

Unit title	Year	Background notes
<b>Why are prayer and the mosque important to Muslims?</b>	<b>5</b>	<p>This unit encourages pupils to explore the idea of prayer in general as well as looking at the importance of prayer/worship in Islam. (The word which Muslims use for this activity can be translated as either prayer or worship.) Welcoming a range of Muslim visitors to the classroom (including pupils) to talk about their beliefs will add to the pupils' understanding of what prayer means to individual Muslims. Redbridge RE has very positive relationships with local mosques and religious leaders, which could lead to stimulating visits.</p> <p><b>Please note</b></p> <p>The activities below are meant only as a guide; teachers should feel free to adapt &amp; develop activities to meet the needs of their individual classes. The key questions &amp; associated activities may need to be spread over a number of sessions to ensure adequate coverage of the learning outcomes.</p>

Key Questions	Key concepts/ vocabulary	Learning Outcomes	Suggested activities	Resources
<b>What does prayer mean?</b>	Prayer Gesture Reflection Respect God Worship	<p>I can describe some of the things that different religious people do and why they do them (Level 3)</p> <p>I can show understanding of why believers use different ways of expressing what they believe (Level 4)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce a mind-map or class brainstorm about the concept of prayer. This could include ideas about who people pray to, what they pray for, what helps people to pray, whether people pray alone or together, and the places where people pray</li> <li>Focus on physical positions that people use when praying. Paired work using worksheet on 'Positions that people adopt for Prayer': discuss how you can tell people are praying and what the different gestures might mean</li> </ul>	Worksheet in: Scholastic Curriculum Bank RE, Bk 2, pp102-103, 155

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<p><b>What does prayer mean to Muslims?</b></p>	<p>Belief Five Pillars</p>	<p>I can describe some of the things that Muslims do in prayer and why they do them (Level 3)</p> <p>I can ask questions and make statements about the meaning and purpose of reflection (Level 4)</p>	<p><b>If parts of the following 2 lessons are to be used as an assessment task, see separate sheet.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video about the Five Pillars of Islam and the importance of prayer to a Muslim</li> <li>• Looking at pictures, sections from a video, or a Muslim visitor, talk about the importance of washing before prayer (wudu) and the significance of removing footwear to pray. Discuss the different prayer positions – ask a Muslim pupil to demonstrate or use a website/ video etc to show the positions. Look at a diagram which shows daily times of prayer</li> <li>• Discuss meanings behind some of the sayings (hadith) of the prophet Muhammad about prayer: eg ‘Prayer is like a stream of living water that runs past your door. A Muslim plunges into it five times each day’; ‘Say each of your prayers as if it was your last prayer’. ‘The world is a mosque’. List the ideas that come from them</li> <li>• Pupils write their own short proverbs or wisdom sayings about the importance of prayer or times of quiet reflection, to be made into a class book</li> <li>• Provide the children with the key question: Why is prayer important to a Muslim? and draw out the following points:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. prayer shows submission to God.</li> <li>2. prayer brings the Muslim community together</li> <li>3. is one of the Five Pillars</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p>BBC ‘Pathways to Belief’ programme on Islam</p> <p>Collection of Muslim hadith</p> <p>Website on prayer in Islam</p> <p>Sayings on the Redbridge RE Network website</p>

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<b>What helps Muslims to pray?</b>	Lifestyle Prayer mat Ka'bah Makkah	I can describe some of the things that Muslims do when praying and explain why they do them (Level 3)  I can use religious words to describe some of the different ways in which Muslims show their beliefs (Level 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at a collection of Muslim religious artefacts, such as a prayer mat, prayer beads (tasbeeh), compass showing the qibla, topee, headscarf and share knowledge of what they are and how they might be used</li> <li>Carefully observe the prayer mat and share what you can see eg image of a mosque, the Ka'bah, the alcove representing the direction of Makkah, Arabesque patterns around the edge. Discuss how a prayer mat is used and how a qibla compass might be used to find the direction of Makkah.</li> <li>Look at some examples of Islamic patterns and help children to research Islamic art eg the belief that only God creates life and that Muslims traditionally do not represent living forms in art. Children use their learning to design a prayer mat that uses some of the special features discussed.</li> <li>Individually, children to write a guide about prayer in Islam.</li> </ul>	BBC 'Pathways to Belief' video on Islam  Artefacts: prayer mat, topee, qibla compass, prayer beads  Pictures of Muslims at prayer, the Ka'bah  Muslim prayer times
<b>How does the mosque help Muslims to pray?</b>	Special places Mosque Community	I can use the right religious words to describe features of the Mosque and how Muslims use it (Level 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at pictures of the outside of mosques and see if there are any similarities or differences, such as the dome and minaret (listen to the call to prayer). Pupils could investigate the appearance of mosques around the world using ICT</li> <li>Look at pictures and videos of the inside of a mosque. Discuss each area and what happens there, and its significance</li> <li>Discuss what it might mean to be part of a school community. What other communities do the children belong to? What special benefits come from being part of a community?</li> <li>Link this with the way that the mosque works within the community: as a place of worship, Islamic school for children, community centre, symbol</li> <li>Plan some questions about the mosque and its importance for the Muslim community in readiness for a trip to the Mosque.</li> <li>After the trip, produce follow-up work, based on the features of the mosque and reflections on the experience of the visit</li> </ul>	Recordings of the Call to Prayer  Espresso clip of Mosque  Pictures of mosques, resource books about Islam