

Kindness

Positivity

Respect

RE MEDIUM TERM PLANNING

Year Group: 3 TERM: Autumn 2 Theme: Christingle

SACRE :

Describe and make connections between different features of the religions and world views they study, discovering more about celebrations, worship, pilgrimages and the rituals which mark important points in life in order to reflect thoughtfully on their ideas;

A2. **Describe and understand links** between stories and other aspects of the communities they are investigating, responding thoughtfully to a range of sources of wisdom and to beliefs and teachings that arise from them in different communities.

Context:

In this unit of work, children will learn about the significance of the Christingle festival. They will learn about the symbolism of the Christingle and what this means to Christians. We will explore the meaning of Christmas to Christians as a festival for giving and explore the role of charities like Christian Aid.

Concepts:

Festivals and celebrations – children will understand that a celebration can be a religious festival.

Belonging — understand how a religious festival can help a religious community recognise a shared value.

Symbols – understand how a religion uses symbols as a way to understand values which are important to that religion.

Vocabulary:

Christingle, celebration, festival, Jesus, light, candle, hope, charity, season of giving, symbol, advent, wreath, love.

Prior Knowledge:

Children have previously learnt the story of Jesus' birth in Year 1 and 2. They have enacted the story in a Nativity performance in Year 2. They have learnt about symbols of religion in Year 1, knowing that by wearing a religious

Future Knowledge: Children will go on to consider festivals in other religions, specifically Passover in Judaism during Year 3.

symbol, you are showing your commitment to a faith. They have learnt about the festival of Diwali in Year 1.

End points /by the end of this unit pupils will... (NB Crucial/sticky knowledge is highlighted):

- To understand what is meant by a celebration/festival
- To know and understand of the symbolism of the Christingle.
- To understand the Christian value of hope and its connection to the Christingle celebration.
- Know that Christians believe that Jesus Christ brings hope.
- Be able to talk about the Christian values of hope, love, peace and joy and what it means to them.

Learning Objective	Teaching Input/ Activities	Key Questions	Resources
Lesson 1 To understand what is meant by a celebration/festival Learn about Christian celebrations and commitments by describing some spiritual ways of celebrating Christian festivals, including Christmas and the festival of Christingle. To know and understand of the symbolism of the Christingle.	Initial assessment - What is a celebration? Can we list some common personal celebrations — birthdays, anniversaries, christenings? How do celebrations make us feel? What do celebrations have in common? (Food, music, games, decorations, cards, presents, special clothes, etc). Which Christian celebration will be happening soon? Christmas. What do we know about Christians? Discuss how Christians celebrate/ meet in a church. Explain that we will be learning about a Christian festival called Christingle and we will be presenting our learning in church. Show a picture of Jesus Christ— do we know who this is and why he is important to Christians? Recap on the main events of Jesus's birth and explain that Christians believe that Jesus was born to be a teacher to Christians about how to live. They refer to him as 'the light of the world.'	What do we already know about celebrations? What do you celebrate? What do we know about Christianity? Where do Christians go to celebrate festivals? Who is Jesus and what does he mean to Christians? What is a Christingle and what does each part represent?	Christingle lesson 1 flipchart. Christingle recording sheet — differentiated. Useful link for information: https://www.childrenssoci ety.org.uk/how-you-can- help/fundraise-and- events/christingle/what- is-christingle

	Show a picture of a Christingle orange and a real Christingle. This is a symbol. Which part do you think represents Jesus? Explain that Christingle means Christ's light. Talk through the symbolism of each part: the candle Jesus' light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness; the orange represents the world; the red ribbon represents the love and blood of Christ; the sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations. The four sticks represent the four seasons. Children create their own picture to describe each part of the Christingle. They cut the parts out and either stick the information next to the correct part (Red) or write the information. Sing The Christingle Song as part of this lesson.		
2 Lesson 2 To understand why Christians view Christmas as a time of giving.	What do we remember about the Christingle and what it represents? Show this video clip of people participating in a service and talking about what it means to them. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAXJA9ePa-I Explain that Christmas is often called the	What is a Christingle service like? What does a Christingle service mean to the Christians who take part?	Christingle lesson 2 flipchart. Christingle 7 Challenge activity sheet.
To understand the Christian value of hope and its connection to the Christingle celebration.	season of giving Discuss what the concepts of giving and hope mean to the children through stimulus pictures. (The gifts from the 3 wise men, presents under the tree and someone giving to a homeless man) These are all	Why is Christmas often called the season of giving? What do the pictures tell us about giving?	See Children's Society Lesson plan page 4 for explanation.

