Key Question: 1.1 Who is a Christian and what do they believe?

This unit enables pupils to begin to understand what Christians believe about God and about Jesus as the Son of God. This unit looks at stories about Jesus and stories that Jesus told. The planning gives opportunity for good links with the English curriculum. Teaching in this unit will help children to understand that Christians see God as Father and Creator and Jesus as the Son of God and an inspiration to Christian people. This unit also allow pupils to study prayer and in particular the Lord's prayer.

The investigation implements the **principal aim of RE**, which is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.

1.1 Who is a Christian and what do they believe?

Step 1:

| Select a | Year group: Recommended Year 1 | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| key question | Strand: Believing | | | |
| | Questions in this thread: 1.2 Who is a Muslim and what do they believe? 1.3 Who is Jewish and what do they believe? L2.1 What do different people believe about God? U2.1 Why do some people believe God exists? 3.1 Do we need to prove God's existence? Religions and worldviews: | | | |
| | Christians Make sure that you can explain where this unit/question fits into key stage planning e.g. how it builds on previous learning in RE; what other subject areas it links to, if appropriate. | | | |
| Step 2: | Use the learning outcomes from column 2 of the key question outlines on p36. | | | |
| Select | Select learning outcomes appropriate for the age and ability of your pupils. Being clear about these outcomes will help you to decide what and how to teach. | | | |
| learning | Being clear : | about these outcomes will help you t | o decide what and now to teach. | |
| outcomes | | | | |
| Emerging | | Expected | Exceeding | |
| Talk about the fact that Christians believe in God and follow the example of Jesus (A1). Recognise some Christian symbols and images used to express ideas about God (A3). | | Talk about some simple ideas about Christian beliefs about God and Jesus (A1). Re-tell a story that shows what Christians might think about God, in words, drama and pictures, suggesting what it means (A2). Talk about issues of good and bad, right and wrong arising from the stories (C3). Ask some questions about believing in God and offer some ideas of their own (C1). | Make links between what Jesus taught and what Christians believe and do (A2). | |

Step 3: Select specific content

- Look at the suggested content for your key question, from column 3 in the unit outlines.
- Select the best content (from here, or additional information from elsewhere) to help you to teach in an engaging way so that pupils achieve the learning outcomes.

This plan has selected the following content to exemplify the learning outcomes. Pupils will:

- Share stories that help to show how Christians think of God e.g. the book of Jonah in the Old Testament, the lost son (Luke 15:11–32)
- Describe some of the beliefs that Christians hold about God e.g. all-powerful, loving, close to every person, forgiving.
- Look at art and recognise some symbols and images used to express ideas about God.
- Talk to Christians about what they believe about God.
- Give opportunities for children to reflect on and express their own big questions about life and God, in particular through discussion, art, music and drama e.g responding to the question 'Where is God?' through art.
- Using a suitable children's Bible (e.g. The Lion Storyteller Bible or New International Children's Version), share stories that show the importance of Jesus to Christians e.g. a parable, a miracle, a teaching of Jesus, birth and death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Linking with these stories, describe some of the beliefs that Christians hold about Jesus e.g. that he was kind to people in need, that he performed miracles, that he is the son of God, that he lives.
- Investigate how Christians follow teaching from the Bible about how to live their lives e.g. prayer and worship, treating others kindly. Hear and think about some prayers Christians use.
- Experience thanking and being thanked, praising and being praised, and connect this experience simply to an idea about worship.
- Explore what the idea of God means for the children themselves.

NOTE: This unit of work offers around 10-12 hours of classroom ideas. You need to select from it in order to achieve the learning outcomes set out in Step 2 above.

Step 4: Assessment: write specific pupil outcomes

- Turn the learning outcomes into pupil-friendly 'I can' or 'You can' statements.
- You might adapt these specific outcomes to form 'I can' statements (for pupil self-assessment), 'You can' statements (for teacher assessment), and 'Can you...?' statements (for next steps or challenge)
- Make the learning outcomes specific to the content you are teaching, to help you know just what it is that you want pupils to be able to understand and do as a result of their learning.
- These 'I can'/'You can' statements will help you to integrate assessment for learning within your teaching, so that there is no need to do a separate end of unit assessment.

| Emerging | Expected | Exceeding |
|--|--|---|
| I can | I can | I can |
| You can | You can | You can |
| Can you? | Can you? | Can you? |
| Talk about the fact that Christians believe in God | Describe simply some Christian beliefs about God | Make links between a parable of Jesus and what Christians believe and do as a result of this |
| Talk about the fact that Christians try to do what Jesus taught they should do | Describe simply some Christian beliefs about Jesus | Make links between a miracle of Jesus and what Christians believe and |
| Recognise symbols, pictures and words that Christians use to describe God | Retell a story that shows what Christians believe about God Share what a story about God might mean | do as a result of this Make links between a story about the life of Jesus and what Christians believe and do as a result of this |
| Share some of their own ideas about God | Share what the stories about Jesus say about good, bad, right and wrong | Make links between what Jesus taught about prayer and what |
| | Talk about issues of good and bad, right and wrong related to the stories | Christians do |
| | Ask some questions about believing in God | |
| | Explain some ideas of my own about God | |

Step 5: Develop teaching and learning activities

- Develop active learning opportunities and investigations, using some engaging stimuli, to enable pupils to achieve the outcomes.
- Don't forget the skills you want pupils to develop, as well as the content you want them to understand.
- Make sure that the activities allow pupils to practise these skills as well as show their understanding.