Exploring the Five Pillars of Islam with Ellie

Learning objective: To identify and understand the significance of the Five Pillars of Islam in the lives of Muslims.

Ellie the elephant has been learning about the Five Pillars of Islam. Each pillar represents a core practice that helps Muslims lead a life of faith and community. Read the descriptions of the pillars below and match them to the correct term from the word bank. Then, answer the deeper thinking questions to show your understanding.

Word bank: Shahadah · Salah · Zakat · Sawm · Hajj

1. 1. Match the pillar to its description: A) Giving a portion of one's wealth to those in need. B) The pilgrimage to Makkah. C) Praying five times a day. D) The declaration of faith. E) Fasting during the month of Ramadan. (Please write your answers clearly). (5 marks)

2. 2. Explain why Zakat is considered an important part of building a fair and supportive community. (3 marks)

3. 3. Compare and contrast the daily practice of Salah with the annual practice of Hajj. How do they both help a person focus on their faith? (4 marks)

4. 4. Justify why Muslims might find the month of Sawm (fasting) a time for reflection and self-discipline rather than just going without food. (3 marks)

5. 5. What might happen if a community stopped practising Zakat? Describe the impact this would have on the vulnerable members of society. (3 marks)

6. 6. How does the Shahadah act as the 'foundation' for the other four pillars? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a large five-pointed star. In the centre, write the word 'Faith'. In each of the five points, draw a simple symbol or picture representing one of the Five Pillars of Islam.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an architect tasked with designing a community centre that embodies the values of the Five Pillars. Write a paragraph explaining which features you would include to represent generosity, prayer, and unity, and why these features are essential for a welcoming space.