Explore the work of The Children's Society in relation to the Christian value of hope.

Know that Christians believe that Jesus Christ brings hope.

Be able to talk about the Christian value of hope and what it means to them.

pictures of giving but also show hope - the hope offered by Jesus, the hope of a wanted gift, the hope offered to the homeless. Explain that the Christingle is often described a symbol of hope. Read two bible quotations about hope. Say that hope is an important Christian value and link it back to Christingle by talking about the history of the service – The celebration as we know it was made popular by The Children's Society in the 1960s. The Children's Society encourage churches and schools to hold a Christingle celebration and raise money to fund their work helping bring hope to the lives of young people in this country. Show the children a collage of pictures (SLIDE 8 from Children's Society PP) reflecting the work of The Children's Society. Founded in 1881 by Sunday Schoolteacher Edward Rudolf, for the last 140 years The Children's Society has transformed lives and helped children across the country hold onto hope. The Children's Society believes in building communities where every child feels safe, happy and free to fulfil their incredible potential. They provide local services that offer support advice and quidance to vulnerable children. Read some quotations from children who have been helped – see lesson plan from the Children's society.

What does the Christian value of hope mean to Christians?

Who are the Children's Society and what do they do?

What could you do to help bring hope to others?

Children's society PP for pictures (slide 8).

	Launch the Christingle 7 Challenge with the children — children to choose 7 challenges to complete as there are 7 parts to a Christingle. Ideas will be listed on the flipchart and children choose 7 and write them in each part of the Christingle — 4 sticks, one orange, red ribbon and candle. If their family chooses to, they can give a little bit of money every time the challenge is completed. Use this as an opportunity to discuss the fact that not everyone celebrates Christingle. As a class, discuss other ways that children celebrate Christmas and also discuss religions who do not celebrate Christmas at all. (At some point during this week, the children will be making their actual Christingle for the service in church).	
3 Lesson 3 To reflect on reasons why some people will celebrate and value Christingle and Advent whilst others not at all.	What did we learn in the last lesson about which Christian value is celebrated and recognised during the festival of Christingle? Hope. How does the Children's Society try to help young people using this value?	Christingle Lesson 3 flipchart Advent worksheet.
To know and understand the Christian values represented by the Advent candles. Consider what these values mean to us.	Ask who has heard of the word advent before? Explain that Advent is a way that Christians prepare for Christmas. Show a picture of an advent wreath — has anyone seen this before? Explain how it links to	

Christingle because it also represents the value of hope.

Explain that Advent as the start of the Church Year for most Christian churches. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30, ending on Christmas Eve (Dec 24). Show pupils how the Advent Calendar helps families to count down the days in Advent:

Five candles are lit in an Advent wreath. The First Sunday: The first candle reminds Christians of Abraham and David, Old Testament ancestors of Jesus. Candle one (purple) represents hope. It is often called the prophets' candle.

w Second Sunday: The second candle reminds Christians of the prophets, who foretold the birth of Jesus. Candle two (purple) represents peace.

w Third Sunday: The third candle recalls John the Baptist, who proclaimed and baptized Jesus in the Jordan. Candle three (pink) represents joy.

 ϖ Fourth Sunday 24th: The fourth candle represents Mary, Jesus' mother. Candle four (purple) represents love.

 ϖ Christmas Day: The fifth white candle in the middle reminds of the birth of Jesus.

Children make an advent calendar with ideas
/pictures for celebrating these values: peace,
joy and love.
Advent is a time of waiting — how do we feel
when waiting for something?