



During this unit, we learn about symbols worn to represent different religions, and begin to identify what these symbols represent. For example, in Christianity the cross/crucifix, the tallit/tzitzit and kippah in Judaism and the 5 K's in Sikhism.

What I Already Know

I know that people from different religions wear different symbols to show their faith and beliefs.



Key Vocabulary

Religious Symbol	A symbol is a mark, sign or word to represent a specific religion.
The Cross	A principal symbol of the Christian religion. It is a sign of Christ himself and the faith of Christians.
Crucifix	A representation of a cross with a figure of Christ on it.
5 Ks	In Sikhism, the Five Ks are the five items that are worn to show their faith, these are Kesh, Kangha, Kara, Kachera and Kirpan.
5 Pillars of Islam	These are the basic acts in Islam and are the foundation of Muslim life. The Five pillars are the statement of Faith (shahada), Prayer (salah/salat), giving to those in need (Zakat), Fasting (sawm) and Pilgrimage (hajj).
Hijab	A head covering worn by some Muslim women in public.
Kippah	A cap worn on the head by Jewish men.
Tallit	A tallit is a fringed garment worn as a prayer shawl by religious Jews. The knotted fringes attached in each corner are known as tzitzit. It is usually made from wool or cotton.

Key Facts

- Most of us have objects in our lives that are special. They may hold special meanings to us or remind us of special memories.
- Some things are special just to us e.g. our cuddly teddy, whilst some may have value to lots of people e.g. a treasure chest of gold!
- Symbols are objects/things that stand for something else, e.g. the heart is a symbol of love.
- Many religious people, have special objects and symbols that mean a lot to them.

Artefacts

A Christian Cross



A Jewish Kippah



A Sikh Turban



A Muslim Hijab



Home Learning Suggestions

Ask adults at home if they wear any special religious symbols and what they mean. Draw and label the symbols and explain why they are worn.

Essential Information

The **Cross** is the most important symbol in **Christianity**. It helps Christians to remember that Jesus Christ died on the cross, in order to make up for the sins of humans. The **dove** is a symbol for the **Holy Spirit**, as well as a general symbol for peace, purity, and new beginnings.

In **Judaism**, the main religious symbols worn are the **Tallit, Tzitzit and Tefillin**. The tallit, a special prayer shawl, is worn during prayers and reminds Jews that God is protecting them and also symbolises that they are wrapping God's laws around themselves.

The five religious symbols worn by **Sikhs** are the **Five Ks**, which are: **Kesh** (uncut hair), the **Kara** (a steel bracelet), the **Kanga** (a wooden comb), **Kachera** (cotton underwear) and the **Kirpan** (a steel sword).

In **Islam**, the **Five Pillars** help a Muslim to worship Allah (God) and guide their daily life. The Five Pillars are: The **Shahadah** - There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger, **Salah** - Muslims must pray five times a day, **Zakat** - Giving to those in need, **Sawm** - Fasting during the month of Ramadan and finally **Hajj** - Making the pilgrimage to the holy city of Makkah (Mecca).



Useful Websites

Video clip about the 5 Ks in Sikhism:

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/five-ks-sikhism>

Video clip showing a Jewish prayer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vpKoj8a93s>

Video clip on the 5 Pillars of Islam:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks1-the-five-pillars-of-islam/zv84jhw>