

Year 5

Islam

Ramadan and Pilgrimage

OVERVIEW FOR ISLAM – YEAR 5

BELIEFS/ FESTIVALS – RAMADAN AND PILGRIMAGE

Judaism is studied by everyone and Islam one of the options of choice from the three other religions. It is taught for one week every year. The themes are the same for all religions.

BACKGROUND NOTES

Muslims are followers of the religion of Islam, which began in Saudi Arabia around the seventh century. They believe in one God, Allah. There are two main groups of Muslims, Shi'ah and Sunni. The Sunnis are the larger group. Their beliefs are similar but they differ on the forms of leadership. What the children learn in this programme of study is a *middle way*, offering what is most general in Islam. The spelling used is *Makkah* rather than the common version *Mecca* to avoid confusion.

AGE GROUP	THEME	TOPIC	LEARNING OUTCOMES		
			LOOK	DISCOVER	RESPECT
Early years N/R	Special days/ ritual objects	Prayer mats	Special objects	Prayer mats and the Qur'an	What is special for Muslims
Year 1 FS 1	Stories	Muhammad	Special stories	Muhammad	Muhammad is important for Muslim people
Year 2 FS 2	Prayer/home	Prayer at home	Quiet times	Prayer five times a day	Prayer is important for Muslims
Year 3	Places for worship	The mosque	Special buildings	Friday is a day of special prayer. Call to prayer	How Muslim people worship
Year 4	Holy Books	The Qur'an	Important books	The Qur'an. 99 beautiful names of God	The importance of the Qur'an for Muslims
year 5	Beliefs and festivals	Ramadan and Pilgrimage	special times	Shahadah Ramadan, Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ul-Adha, Hajj	Respect for the special occasions for Muslims
year 6	Belonging and values	Guidance for Muslims	Guidance in life	the 5 pillars Zakat	What is important for Muslims

There are **six** major religions in our world.

RE = SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

Christianity



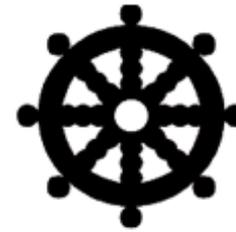
Judaism



Islam



Buddhism



Hinduism



Sikhism





I am a Muslim

Islam is the religion of Muslims. Muslims believe in Allah and his prophet Muhammad.

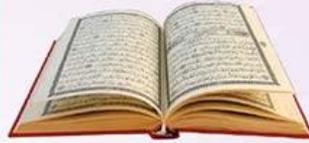
God

I believe that there is only one God, Allah, and that Muhammad was the last prophet sent by Allah.



Holy Book

The imam instructs me from the Qur'an in Arabic. The Qur'an was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by God. It teaches me how to worship Allah and how to behave towards others.



Muslim Festivals

Ramadan: The holy month during which Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset.

Eid-ul-Fitr: A celebration to mark the end of Ramadan.

Eid-ul-Adha: A celebration of Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son to God.

Dietary Customs

I am allowed to eat halal food. Some foods, such as pork, are forbidden, and all food must be prepared in a certain way.



Jihad

As well as following the Five Pillars of Islam, I must understand Jihad and strive to be a good Muslim. Greater jihad is the personal struggle to live a life of obedience to God and to not give into temptation. Lesser jihad is the physical struggle to protect the Islamic faith in the world.

Worship

I pray five times a day, facing Makkah (Mecca), at home or in the mosque. I wash before praying and use a prayer mat. When entering the mosque I take off my shoes. Women and men do not pray in the same area of the mosque.



Five Pillars of Islam

Every Muslim must follow the Five Pillars of Islam.

Shahada: declaration of faith

Salat: praying five times a day

Zakat: giving money to charity

Sawm: fasting during Ramadan

Hajj: pilgrimage to Makkah

Watch this video to refresh your learning about Islam.

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/alien-abduction-islam>

TEACHING POINTS

Whenever Muhammad's name is mentioned Muslims say 'Peace and blessing be upon him' (pbuh)

Look: Special Times

There are special occasions in everyone's life, times when something happens which is different from normal life, times when you do something special, are with people you don't often see or a time of making a special effort for some reason.

