

Key end points for this unit include:

To know that:

There is a story in the Bible about Jesus calming a storm.

In the Torah, there is a story about Moses being saved as a baby.

There is an Islamic story that tells of Muhammad helping a crying camel.

The story of Rama and Sita is special to many Hindus.

To know the story of Noah's Ark is special to many Jews, Christians and Muslims.

This unit introduces children to a series of significant stories from Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and a shared story from the Abrahamic religions, helping them understand that stories play an important role in shaping beliefs, values, and identity within religious communities. Across the unit, children learn that stories are not simply tales from the past but are used by believers to make sense of the world, to guide behaviour, and to express what is important within their faith. The sequence builds deliberately on prior learning from Years 1–3, where children have already encountered key figures such as Jesus, Moses, and Muhammad, and have explored Hindu festivals such as Diwali. By revisiting familiar figures and introducing new ones, the unit strengthens children's understanding of how different religions use narrative to communicate ideas such as courage, kindness, responsibility, hope, and doing what is right.

The unit also helps children recognise similarities and differences between religions, particularly the shared heritage of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Through structured talk, reflection, and carefully scaffolded tasks, children develop both religious literacy and the ability to articulate what stories mean to believers. The final assessment consolidates this learning by encouraging children to explain why these stories matter to followers of different faiths.

Lesson Sequencing:**Lesson 1: Jesus Calms the Storm (Christianity)**

In this lesson, children revisit their earlier learning about Jesus as an inspirational figure and deepen their understanding by exploring a New Testament story that many Christians see as a miracle. The story shows Jesus calming a storm and reassuring his frightened disciples, helping children understand why Christians believe Jesus brings peace, help, and comfort in difficult times. This lesson builds on prior knowledge from Year 1 and 2 Christianity units, where children learned who Jesus is and why he matters to Christians. It also prepares them for later lessons by establishing the idea that religious stories communicate values and beliefs.

Lesson 2: Moses in the Bulrushes (Judaism)

Children build on their earlier learning about Moses from Year 1 Judaism by exploring the story of his rescue as a baby. This lesson introduces Moses as a key figure in Judaism and highlights themes of protection, courage, and identity. Children learn that this story appears in the Torah and also in Christian and Islamic traditions, helping them recognise shared narratives across religions. The lesson strengthens their understanding of how stories can shape a community's sense of identity and purpose, and it reinforces the idea that stories often teach values such as bravery and kindness.

Lesson 3: Muhammad and the Crying Camel (Islam)

This lesson builds on children's Year 2 learning about Islam and introduces a well-known Islamic story that teaches kindness, compassion, and responsibility. Children learn that Muslims regard Muhammad as a prophet and moral example, and the story shows him noticing a suffering animal and teaching its owner to care for it properly. This lesson reinforces the idea that religious stories guide behaviour and communicate values, and it helps children make connections between stories they have already studied, such as Moses and Jesus, where key figures act with care and compassion.

Lesson 4: Rama and Sita (Hinduism)

Children revisit their earlier learning about Hinduism and Diwali, now exploring the full story of Rama and Sita from the Ramayana. The lesson introduces key concepts such as dharma (doing what is right) and the triumph of good over evil. Children learn why Rama and Sita are admired by many Hindus and how the story is remembered during Diwali through traditions such as lighting diya lamps. This lesson builds on prior knowledge from the Year 3 Hinduism unit and strengthens children's understanding of how stories shape festivals, values, and cultural practices.

Lesson 5: Noah's Ark (Judaism, Christianity, Islam)

The final story in the sequence helps children recognise the shared heritage of the Abrahamic religions by exploring a narrative found in the Torah, the Bible, and the Qur'an. Children learn that Noah listens to God, protects life, and receives a covenant symbolised by a rainbow. The lesson reinforces themes of responsibility, caring for the world, and new beginnings. It builds on earlier lessons by drawing together the idea that stories across different religions teach values and guide behaviour, and it prepares children for the assessment by helping them compare and connect stories across faiths.

Lesson 6: Assessment

In this final lesson, children bring together everything they have learned about the five faith stories studied across the unit. The assessment activities are designed to check children's understanding of the key knowledge: that Jesus Calms the Storm is a Christian story, Moses in the Bulrushes is a Jewish story, Muhammad and the Crying Camel is an Islamic story, Rama and Sita is a Hindu story, and Noah's Ark is shared across Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Children demonstrate what they know through a multiple-choice quiz, a knowledge-organiser-style fill-in-the-blanks task, or an extended writing activity where they explain why these stories matter to followers of different religions. This lesson consolidates the unit's core ideas; that stories communicate values, shape beliefs, and guide behaviour, and allows children to show how their understanding has developed across the sequence.

Key vocabulary: Jesus, Disciples, Miracle, Moses, Bulrushes, Pharaoh, Israelites, Muhammad, Prophet, Rama, Sita, Ravana, Diwali, Noah, Ark, Covenant

Key concepts: stories, faith, belief, courage, compassion