

Expressing

Year: 4 Term: 3

Key question: Why do people think of life as a journey?

There are many values and meanings of ceremonies which mark milestones in life, particularly those associated with growing up and taking responsibility within a faith community.

In Christianity, people have ceremonies of confirmation and 'believers' baptism' or adult baptism, first communion and confession (Roman Catholic).

In Hinduism, there is a sacred thread ceremony and bar/bat mitzvah/chayil in Judaism.

However, some people are non-religious and will therefore mark these milestones in different ways.

- These ceremonies will have different meanings to the individual, their family and their communities.

- People will have different commitments and world views on the importance of these depending on their life experiences e.g. to pray every day, to read holy texts, to try to be good, to exercise regularly, to look after others, to treat the earth well, to follow God, to use words wisely, to practise kindness and generosity, etc.); comment on what difference they might make to someone's personal worldview.

What is the symbolism, meaning and value of ceremonies that mark the commitment of a loving relationship between two people? There are differences and similarities in marriage ceremonies and commitments in different religious traditions.

Christians, Hindus and Jewish people believe about life after death.

- Everyone has a 'map of life', whether for a Hindu, Jewish or Christian person, these religions offer to guide people through life's journey.

Vocabulary

ceremony	A formal event held on special occasions such as weddings and bar mitzvahs
confirmation	A sign that a person has reached maturity and is now able to take responsibility for their own faith.
baptism	A ceremony that symbolises a commitment to living a life as a Christian.
Bar mitzvah	A coming of age ceremony for Jewish boys and girls when they reach the age of 12 or 13.
first communion	A ritual to show the togetherness of Christians and God.
worldview	a person's way of understanding, experiencing and responding to the world, or a philosophy of life.

Key Questions:

- What does a journey mean to us?
- What is the significance of Baptism to Christians?
- How do Jewish people mark becoming an adult?
- What ceremonies do Hindus mark in the journey of life?
- Why do people choose to get married?
- Are all journeys similar?



Communion



Bar Mitzvah



Sacred thread ceremony