Can you think of some in your life?

Discover: Ramadan

The ninth month in the Muslim calendar (which is different from the one used in the UK), is called Ramadan. It is the month when Allah first gave his message to Muhammad. Muslims commemorate this special event by **fasting** for the whole month of Ramadan. If you are very old or very young, or unwell you do not have to fast. Children are introduced to it gradually. It means that Muslims do not eat or drink during daylight hours. It does not just mean not eating or drinking but also trying to do good deeds too, to **spend more time praying and thinking about Allah.**

It also helps Muslims to share the experience of many people in the world who do not have enough to eat. It is hard for Muslim children at school where there are non-Muslims and everyone is eating lunch and having snacks. When it is night time Muslims first eat some dates and then have meal together. Sometimes the local Mosque puts on meals.

Watch these videos to find out more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W94SdiWhtr8&t=57s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAtrG6eCkxA>

Q How do you think fasting helps Muslims?

Q What would you find most difficult about Ramadan?

Q Ramadan happens at different times of the year, which would you prefer summer or winter and why?

Discover: Eid-ul-Fitr

The first day of the month after Ramadan is called: Eid-ul-Fitr, which means 'festival of fast-breaking', it starts when there is a new moon. The Islamic calendar is based on the moon. Muslims are not only celebrating the end of fasting, but thanking Allah for the help and strength that he gave them throughout the Ramadan to help them practise self-control. Eid is also a time of forgiveness, and making amends. At Eid it is expected that Muslims will give a set amount of money to charity to be used to help poor people buy new clothes and food so they too can celebrate.



It is a time when family and friends get together, it lasts for 3 days. Everyone puts on their best clothes and people often buy new clothes. They go to the Mosque for special prayers and come together for a feast. Eid-ul-Fitr is a time for celebrating with good food and presents for children, and giving to charity. Special foods eaten on this day are lamb and sweet dishes. Presents are given and some people have fireworks and decorate their homes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OF4HEGNBRQ>



Think and discuss...

Q How do you Muslims feel when they celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr?

