

RE Knowledge Organiser - What do Buddhists Believe?

Learning About Religion

What are the key Buddhist beliefs?
What did Buddha believe was the truth about the nature of life?
What happens in some key Buddhist stories?
What sacred texts do Buddhists have?
What do they say about human life and how to live it?
What commitments do Buddhists make?
How is a Buddhist community organised?
What key festivals do they celebrate?
How do Buddhists worship?
What do key Buddhist symbols express?

Learning from Religion

Who do you admire?
What would it be like to give up all your possessions?
How do selfishness and greed cause suffering?
What are you committed to?
Where would you go to be quiet?
If you could only have 6 things what would they be?

Learning Objectives

This Unit includes:

Prince Siddharta and the beginning of Buddhism
The use of meditation in worship
A Buddhist shrine and what it contains
Wesak and Kathina Day
Buddhist scriptures
How a new baby is welcomed into Buddhism
Ordination
The Buddha in art

Key Vocabulary

Meditation

Meditation is a practice where an individual uses a technique, such as focusing their mind on a particular object, thought or activity, to achieve a mentally clear and emotionally calm state. Meditation is practiced in numerous religious traditions and beliefs

Wesak	This most important Buddhist festival is known as either Vesak, Wesak or Buddha Day, and is celebrated annually on the full moon of the ancient lunar month of Vesakha, which usually falls in May, or in early June.
Kathina Day	The Kathina festival, which originated 2,500 years ago, celebrates the largest alms-giving ceremony of the Buddhist year. It occurs at the end of the <u>Vassa</u> , or monsoon, period, in October and November.
The Tripitaka (Pali Canon), Mahayana Sutras and the Tibetan Book of the Dead	The 3 major Buddhist texts Pali canon literally means the word of Buddha