

Year 3 and 4 Home Learning

RE (Sikhism - Sikh Rites of Passage) Week 5

Monday

# Sikh Rites of Passage

Learning Objective:

To find out who Sikhs are and what they believe.



What do you know  
about Sikhism?

Think, pair, share your  
ideas.

Sikhism is a religion I don't know very much about so it will be interesting to find out about them..

Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and has over 26 million followers globally. The largest population of Sikhs can be found in the Punjab area of India where the religion began more than 500 years ago. Sikhs believe in one God, like Christians and Muslims do. They worship at a temple called a 'gurdwara'. The word 'sikh' means 'disciple' or 'learner' in Punjabi.



This Sikh symbol is called the 'Khanda'. The circle in the centre represents one God with no beginning and no end. The double-edged sword in the middle represents the almighty power of God and the two swords on the outside represent the spiritual and political balance of the world.





## How did Sikhism begin?

Sikhism began in the Punjab area of India in the early years of the 16th century and was founded by a man known as Guru Nanak. 'Guru' means teacher. At that time, there was lots of fighting between Muslims and Hindus. Guru Nanak started teaching people that the outward signs of a person's religion didn't matter to God and that people should be tolerant of other people's faith. Some people started following his teachings.

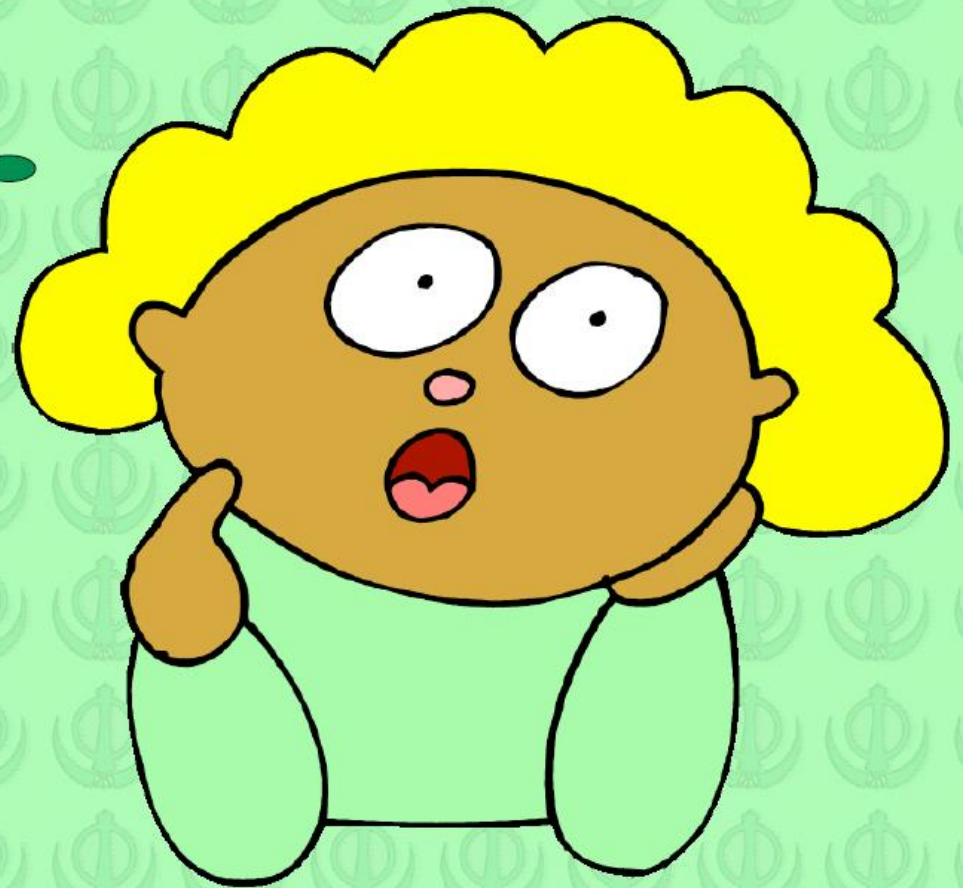
After Guru Nanak's death, there were nine other gurus who continued his teachings. The tenth guru, Guru Gobind Singh, decided that it was important for Sikhs to defend their faith themselves so he set up a brotherhood called the 'Khalsa' for any Sikh willing to follow the faith to join. He also declared that the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib, should be the last Sikh guru, teaching Sikhs eternally about the religion.



## What do Sikhs believe?

- \*Sikhs believe in one creator God.
- \*Sikhs believe that everyone is equal, regardless of gender, race or creed.
- \*Sikhs believe that the way to live a good life is to live as part of a community, being honest and caring for other people.
- \*Sikhs believe that superstitions and rituals have no real place in religion.
- \*Sikhs believe in reincarnation (being reborn into another life when you die) until you become one with God and end the painful cycle of birth, life and death.

How are Sikh beliefs similar or different to the beliefs of other religions we have studied?





Read the information below and create a poster of information leaflet about what you have learnt to far.. Set it out how you want. You can use these ideas to help you... Anything you want to show then photograph or scan it and email to [info@broadfield.oldham.sch.uk](mailto:info@broadfield.oldham.sch.uk).

## Introduction to Sikhism

Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and has over 26 million followers across the globe. The largest population of Sikhs can be found in the Punjab area of India where the religion began more than 500 years ago. Sikhs believe in one God, like Christians and Muslims do. They worship at a temple called a gurdwara. The word sikh means disciple or learner in Punjabi.



This is the Sikh symbol. It is called the Khanda.



Guru Nanak

Sikhism began in the Punjab area of India in the early years of the 16th century. It was started by a man called Guru Nanak. Guru means teacher. Guru Nanak started teaching people that the outward signs of a person's religion didn't matter to God and that people should be tolerant of other people's faith. Some people started following his teachings. After Guru Nanak's death there were nine other gurus. The final guru, Guru Gobind Singh declared that the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib, should be the last Sikh guru to teach. This book would be available forever to teach Sikhs about the faith.

Sikhs believe in one God. They believe strongly that everyone in the world is equal regardless of gender, race or beliefs. They believe that the way to live a good life is to live and work as a community by helping and being kind to others, being honest and caring for those around you. Sikhs also believe in reincarnation. This means that the soul never dies but continues to be born again into another person when the body dies. This can be stopped by leading a good life and living as God wants you to live.

This picture shows the Golden Temple or Harmandir Sahib. This is an important gurdwara in India which was built by the fourth Sikh guru.



# Sikhism



How did Sikhism begin?

What do Sikhs believe?

Interesting facts:

## PLENARY



What are the most interesting facts you have found out about Sikhism today?

What else would you like to find out about Sikhism?

Think, pair, share your ideas.