



Discovery RE Knowledge Organiser Year 3, ages 7-8

This knowledge organiser is a guide, offering key information to point the teacher in the right direction as to the beliefs underpinning the particular enquiry.

The summaries must not be taken as the beliefs of ALL members of the particular religion.

Religion /Worldview: Hinduism	Enquiry Question: Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu?	Age: 7/8 Year Group: 3 Summer 2
In this enquiry, the children look at the importance of the River Ganges to Hindus. They learn about some key beliefs and practices that happen here.		

Core Knowledge (see also background information documents)	Link to other aspects of belief	Personal connection / resonance
<p>This enquiry concentrates on Hindu beliefs about the River Ganges and some of the practices which occur there.</p> <p>The River Ganges is considered to be sacred and spiritually pure for Hindus although in reality it is not a clean river. Because of the purifying nature of the river, Hindus believe that any rituals performed on the banks of the Ganges or in its water will wash away impurity.</p> <p><i>The Puranas</i> (ancient Hindu scriptures) say that taking a dip in the sacred river 'bestows heavenly blessings'.</p> <p>Many Hindus believe that bathing here will help them spiritually. It is also a place where the dead are cremated – Many Hindus believe that this will help them in their next life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cycle of life – reincarnation, karma and rebirth • Stories concerning some deities and sacred places on the Ganges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a special place that I would like to visit one day? • How would I pack for a special journey to a faraway place? • How would I feel if I went there?

Key Terms and definitions	History/Context	Impact on believer/daily life	Spiral curriculum link
<p>Ganges: Sacred river for Hindus -in India</p> <p>Puranas: ancient Hindu Scripture</p> <p>Samsara: the cycle of life and death</p> <p>Moksha: liberation from the cycle of life and death</p>	<p>Hinduism began in India which has many holy rivers. The Ganges is the most important.</p> <p>Huge festivals take place here with millions trying to bathe in the River even though in many places it is not clean or particularly safe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Hindus have holy water from the Ganges in their home shrines • Many Hindus will not be able to go to India, but remembering key events and festivals will help keep the holy sites in their minds. 	<p>Lesson 3 builds on the previous lessons – some of the deities of Brahman have stories involving the Ganges. Pilgrimage to a sacred site would connect Hindus with their history.</p> <p>Year 2 Summer 2 gives a comparable unit on pilgrimage for Muslims on the Hajj.</p>

<p>Home learning ideas/questions:</p> <p>Is there a special place the family would like to go? Why? How would we prepare for a special journey?</p>
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