

Good morning and welcome back
to inquisitive classroom.

Inquisitive number is 1672

Tuesday 26th January 2021

WALT explore what makes a place sacred or holy.



Last time we thought about special places and the reasons we may have for going to a special place.



Some people will visit a special place because it is holy or sacred. What makes a place sacred?

What do you already know?

What do we need to find out?

What makes a place sacred or holy?

What other questions do we need to ask?

What ideas do we have?

Where would you consider to be a sacred building?

What do you know about the buildings for different faiths?

In this video we hear from someone who is involved with keeping part of a building looking amazing but it gives us a very different view of a cathedral.

<https://vimeo.com/486359245>

What do you think when you see the inside and outside of Gloucester Cathedral?

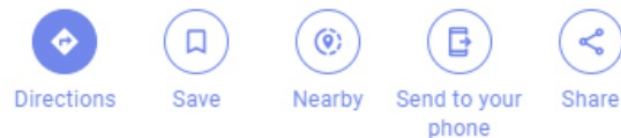
Which words do you associate with it being holy?

How does it make you feel?

There are many scared places close to school. we can investigate some of these on google maps.

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Summerhill+Academy/@51.4617317,-2.54387,17z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x48718fb5d50613cd:0x13bc3c3d979c5409!8m2!3d51.4617284!4d-2.5416813>

If you click on nearby



and then type church or temple or mosque into the search they will appear on the map. If you have the map on satellite mode you can click and see the buildings.

Think about.

Do all the building look the same?

Do they have to be grand?

What do you think make them all sacred?

How many different sacred buildings have we found near our school?

Produce a map to show where some of these buildings are situated. Could a person of any faith find a sacred building to visit?

For many Christians a church or chapel is the holy place they go to. For Muslims this would be the mosque and for other faiths they may visit a temple. What do people of faith get from the building? Which artefacts are important for their spirituality and faith.

While you watch the videos make some notes.

Which are the important artefacts?

Why is the space important?

What do the people gain from their visit?

How does it help their faith?

What makes the building sacred?



Some children explain what is special about their church.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZXi7350tv0>

What will you find inside?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/inside-the-church-what-do-you-need-to-know/zkkcnrd>



Hindu Temple in Neasdon, London

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks2-my-life-my-religion-hinduism-inside-hindu-temple/zbj2t39>



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-education-ks2-my-life-my-religion-east-london-mosque/zmctvk7>

synagogue



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z834wmn>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zrsb9j6>

Where do Buddhists worship?

In Buddhist countries there are many temples. People bring flowers and incense for the shrine and food for the monks.

When entering a temple, Buddhists will take off their shoes, put their hands together and bow to the image of the Buddha. They may also use prayer beads called **malas**.

Some Buddhists may also have a shrine within their home too.



Meditation

This photography shows people meditating at the London Buddhist Centre, Bethnal Green. Buddhists believe that meditation is crucial to understanding the cause of suffering. It is a way to clear the mind of worries and fears.



A Buddhist temple

Wat Buddhapadipa is in Wimbledon, London. It opened in 1976 and was the first Thai Buddhist Temple to be built in the UK. It is home to both monks and nuns.

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/holy-cribs-vihara>

Now that you have gathered information and understand more about what makes a building sacred or holy you are going to produce a guide book.

Your book will provide information for each faith and be useful in helping people understand the importance of each sacred place.

Include information about the artefacts, how the building is set out, what people will gain from being there. Consider how it will impact on their faith and spirituality. Include some pictures and diagrams

Extra info to help.

Hindu mandir designs follow the 'divine principles' of Vishvakarma, the deity responsible for architects and craftsmen. Some common features of a mandir include:

Murtis: sacred images of the deities, which are used as a focus for worship. Faithful Hindus visit the mandir regularly to see the *murtis* and offer reverence to them. Offerings of water, flowers, milk and other items are made to the *murtis* several times a day in sacred ceremonies.

Garbhagriha: (meaning 'womb chamber') an inner-chamber housing the *murtis* (sacred images), which depict the gods to whom the temple is dedicated.

Mahamandapa: the main assembly hall.

Gopuram: a richly decorated tower marking the boundary between the sacred place and the world outside.

Shikhara: towers covered with ornate carvings depicting Hindu mythology and often representing mountain peaks. They are usually built directly over the inner-sanctum. *Shikharas* tend to be found in the north of India, while *gopurams* are often found in the south.

Dhwaja: (meaning 'flag') are flown on the top of the mandir to symbolise faith and worship.

Other features: Some mandirs also contain, kitchens, dining areas, halls for cultural performances, shops selling religious artifacts, books and souvenirs, and racks for removing shoes.

Arabesque and calligraphy:

used to decorate the walls and ceilings of the mosque. The mathematically precise repeated patterns symbolise the infinite nature of God. Arabesque (geometric patterns) often involve ornate floral designs in abstract form, as Muslims believe that living things should not be depicted realistically because God has already created them perfectly. Muslim artwork, therefore, often contains a deliberate error, as it is believed that only God can create things flawlessly.

