



Year: 2
Term: Summer 1

Holy Buildings: What is the Jewish Holy Building and how does it help them to worship?

Prior Knowledge

Pupils will have explored the term worship (EYFS, Y1 Sum1)

Pupils will have discussed some of the features of a church (EYFS, Year 1 Sum1).

Pupils will have discussed that Jesus was a Jew.

Key Knowledge

- The Jewish Holy Building is called a Synagogue. They go there to pray, worship, learn about their religion and spend time with each other as a community. This is the same as why Christians go to church.
 - Jews think that God is very holy. So holy that they wont ever write down God’s name, instead they will write G-d out of respect. This is different to Christians who will write God’s name.
 - Jews believe in the Torah which is the first five books of the Bible (Christian Holy book). The Bimah is the raised platform where the Torah is placed and can be read from. This is often in the middle of the room or at the end of the room near the ark.
 - The Ark is where the Torah is kept when it is not being read. It reminds Jews that the Torah is very special and helps them to remember how important G-d is.
 - Above the ark, there is often an ‘Eternal Light’ (Eternal means it will never go out) which helps Jews to remember that the candles in the temple in Jerusalem stayed lit which they think was a miracle of G-d.
 - The Siddur is the main prayer book that Jewish people use. Reading from the Siddur helps Jews to focus their prayers.
 - In a synagogue, there is often a prayer room. This also helps Jews to focus on praying and not get distracted.
- How are these things the same/ different to the Christian church?

Key Enquiry Lines

- **To understand that the Holy Building that Jews use is called a Synagogue. In synagogues, there will always be a Bimah, an Ark, a Siddur, a Torrah, The Eternal Light and Memorial Boards.**
- **To understand that Jews pray to G-d and show respect to him.**

Key Question

What is the Jewish Holy Building and how does it help them to worship?

Key Vocabulary

Synagogue, Bimah, Ark, Torrah, Eternal Light, Siddur,