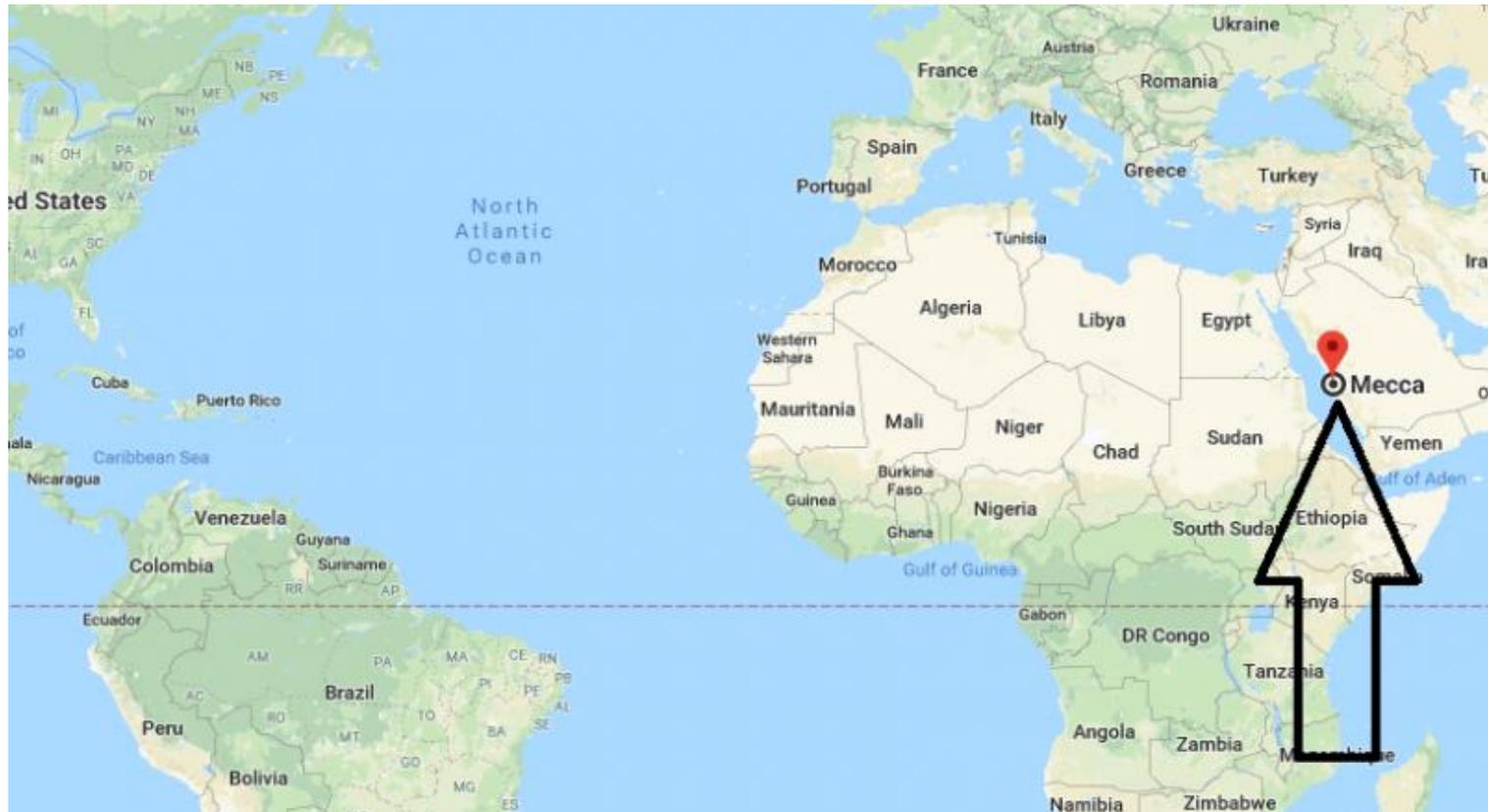
Q What activity links Eid-ul-Fitr with Ramadan?

Q Why is Eid a good opportunity for Muslims to renew their faith?

Q What do Muslims thank Allah for?

Discover and respect: Pilgrimage to Makkah

Every year during the month of Hijja (that is ahul-hijja, 2 months after Ramadan), some Muslims will make a pilgrimage to Makkah. All Muslims are expected if possible to make a pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in their life time.



