



Subject Theme Overview	Year 4	Charlton Kings Junior School
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Subject	R.E.	Theme	How and why do people mark significant events of life?		Term	6
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What should I already know?

- People have key events and milestones at different times in their lives.
- Many people of different faiths and non-faiths mark life's milestones with celebrations. These include marriage, baptisms, christenings and bar/bat mitzvahs.

What should I know by the end of the unit?

I will be able to:

Make sense of beliefs:

- Identify some beliefs about love, commitment and promises in religion and what they mean.
- Offer suggestions about the meaning and importance of ceremonies of commitment for religious and non-religious people today.

Understand the impact:

- Describe what happens in ceremonies of commitment (e.g. baptism, sacred thread, marriage) and say what these rituals mean.
- Make simple links between beliefs about love and commitment and how people live (e.g., through celebrating salvation, forgiveness and freedom at festivals).
- Identify some differences in how people celebrate commitment (e.g., different practises of marriage)

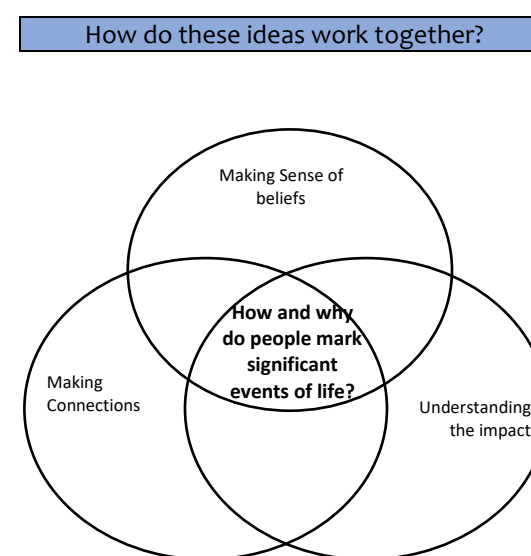
Make connections

- Explore whether it is good for everyone to see life as a journey and to mark milestones.
- Give reasons why they think ceremonies of commitment are or are not valuable today.

What will I learn about?

I will learn about:

- The religious metaphor of life as journey.
- The value and meaning of ceremonies that mark milestones in life.
- The symbols, the rituals and the promises made during ceremonies.
(Christians: baptisms
Hindus: sacred thread
Jews bar/bat mitzvah)
- Wedding ceremonies and marriage commitments
- Guidance offered by religion to help people navigate their life as a journey.
- Love, commitment, community, belonging and belief in the world today.



Key Vocabulary	
Commitment	An agreement to do something in the future, this could be a religious commitment.
Ceremony	A formal act or event performed in some regular way according to fixed rules e.g. wedding, baptism, graduation, bar mitzvah.
Ritual	A religious ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order.
Baptism	A Christian ceremony, involving water, which symbolises purification and commitment to the church.
Wedding	A ceremony where two people in a loving relationship commit to each other.
Bar/bat mitzvah	A Jewish 'coming of age' ceremony for boys aged 13 years and girls aged 12 years.
Sacred Thread	A ceremony in some Hindu communities to confirm students are of an age to take on religious responsibility.