

Class 5 RE: Understanding Festivals

Learning objective: To identify and describe the purpose, traditions, and significance of different religious and cultural festivals.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge about how different communities celebrate festivals. Read the front, try to remember the answer, then check the back.

What is the main purpose of a religious festival?

A religious festival is a special time set aside to honour a deity, celebrate a significant event in a faith's history, or mark a change in the seasons.

How does Pip the Bookworm describe a 'tradition'?

A tradition is a custom or belief that is passed down through generations within a family or a religious community.

What is the difference between a 'fast' and a 'feast'?

A fast is a period where people choose not to eat or drink for a specific time to show devotion, while a feast is a large meal shared to celebrate a special occasion.

Why do many festivals involve 'community' gatherings?

Gathering together helps people feel a sense of belonging, strengthens their shared faith, and allows them to support one another.

What does Nova the Owl mean by 'symbolism' in a festival?

Symbolism refers to objects, colours, or actions that represent deeper religious meanings, like lighting a candle to represent hope.

What is a 'pilgrimage'?

A pilgrimage is a journey to a place that is considered sacred or holy by a particular religion.

Why do many festivals follow a lunar or solar calendar?

Many religious festivals are timed to match the cycles of the moon or the position of the sun to reflect natural rhythms and ancient traditions.

What is a 'ritual'?

A ritual is a set of repeated actions performed in a specific way, often during a ceremony or festival, to show respect or prayer.

How might someone show 'observance' during a festival?

Observance means following the rules, prayers, or customs of a festival to show dedication to one's beliefs.

Why do festivals often include music and art?

Music, dance, and art are used to express joy, tell stories about the history of the faith, and make the celebration feel special and unique.

Max the Monkey asks: If a festival meal costs £15.00 for a family and you buy tickets for 4 festivals, what is the total cost?

£60.00 ($15 \times 4 = 60$).

What does 'sacred' mean?

Sacred means something that is holy, dedicated to a god, or deserving of great respect.