Domes: represent the universe. As many mosques were originally built in hot countries, high domes were used to help cool the building and aid acoustics, as well as to symbolise power. Domes are often decorated on both the inside and out, with tiled, geometric patterns.

Mihrab: an often ornately decorated niche on the mosque wall, which indicates the direction of the Islamic holy city of Mecca. Muslims must face in this direction for prayer.

Minarets: tall, elegant towers either near or attached to the mosque. Previously used as watchtowers, *minarets* are now used by the *muezzin* (an announcer/caller) to give the *adhan* (call to prayer). The world's tallest *minaret* is part of the Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca, and stands at 210 metres.

Minbar: Islamic equivalent of a pulpit – a raised platform from which the *Imam* (prayer leader) delivers sermons.

Sahn: enclosed courtyard containing a symmetrical pool or fountain, traditionally used for performing *wudu* (washing before prayer).

Shrine room

Contains a picture or statue of the Buddha (called a *Rupa*) who could be standing, sitting, walking or reclining. The Buddha's hand gestures (called *Mudras*) are also symbolic and have specific meanings. Buddhists use a *Rupa* as a focus for meditation. They may show respect for the Buddha by making offerings of incense and flowers. Sometimes monks give talks or read from the holy books.



Stupa

A spiritual monument consisting of a mound or dome. It is usually a cone-shaped tower, representing the Buddha seated on a throne. It may contain holy scriptures and relics. When visiting a temple, Buddhists often walk in a clockwise direction around the *stupa* while chanting mantras.

Pagoda

Developed from the *stupa*, the pagoda consists of a tiered tower. Its five sections represent the five universal elements: wind, fire, earth, water and space.

Courtyard

An area designed for silent meditation. It often contains a fig tree symbolising the Bodhi Tree – a sacred fig tree under which Buddha was meditating when he achieved Enlightenment.

Symbols

Buddhist temples are rich in symbolism. Some common symbols include: *mandala* (circular patterns representing the universe); lotus flower, see image (representing purity, growth and transformation) and The Wheel of Life (representing the cycle of death and re-birth). Prayer wheels, containing prayers or mantras, are used in Tibetan Buddhism. Spinning them is believed to be the equivalent of repeating the prayers orally.

Holy pilgrimage sites

Each site relates to an important part of the Buddha's life. Lumbini, Nepal (his birth place); Bodhi Gaya, India (where he achieved Enlightenment); Sarnath, India (place of his first teaching); Kushinagar, India (where Buddha died and journeyed to Nirvana – a state of perfection).



Altar – A sacred ceremonial table or slab used for Mass or Holy Communion.

Apse – The rounded section of many European churches, located behind the altar and often containing the most elaborate decoration and iconography.

Crypt – A vaulted chamber often beneath the chancel, housing tombs and sacred relics.

Font – A receptacle often made of stone or marble, containing holy water used for baptisms.

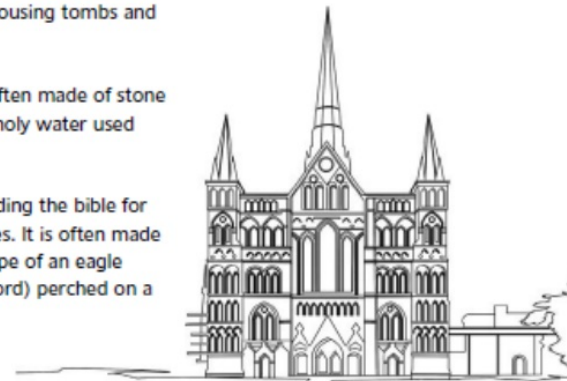
Lectern – A desk holding the bible for readings during services. It is often made of brass and in the shape of an eagle (representing God's word) perched on a sphere (the world).

Pews – Benches providing seating for the congregation. Prior to the late medieval period, Christians would stand for worship.

Pulpit – A raised platform from which the clergy deliver the service.

Stained-glass windows – These are not only decorative, but often served the purpose of being a 'poor man's bible', presenting sacred scenes to those who were unable to read or could not afford a holy book.

Vestry – A room used for parish business and the storing of vestments (liturgical garments and articles).



PM

We are being artists.

WALT respond to the work of an artist

Last time we looked at the work of Claes Oldenburg and focused on his soft sculptures of food.



Write a short fact file about Claes Oldenburg



Use these pictures or find others you prefer.



Choose two pieces of the art and respond them. Why do you like them? How do they make you feel? Why do you think Oldenburg used soft sculpture?

A reminder of Oldenburg's work and how to create your own sculpture in newspaper.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRkNntry7tI>

Some more ideas.

<https://ago.ca/learn/ago-makes/soft-sculpture>

Complete your sketches and enjoy making your final piece.