

EXPLORE CHRISTMAS

Explore Christmas

is a free RME resource created by Scripture Union Scotland for first and second level learners in Scottish schools. In line with the curriculum, this resource will explore how and why Christians celebrate at this time of year.

The videos and supporting resource pack are easy to access and will provide engaging learning opportunities for pupils to develop their knowledge of Christian beliefs and practices. In addition to a series of three videos, there are a number of suggested cross curricular activities to allow the teacher to plan a more in-depth topic if desired.



The content of the videos are summarised below. These are designed to be watched in order with both first and second level learners. The supporting differentiated resources can be accessed by registering at suscotland.org.uk/explorechristmas.



EPISODE ONE: THE PROMISE

The first episode explores where Christmas comes from and the why behind the celebration. The history of the Jewish people is presented, as is written in the Old Testament of the Bible and details how the people were waiting for a promised future king. Key Christian vocabulary such as 'prophesy' and 'Messiah' are introduced and are discussed in light of how they impact the Christian celebration today.

EPISODE TWO: THE SURPRISE

The Christmas season is often full of surprises and this episode explores the unexpected circumstances of the birth of Jesus, who Christians believe to be the promised King. The details of the nativity story are a key part of what Christians celebrate at Christmas and its impact is discussed in this episode. Key Christian vocabulary such as 'nativity' and 'Emmanuel' are introduced and explained.

EPISODE THREE: THE LIGHT

The final episode in this series explores the concepts of hope, joy and peace and investigates why these are so important to the celebration of Christmas. Christians believe that the person of Jesus brings these values to humanity and this impacts a Christian's life choices and actions. Key Christian vocabulary of 'sin' and 'salvation' are explored, as is the concept of 'light' coming through a Messiah.



Experiences and Outcomes

The Celebration of Christmas for Christians



RME OUTCOMES

RME BENCHMARKS

I can talk about my own beliefs or express them in other ways.

RME 1-01c

I am developing respect for others and my understanding of their beliefs and values.

RME 1-07a

Beliefs

- Describes, discusses and expresses an opinion with at least one reason on at least one belief from Christianity, at least one World Religion, and at least one belief group independent of religion.
- Describes and discusses at least one personal belief and at least one example of how own beliefs might affect actions.

I can describe the key features of the values of Christianity which are expressed in stories.

RME 1-02b

Values and Issues

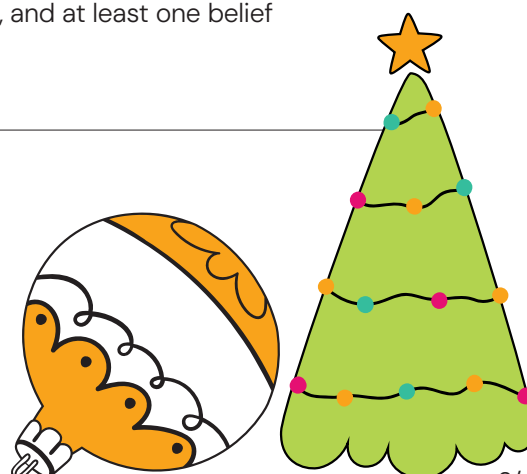
- Describes and discusses at least one personal value and at least one example of how own values might affect actions.
- Describes and discusses at least one value from Christianity, at least one World Religion, and at least one belief group independent of religion, illustrating how this value could be put into practice.

I am developing an awareness of the ways in which Christians celebrate different times of year and can relate these to my own life and community.

RME 1-03b

Practices and Traditions

- Describes and discusses the significance of at least one special ceremony, celebration and way of marking a major life event in Christianity, at least one World Religion, and at least one belief group independent of religion.



Experiences and Outcomes

The Celebration of Christmas for Christians

**SECOND
LEVEL**



RME
OUTCOMES

RME
BENCHMARKS

Through investigating and reflecting upon biblical and other Christian stories, I can show my understanding of these stories.

RME 2-01a

I can show understanding of Christian beliefs and explore the similarities and differences between these and my developing beliefs.

RME 2-01c

Beliefs

- Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one belief from Christianity, at least one World Religion, and at least one belief group independent of religion.
- Discusses ways in which own beliefs can affect actions

I am developing respect for others and my understanding of their beliefs and values.

RME 2-07a

Values and Issues

- Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one value from Christianity, at least one World Religion, and at least one belief group independent of religion.
- Discusses ways in which own values can affect actions.
- Discusses and expresses views about the importance of values such as honesty, respect and compassion.

Through investigating the ways in which Christians mark major life events and times of year, I can explain key features of such festivals and celebrations.

RME 2-03b

Practices and Traditions

- Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion with supporting reasons on the importance of at least two from a tradition, a practice, a ceremony, a custom, a way of marking a major life event in Christianity, at least one World Religion, and at least one belief group independent of religion.

