Thacker	Palm Tree
Christianity, Islam, Sikhism Bk4	C Moorcroft	Folens
The Christian Experience	J F Aylett	Howler and Stoughton
Special Times	P Emmett and S Hort	Folens
Understanding Religions: Birth Customs	L Rushton	Wayland
Marriage Customs	A Compton	Wayland
Initiation Customs		Wayland
I Wonder	K O'Donnell	Hooter and Strongton

FESTIVALS

Instant Art for Teaching Christianity	H Thacker	Palm Tree
The Christian Way	K O'Donnell	Howler and Stoughton
Christianity, Hinduism Bk1	C Moorcroft	Folens
Christianity, Judaism, Bk3	C Moorcroft	Folens
Exploring a theme `Festivals of Light`		CEM
Living Festivals series:		
Christianity	J Mayled	RMEP
Islam	J Mayled	
Judaism	J Mayled	
Sikhism	J Mayled	
Hinduism	J Mayled	
Ideas Bank Festivals	E McCreory, C Moorcroft,	Folens

	L Prior	
Shap calendar of Religious Festivals (updated annually)	Shap Working Party	National Society
Teaching RE series Festival 5-11 Christmas 5-14 Copy master RE Celebrations 5-11 Easter 5-11	J & P Curtis	Folens
First Topics - Spring	D J Taylor	BFSS
Blueprints `Easter`	J A Palmer	Folens

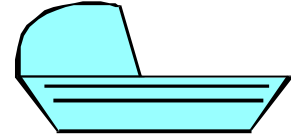
ROSH HASHANAH



JEWISH BIRTH

Activity 3: Moses The Infant

- Consult a map and travel brochures to look at the present route to Egypt and if possible get an old map. Show the children the River Nile and the area called Goshen where the Israelite slaves lived.
- Show the class a `Moses Basket'. Tell them what it is called and ask them if they know why this type of basket has this special name. Tell the children the story of Moses.
- Act the story of Moses' adoption by Pharaoh's daughter.
- The Princess looked into the Moses basket.



`It's a baby', she cried and as the other girls crowded round her she lifted the little boy into her arms and cuddled him.

Your Highness, it is an Israelite child', said one of the Princess' friends. The child was wrapped in an Israelite shawl. `Yes, I know that', replied the Princess, `but he belongs to me now. I shall call him Moses, that means "drawn from the water."

`But, how can you look after him?' one of the young girls asked. `Your father will know he's an Israelite'.

`I shall find a nurse for him', said the Princess.

Miriam, listening behind the trees, ran from her hiding place.

`I can find you a nurse, your Highness', she said, curtseying to the Princess. The Princess looked at her and nodded.

`Fetch me a nurse now', she ordered and Miriam ran home at once.

A few minutes later, the Princess was handing the baby back to his own mother, Jochebed.

`Look after him for five years and then bring him to me at the palace', she said. `You will be paid well'.

As Miriam and Jochebed went away with little Moses safely in his mother's arms, one of the Princess' friends said `You know, Princess, that's probably the child's own mother', she said.

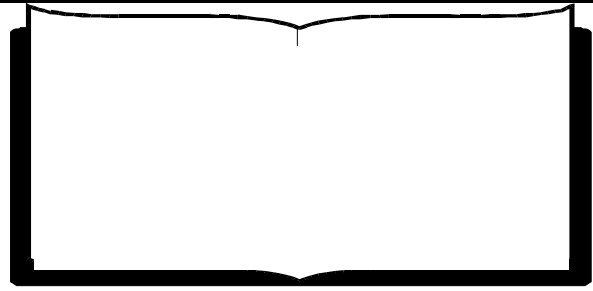
`Yes of course it is'. the Princess said. `Who can look after a child better than his own mother?'

Five years later Moses, the Israelite child, become Prince Moses, adopted son of the Princess.

Exodus Chapter 6, Verse 20.

Diwali

Diwali celebrates the home-coming of Rama and Sita, after they had been sent away from their kingdom.



People at the time wanted to welcome them home and so they decorated their houses.

At Diwali many Hindus decorate their doorsteps with rangoli patterns and put lights in their windows.

- ❖ Complete and colour a rangoli pattern in this box. A rangoli pattern has symmetry.



- ❖ Doorsteps and lights in windows welcome people. Explain why these symbols are used at Diwali.

TITLE OF UNIT: _____

KEY STAGE: _____ **AIMS:** _____

YEAR: _____

Programme of Study	Key Questions	Key Words	Activities	Resources	AT

An Outline of Basic Beliefs and Practices of Major Religions

	PLACES OF WORSHIP	SPECIAL DAY	NAME(S) OF GOD	PROPHETS	FESTIVALS	HOLY BOOK
CHRISTIANITY	Church	Sunday	GOD - The Father; The Son (Jesus); The Holy Spirit	Old Testament Prophets + John the Baptist	Easter - New Life Christmas - Light Whitsun - Holy Spirit Harvest	Bible - Old Testament New Testament
HINDUISM	Manhir (Temple)	No special day Prayers in temple every day	One God in many forms eg Brahma Vishnu, Shiva etc	No Prophets but recognises religious teachers/gurus as providing guidance to people	Diwali - Light; Good Evil; New Year Navaratri - Mother Earth Holl - Spring Raksha Bandhan - Brother/Sister	Vedas Upanishads Mahabharata (which includes the Bhagavadgta)
ISLAM	Mosque	Friday - Day of Special Prayer	Allah	Old Testament; Prophets; Jesus; Muhammad	Ramadan - Fasting Eid-UI-Fltr - End of Fasting Haji - Pilgrimage	Gu'ran
JUDAISM	Synagogue	Friday evening to Saturday evening	Yhwh (Yahweh)	Old Testament Prophets (Moses most important)	Passover (Pesach) - Deliverance Succot - Harvest Rosh Hashanah - New Year Yom Kippur - Atonement Chanukkah - Light Purim - Story of Esther	Torah (First 5 books of Old Testament) Talmud (interpretations)
SIKHISM	Gurdwara	Sunday in Britain but variable elsewhere	One God (Sat Naam - Truth)	10 Gurus Guru-Nanak; Angad; Amar Das; Ram Das; Arjan; Hargobind Singh; Har Rai; Tegh Bahadur; Gobind Singh	Valsakhi - New year Diswal - As Hindu + release of Hargobind Singh from prison Holl - Spring	Guru Granth Sahib
BUDDISM	Temple			Buddah		Vedas