

Year 2 Christianity - Jesus

Year 2 Key Question (to be used all year): How do we respond to the things that really matter?

Focus Question (for this investigation): Why do Christians say that Jesus is the 'Light of the World'?

Should I be a light in the world?

Search for personal meaning

How and why do we use light? Why is light important to us?

Living religious traditions

The Christian tradition of Christingle. What a Christingle is, and an understanding of the symbolic meaning

Beliefs and values

The Christian belief that Jesus is God incarnate - the 'Light of the World.'

Y2: Why do Christians say that Jesus is the 'light of the world'?

That Jesus is like a light in the darkness, providing comfort, hope and guidance.



Christmas celebrations – including the importance of light at the time of year. What beliefs about Jesus as the Light are found in the Christmas story?

Is happiness an important part of the human experience?

Who brings light into my life? How

Shared human experience

How is light used as a symbol (in words and pictures)? Eg. What might a person mean if they say 'I saw the light'?

Have I ever had dark times? What has guided me?

Focus Question: Why do Christians say that Jesus is the 'Light of the world'?

This unit enables pupils to explore the use of light to and how it might be used in religious communities to indicate the presence of God and as a description for Jesus as God incarnate. Pupils should be able to make links between the imagery and symbolism of light in the Christian context and significant events in their own lives.

This unit should build on the Y1 unit 'Why is Jesus special to Christians?' – Pupils should be encouraged to recall information about why the birth of Jesus is important to Christians and why Jesus is seen as a gift to the world.

Field of Enquiry	Possible Teaching Ideas
Shared Human Experience 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at images of light sources. Categorise uses of light, eg it removes dark, it guides, gives heat etc. Collect examples of language using light images, eg, bright spark, dark mood, dawned on me, saw the light, light at the end of the tunnel. Make the room dark, light candles (electric would be safer). How did they feel in the dark, then in the light?

Beliefs and Values 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus is known as the 'light of the world'. Discuss the meaning of this. Look at Bible references to Jesus and light (John 1: 4 – 5 and 9, Luke 2:32 and John 8:12). What might Christians mean when they talk about Jesus as a light to the world? Look at some pictures showing Jesus and light (eg. 'The Light of the World' by William Holman Hunt).
Living Religious Traditions 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how light is used in Advent – use of advent candles, advent services. Learn about the Christingle. http://www.topmarks.co.uk/christmas/Christingle.aspx, http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/fundraising-and-events/christingle/what-christingle. Interview or email a Christian and ask how Jesus is a light to them and how that knowledge alters their actions to others.
Search for Personal Meaning 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could the children be 'a light' to others? Brainstorm good qualities that the class consider are worth following. Record the ideas as posters, poems, writing. Focus on a lighted candle. Can they think of a time when they brought light to a situation? How? Talk about a time when it has been dark or sad – and how a person has helped bring 'light' to the situation. Relate all this to Jesus and his role as 'a light to the world'. Children consider how they could turn dark to light in their own lives.

Y2 Learning - children will:			
* suggest what Christians might mean when they refer to Jesus as 'the Light of the world' * talk about the different titles that might be given to Jesus – Christ/ Messiah/ Saviour/Son of God	* identify ways in which Christians might use light as part of their Christmas celebrations (advent candles, candle-light carol services, Christingle) – and the symbolic meaning * talk about the different ways that Christians might celebrate Christmas	* identify different ways that humans use light * discuss the importance of light – as a source of comfort, security and hope * talk about how and why light might be an important symbol	* ask questions about the value of sources of light in their own lives * talk about the people who provide comfort, security and hope for them * suggest ways in which they might be a light for others
Beliefs and values	Living religious traditions	Shared human experience	Search for personal meaning