

WHY DO PEOPLE PRAY?

Curriculum Subject - RE

Summary

Through the study of different religious and spiritual ways of life, pupils will study the practice of prayer, along with the symbols, words and significance of prayer.

The will consider some key beliefs about prayer, so that pupils can develop thoughtful ideas and viewpoints of their own about prayer.

Key Facts

1. Christians, Muslims and Hindus all pray both at home and in a specific place of worship, although they all pray in different ways.
2. The Hindu Gayatri Mantra is used by millions as a morning prayer.
3. The First Surah of the Qu'ran is used in Muslim prayer five times a day.
4. The Lord's Prayer is used worldwide by Christians.
5. Atheists believe it is more use to be kind or to help someone than to pray for them.
6. Some people are spiritual but not religious and like to pray in their own way.

Key Vocabulary

1. **Mosque** - A place of worship for Muslims.
2. **Makkah**- Also known as Mecca, is the holiest city in Islam.
3. **Subha Beads** – Muslim prayer beads.
4. **Mandir** - A place of worship for Hindus.
5. **Puja tray** - A tray of objects used in Hindu prayer.
6. **Reflection** - Serious thought or consideration.



Questions We Will Ask

1. What is prayer? Is prayer helpful? How could we answer this question?
2. What happens in Islamic prayer? What does this show us about Muslims beliefs and ways of life?
3. How and why do Christians like to pray?
4. How do Hindus pray and worship at home and in the Mandir?
5. What is similar and different in the words of three prayers (Muslim, Christian, Hindu)
6. What more can we discover? Does reflection matter to me?
7. Prayers and me: why do some people pray every day, but others not at all?
8. What have we learned from Muslims, Hindus and Christians about prayer, symbols and worship?