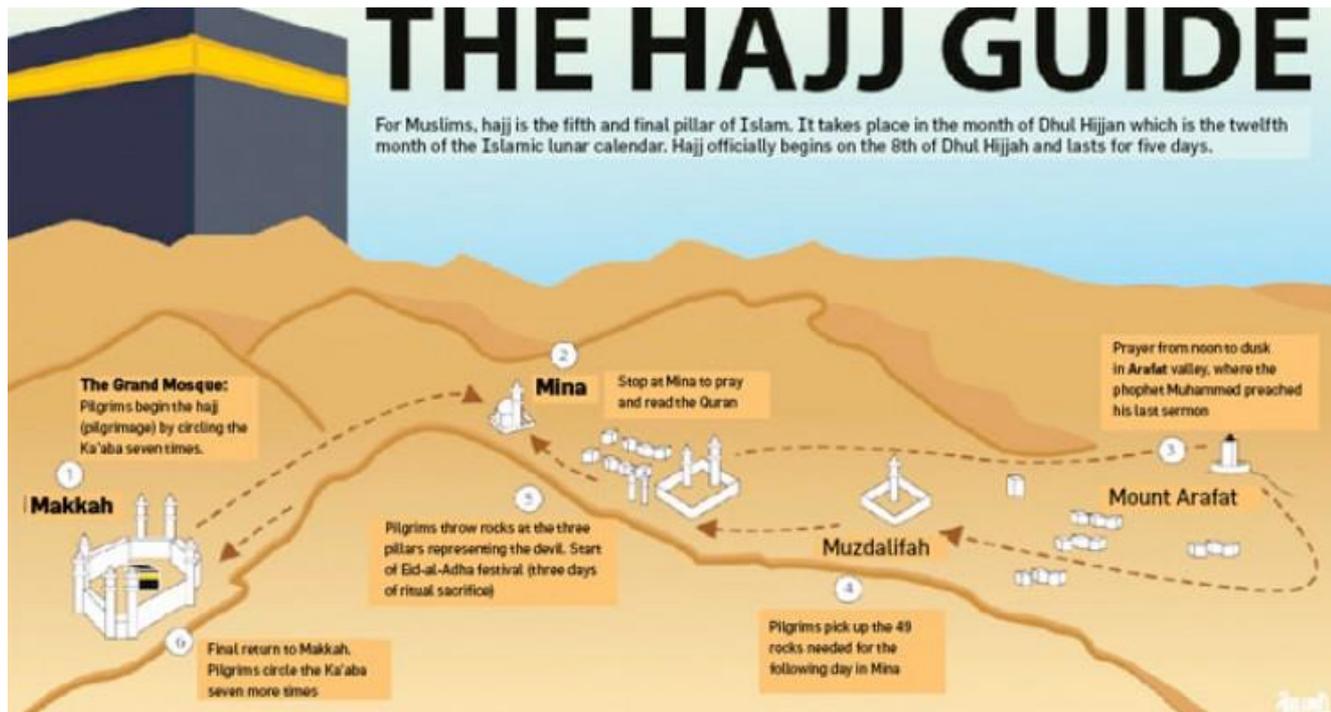
First of all there is day of preparation when the pilgrims have a thorough bath. Then all the male pilgrims put on the ihram, that is two seamless white sheets one of which covers the head. Special shoes are worn with no back to them. Women cover their body except for hands, face and feet. The dress is a symbol of peace, self-denial and obedience to Allah, everyone wears the same as everyone is equal before Allah.



There are several stages of the pilgrimage, spread over a few days. The first is the day of preparation, which is not included in the actual Hajj. On this day pilgrims walk seven times round the holy house known as the Ka'bah, which Muslims believe Ibrahim built. As the pilgrims walk, they say the following prayer: Here I am at your service, O God, here I am!



Then they go to Mina, three miles (4.8km) from Makkah and say prayers in the Mosque there. On the second day, stage four; the pilgrims journey to Arafat to pray. This was where Ibrahim took Isma'il for sacrifice and where Muhammad preached his last sermon. This is the main part of the Hajj. They then travel to Muzdalifa, five miles (8km) away and spend the night there.



Finally pilgrims collect pebbles at Muzdalifa, this is stage five. They return to Mina where they throw the pebbles at three pillars to remember that 'Ibrahim and Isma'il threw stones in their rejection of the devil. Finally the pilgrims return to Mecca, for the feast of Id ul-Adha. A goat or sheep is sacrificed. The pilgrims circle the Ka'ba again.



Hajj helps pilgrims to feel a sense of community, of belonging to Islam, of everyone working together. Everyone who completes this pilgrimage may add the word Hajji to their name or Hajjah if they are a woman pilgrim. When they return home from this very special event in their lives, they often have a celebration with their friends and relations. At the end of Hajj there is a symbolic cutting of hair and nails

to show a return to everyday life. There are three days of relaxation before they return home, often with souvenirs of their pilgrimage.

Watch this video to see a personal experience of Hajj.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ok7-mB62xeE>

Think and discuss...

- Q How is Hajj like our journey through life?
- Q Why do pilgrims wear a special garment?
- Q What does this symbolise?
- Q Why Muslims would what to celebrate on their return from Hajj?
- Q How do you think a pilgrim feel when they return?
- Q What might they tell other people about their experience?
- Q How do you think it might affect their belief?

Show your learning...

Make a leaflet or information poster about Ramadan or Hajj.

Include **what** (facts) a Muslim does to participate and **why** (reasons) certain actions are performed.