

Reflecting on Life and Legacy: A Journey with Ellie

Learning objective: To explore different beliefs about life after death and consider how people create a lasting legacy.

Use this fact-file template to record your findings about different religious perspectives on the afterlife. Ellie the elephant, with her incredible memory, has provided these sections to help you organise your thoughts. Think carefully about how different communities celebrate memories and what they believe happens after a person's life ends.

Word bank: Legacy · Spirit · Afterlife · Belief · Tradition · Memory · Reincarnation · Eternal · Commemoration

1. Identify one religious belief about what happens after death and describe how it shapes the way followers live their lives today. (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast two different religious or non-religious views regarding what happens to a person's spirit or identity after they pass away. (4 marks)

3. Explain why many religions have specific traditions or rituals to remember those who have died. How do these rituals provide comfort? (3 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Does a person's 'legacy'—the impact they leave on the world—continue after they have died? Give an example. (3 marks)

5. What might happen if a society did not have any shared beliefs or rituals for mourning and remembering those who have passed away? (4 marks)

6. Imagine you are writing a poem about a positive memory of someone. How can sharing memories change the way we feel about loss? (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Creative Task: Create a 'Legacy Map' for yourself. Draw a central circle with your name, and surrounding it, draw symbols or write words representing the positive impacts, kindnesses, and achievements you hope to leave behind for others to remember you by. Explain why these specific things are important to you in a short paragraph.