

Year 2

R.E. Knowledge Organiser - Multi faith unit: 'Places of Worship'

(AT1:3, AT2:3)

Key Enquiry Questions:	
What is a place of worship?	A place of worship is a special place within a religion where believers go to: pray, worship, learn about their religion and spend time together as a community.
Where does a Jewish person worship?	A Jewish person worships in a synagogue, they have rules which are important to their faith. Certain objects in the synagogue relate to this faith.
Where do Hindu people worship?	A Hindu person worships in a mandir, or Hindu temple. They believe they have more than one life and that, depending on how they live their life, they will return in to a good or bad existence. Certain objects and parts of the building relate to their faith and how they worship.
Where do Christian people worship?	A Christian person will worship in a Church, parts of which relate to their faith.
Why are places of worship important?	They are important to different faiths as a place to worship (pray), hold events (weddings, baptism etc) and gather together as a community.

Key Vocabulary	
church	A special place of worship for Christians.
Christianity	A religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus, that Jesus is the Son of God.
Christian	A person who follows the beliefs of Christianity, a religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus, that Jesus is the Son of God.
Bible	The Christian holy book, consisting of the Old and New Testaments.
Jesus	Referred to as Jesus Christ and Jesus of Nazareth, He was a first-century Jewish preacher and religious leader. He is the central figure of Christianity.
God	The eternal being who created and preserves all.
altar	This is an important part of most church buildings. It is where a special ritual called Holy Communion takes place. The priest, or vicar, stands at the altar to perform Holy Communion. The people in the church gather round to take part and remember Jesus.
lectern	This is where a copy of the Bible will sit. People in Christian churches will read sections from the Bible to help them learn about their faith.
font	This is often near a doorway. Fonts can be different shapes and sizes, but all fonts hold water. This water is used for baptism, a special ceremony to mark the beginning of a Christian's faith journey.
synagogue	A Jewish place of worship.
Jewish	A person who follows the beliefs of Judaism.
Judaism	The ethnic religion of the Jewish people, Judaism is considered by religious Jews to be the expression of the covenant (promise) that God established with the Children of Israel.
rabbi	Teacher of the Torah and spiritual leader in Judaism.
kippah	A special cap worn in a synagogue to show respect.
tallit	A shawl that Jewish men wear when they pray.
Torah	The Jewish holy book.
ark	To look after their special book, every synagogue has an ark. This is a special place where the Torah is kept. It is often on the main wall of the synagogue and impressively decorated.
bimah	The bimah is a raised platform where the Torah is placed when it is to be read from. This is often in the middle of the room, or at the end of the room near the ark. The cantor stands here, too.
cantor	A person who chants prayers / leads singing for others to follow, usually in Judaism and Christianity.
Eternal Light	In some synagogues, there is a light above the ark. This is called the Eternal Light. Its name comes from a verse in the Torah which says an eternal flame should burn in the temple all the time. It is also a reminder of the candles in the Temple in Jerusalem that stayed lit, which Jews believe was a miracle of God.
Hindu	A follower of Hinduism which is the world's third largest religion.
Hinduism	Hindus worship Brahma in the form of many different gods. For example, they believe Vishnu is the protector of the universe. Hinduism is an Indian religion and dharma, or way of life, widely practised in the Indian subcontinent and parts of Southeast Asia.
mandir	A Hindu place of worship.
temple	A Hindu place of worship.
gods	Hindus worship Brahma in the form of many different gods. For example, they believe Vishnu is the protector of the universe.
murtis	Murtis are images of gods. Hindus use them in their worship. They give offerings to them. The murtis are often colourful and bright.
yantra	You might also find yantras in a mandir. These are diagrams of the universe. You might even see them on the floors of the temple. They are made with special colours and shapes that remind Hindus of different things.

Important Facts / Ideas

respect How this is demonstrated in the religions discussed, eg, prayer, head covering, quiet.

worship That worship is acting in a way that shows respect or love to something or someone.

Key diagrams



mandir/temple



church



synagogue