

Reflecting on Prayer: A Fact-File with Nova the Owl

Learning objective: To understand the significance, purpose, and diversity of prayer across different world religions.

Use this fact-file to explore what prayer means to different people. You can use your RE books, classroom resources, or discuss with a partner to gather information. Think about why people pray, how they do it, and where it happens.

Word bank: meditation · gratitude · intercession · devotion · ritual · sacred · community · reflection

1. Defining Prayer: In your own words, describe what prayer is and why it might be important to a religious believer. (2 marks)

2. Methods of Prayer: Identify two different ways that people might pray (for example, using silence, movement, or spoken words). (2 marks)

3. Places of Prayer: Where do people choose to pray? Explain why a specific location might be considered meaningful or sacred. (2 marks)

4. Personal Reflection: If someone were to use prayer to show 'gratitude', what kinds of things might they be saying thank you for? (3 marks)

5. Comparing Traditions: Choose two different religions you have studied. How are their practices of prayer similar or different? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Nova the Owl is curious: write a short paragraph explaining how a prayer of 'intercession' (praying for others) might positively impact a person's community.