



During this unit, children will learn how the nativity story shows Jesus as special and the Christian beliefs about his incarnation and purpose as saviour. They will also read other birth stories from different religions and consider the beliefs and values these also show.

## What I Already Know

Genesis story of Creation by God (1a) and the creation of man to be stewards (1b)  
Hindu belief in creation and of Brahman's essence in all living things (Ahimsa) and the puja ceremony as a thanks offering (1a and 1b)

## Key Questions



Do you know any special people?

What qualities make them special?

How might we show in pictures that they are special/have these features and characteristics?

How do we know from the Nativity story that Christians believe Jesus is more than just a normal human baby?

Which human characteristics of Jesus can everyone admire?

How is the incarnation of Jesus similar to this incarnation of the avatars? What are the main differences between the believed incarnation of Jesus (Son of God, sacrifice, gift of salvation, only one) and the avatars? How is this like the Trinity?

## Key Facts

- Special people have special characters or values, e.g. Leadership, compassion, kindness, helpfulness, honesty, sense of humour
- Special people in religion are shown with a halo around them.
- This is symbolic of their greatness/being special.
- Light is important in many birth stories of special people.
- Many **Christians** believe that **Jesus** is more than a normal human being.
- **Muslims** believe that **Muhammad** is a prophet (messenger) of **Allah** (God)
- Hindus believe that there is part of **Brahman** within each person which forms an individual's **atman** (soul).
- In the Hindu faith, it is also believed that God occasionally appears on Earth in a living form called an **avatar**.
- Reflect on the similarities between the belief of avatar and **Jesus**, the son of God, being born as a human. reflect on the **nativity** and how the angel appeared to Mary and told her about the special baby to be born to her, how the angel told the shepherds that a special baby was born.

## Artefacts

Religious pictures of  
Gautam Buddha,  
Ganesha, Moses

## Key Vocabulary

Atman	Atman refers to a person's 'soul' or 'spirit'. Hindus believe that atman is part of the spirit of Brahman, their ultimate God. Hindus also believe the atman is eternal, meaning it never dies.
Avatar	In Hinduism the different gods can take many different forms, and when they took human forms, the human was their avatar.
Brahman	The ultimate power in the universe
Nativity	the process or circumstances of being born – birth; especially, the birth of Jesus.

## IMAGES



## Useful Websites

Story of the birth of Prophet Muhammad

[Quran Stories | Prophet Muhammad Animated Stories | Birth of Prophet Muhammad \(swa\) - YouTube](#)

Story: The Prophet and the Ants and the Crying camel

[KS1 Religious Studies: The Islamic Story of The Prophet and the Ants and 'The Crying Camel' - BBC Teach](#)

## Home Learning Suggestions

Research special people in your religion. What are their names? Why are they considered as special? What are their values?