







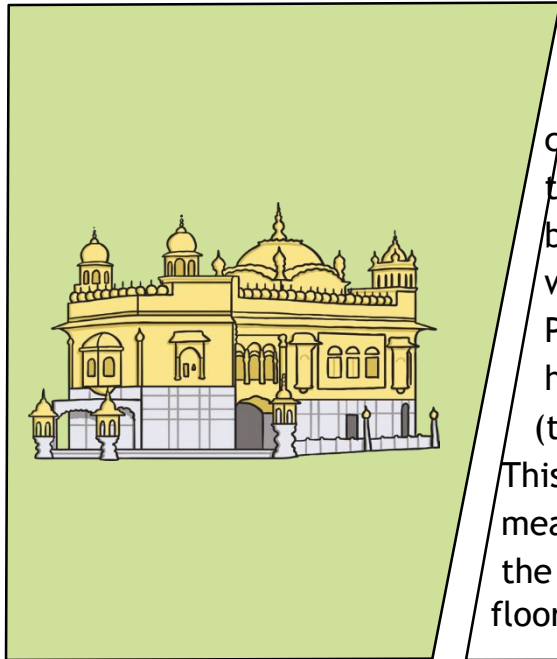
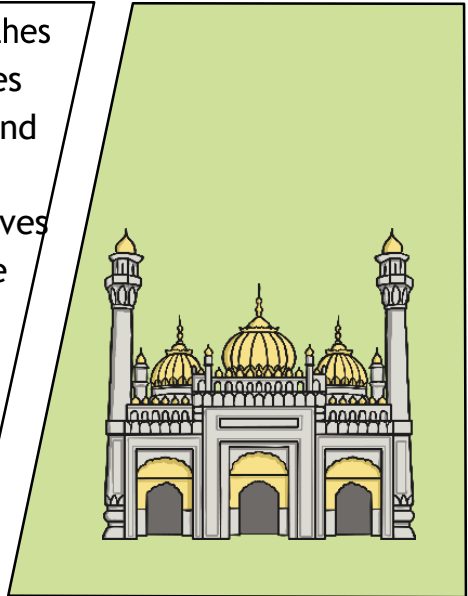
Key Vocabulary

<b>worship</b>	To act in a way that shows great respect and/or love for someone.
<b>place of worship</b>	A building or space where people <b>worship</b> . They may go to pray alone or <b>worship</b> with others. They might go for an important ceremony.

Religion	Symbol	Meaning
Buddhism		'Dharmachakra' or the 'Dharma Wheel' represents Buddhist law.
Christianity		The cross symbolises Jesus and his resurrection.
Hinduism		'Om' or 'Aum' symbolises the universe and ultimate reality.
Islam		The name 'Allah' (God) for Muslims. Allah cannot be drawn.
Judaism		The 'Star of David' represents Judaism.
Sikhism		The 'Khanda' represents Sikhism.

Islam and Mosques

People should wear clothes that cover their arms and legs when they visit. Shoes are taken off when you enter. Pictures of humans and animals are not allowed in **mosques**. Instead, you might see patterns on the wall. People clean themselves in the **ablutions area** before praying. **Mosques** have prayer rooms. The main prayer room is called the musallah. Prayer mats are used for praying. Muslims all face towards **Mecca** when they are praying. Usually men and women pray in different spaces. They can use prayer beads to help them focus.



Sikhs and Gurdwaras

A **gurdwara** has four doors to show that people from all corners of the world are welcome. Any place that has a Guru Granth Sahib (the Sikh holy book) can be called a **gurdwara**. Everyone who enters covers their head to show respect. People also take off their shoes and wash their hands. The holy book is found in the main hall (the Darbar Sahib). Near this is the langar. This is a large kitchen where free vegetarian meals are made. Sikhs help each other prepare the food and when they eat it, they sit on the floor to show they are equal.

## Christianity and Churches

Christians believe in just one god. They believe that God created the world and all people. The special place of worship for Christians is called a church. Churches are often in the shape of a cross, as this is an important symbol for Christians. Inside a church, you will find a copy of the Christian holy book, the Bible. This is often placed on a lectern. There will also be an altar (where **Holy Communion** takes place) and a **font**.



## Hinduism and Mantras

Hindus believe in a supreme god called Brahma. They also believe that people live more than one life and that if they have done good things in this life, **karma** will mean that they will have a good next life.

The Hindu place of worship is called a mandir, or Hindu temple. Not all Mandirs look the same but there are certain parts of the buildings that have special meaning. For example, the towers of a mandir remind Hindus that their spirits will reach heaven. Inside a mandir, you will find **murtis**. You might also find **yantras**.



## Buddhism and Buddhist Temples

Every **Buddhist temple** has at least one statue or image of **Buddha** so that Buddhists can thank him for his teachings and show him respect. **Buddhist temples** do not all look the same from the outside. Each **temple** is designed to symbolise the five elements. The earth is represented by the square base of the **temple**. Wisdom is shown by the pinnacle at the very top. The spire represents fire. The crescent of a **temple** represents air and the dome represents water. Inside the **temple**, you might see incense burning, prayer wheels and the **Three Jewels**. People often meditate there. They use **malas** and **mantras** to help them. You might also see monks and nuns.

## Judaism and Synagogues

The Jewish place of worship is called a synagogue. Most people in a synagogue cover their heads. Men wear a special cap called a kippah. The Jewish special book is called the Torah. It is sometimes placed on the **bimah** or kept safe in the **ark**.

An important set of rules in the Torah is the Ten Commandments, which Jewish people believe God gave to Moses. They try to keep all Ten Commandments throughout their lives.

