

Year 1. Newton Solney Infant School. RE. Who is Jewish and What do they Believe? Spring 3.

Session 1: What is precious to us?

Show an object to your child that is precious to you - emphasise that it does not have to be precious in terms of money, but in terms of how much it means. Ask your child to think about an object that is precious to them, and why it is precious. Think about all the precious objects that you have around your home.

Some people will have very different objects but similar reasons why they are special. Some people will have something precious linked to their religion. How do we treat these precious objects?

Activity

Ask your child to draw a picture of their precious object and write a sentence about why it is important to them.

To finish off

Talk about different precious items. Will something that is precious to one person be precious to everyone? Why/Why not?

Are there any patterns in why something is precious to you? (Possibly around it being a gift from someone special).

Session 2: What is precious to Jewish People

Remind children about their work last lesson and the precious objects that they thought about.

Explain to your child that many Jewish people may have special objects in their homes that are linked to their religion and that we are going to explore some now. (Judaism is a different religion to Christianity - they believe some of the same things as Christians, but some parts are a bit different).

Look at the 'Through the keyhole' powerpoint showing different precious items that may be found in a Jewish house.

Allow pupils time to look at some of the images in more detail, and decide: do we know what it is called? Do we know what it is for? Do we know anything else about it? Can we guess something else about it? What question would we like answered about it?

Activity.

Children to write questions about one of the objects that they have looked at, to find out more information. Children could write questions for more than one picture if they wish.

To finish off

With an adult to help you - can you look on the internet to find out what the Jewish Holy Book is called. (child safe search engines include <http://mail.kidrex.org/> or <https://www.kiddle.co/>)

Finish the sentences:

The Holy book for Christians is the _____

he Holy book for Jews is the _____

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Session 3: What does a Mezuzah remind Jewish People about?

Look at the 'Through the keyhole' powerpoint from last lesson.

Focus on the mezuzah (the first keyhole picture)

What did they guess about it? Did they ask any questions about the Mezuzah?

What is inside a mezuzah and what does it mean?

Explain that the mezuzah is incredibly important to Jewish people, not just because of the case on the outside, but because of what is inside too.

Explain that the mezuzah is a little box that is on the doorway of Jewish homes.

Activity.

Written on the scroll of paper inside the Mezuzah is the Jewish prayer the 'Shema' - listen to a recording of the Shema in Hebrew.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxO09BUrkMk>

Think about what the first line of the Shema prayer tells Jews about God. Translation: '**Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one.**' Especially think about the last bit of the sentence - 'The lord is one' it tells Jews there is only one God. Christians also believe that there is one God.

Jews touch the Mezuzah each time they go in and out of the house to remind them about God and what is really important to them.

To finish off.

I wonder what is really important to you?

Play some calm background music and allow you child some time to reflect on one of their most important beliefs - is it a belief about God? Nature? How to behave? There is no right or wrong answer, just your own beliefs.

Session 4: What does a Mezuzah remind Jewish People about?

Remind children about the Mezuzah that we learned about last week.

What can they remember about the Mezuzah?

Think together how many Jewish people display the important words of the Shema in their homes inside mezuzah, kiss a mezuzah when they walk past and remember to say the Shema prayer two times every single day. This means many Jewish people must think about the very important words in the Shema a lot of times each day!

Activity

Which words would you like to have displayed to remember every single day? Think about which words would mean something to you, or remind you of something important. It could be a class or house rule, our do be values, a reminder that you are loved, or anything else important to you.

Have a go at making a bookmark with your chosen 'special words' on to help you think about those words each time you see it.

To finish off.

Choose a special place or book to keep your bookmark in. Choose a place where you will see it regularly to remind you of the important message that you have chosen.

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Session 5: Why do Jewish people celebrate Shabbat?

Have you ever heard the word Shabbat before?

It is a holy day each week where many Jewish people rest and really think about God. It is called 'Shabbat'. To know just why Jewish people have Shabbat each week, you need to know a story from the Jewish holy book - the Torah.

Activity.

Share the Jewish story of creation with your child (Script found at the end of this document). Use a 'quick draw' method of telling which involves reading the story and leaving 60 seconds after each day for children to draw a quick picture of it - after around 7 minutes, the pupils should each have their own pictorial version of the story. Your child should recognise the creation story as being the same as the Christian creation story that we learned about last term.

To finish off

Ask pupils to recall what God did on the seventh day of the creation story (rested and made it holy). Help pupils to understand that this is why Jewish people have a holy day where they also rest each week.

Session 6: How and why do Jewish people celebrate Shabbat?

Tell children that they are going to be finding out about how Jewish people celebrate Shabbat each week. Ask them what they have to do at home before they have a special day or a special visitor - think tidying up, food preparation and wearing our good clothes. Watch a video of Jewish preparations for Shabbat.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/z3hyr82>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zs2hyrd>

Activity

Think about the blessing for children on a Friday night: **May God bless you and guard you. May the light of God shine upon you, and may God be gracious to you. May the presence of God be with you and give you peace.** Discuss what these words mean and how the parents are wishing good things for their children.

Ask children to think of what good wishes they would like to say to a member of their own family - write them up and decorate for that person.

To finish off

Children can learn the traditional Shabbat greeting 'Shabbat Shalom' (Shabbat Peace) and practise saying it to other people at home.

The Jewish Creation Story Script (Session 5)

On the first day, God created light and separated it from darkness.

Pause 60 seconds

On the second day, God created the sky

Pause 60 seconds

On the third day, God separated the land and water and created grass, trees and flowers.

Pause 60 seconds

On the fourth day, God created the sun, moon and stars.

Pause 60 seconds

On the fifth day, God filled the seas with fish and other water animals, and He filled the sky with birds.

Pause 60 seconds

On the sixth day, God created all the other animals. He also created people.

Pause 60 seconds

On the seventh day, everything was created and God rested.

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