

IF GOD IS EVERYWHERE, WHY GO TO A PLACE OF WORSHIP?

Curriculum Subject - RE

Summary

You will learn about worship, drawing out more detail, history and diversity through focussing on places of worship.

You will consider how believers see these places and think about the idea of God's presence on earth and in believers' lives.



Facts

1. A place of worship is a building used for collective worship that fulfils special functions in the lives of believers.
2. Anglican and Baptist churches are both Christian places of worship but the way worship is performed in each church differs e.g. an Anglican church will have a font for a child to be baptised over but a Baptist church will have a large pool deep enough for an adult to be submerged in.
3. A Mandir is a Hindu temple and means 'dwelling place' in Sanskrit. Hindus worship at both the Mandir and their home shrines.
4. Jews worship in a synagogue - meaning house of assembly. It is sometimes call by the Yiddish word shul (pronounced shool) - meaning school. Men are expected to cover their heads with a kippah whilst at worship and, in orthodox synagogues, men and women do not sit together.
5. Prayer in a Mosque takes place on prayer mats with the worshippers facing in the direction of Mecca (the holiest city of Islam), worshippers take off their shoes and wash before entering the mosque. There are no pictures or images of people or animals - decoration is ornate but takes the form of, often symmetrical, patterns.

Questions We Will Ask

1. What is a place of worship? What is it for?
2. What is a Christian place of worship? What is it for?
3. What is a Hindu place of worship? What is it for?
4. What is a Jewish place of worship? What is it for?
5. What is a Muslim place of worship? What is it for?
6. Are people more important than the place?

Photo
Caption

Key Vocabulary

Anglican, Baptist Denominations within the Christian church

Mandir, Shrine, Hindu places of worship

Murti An image, statue or idol in Hindu culture

Om The sound of a sacred Hindu symbol

Synagogue/Shul (pronounced shool) A Jewish place of worship