

Exploring the Gurdwara with Ellie

Learning objective: To identify and understand the significance of key features and practices within a Gurdwara, the Sikh place of worship.

Use your knowledge of Sikhism to create an informative diagram of the interior of a Gurdwara. Follow the steps below to ensure you include the essential elements of this welcoming space.

Draw: Draw a large, wide-angle view of a Diwan Hall. In the center, draw a raised platform (the Palki Sahib) with the Guru Granth Sahib resting on it. Ensure the scene includes a respectful congregation sitting on the floor. Include a small corner window showing the Nishan Sahib flag flying outside. Use a warm, peaceful color palette to show the welcoming nature of the space.



Label words: Guru Granth Sahib · Palki Sahib · Nishan Sahib · Langar · Seva · Diwan Hall · Chauri

Steps:

1. Explain why Sikhs sit on the floor in the Diwan Hall rather than on chairs. How does this reflect the principle of equality?
2. What is the role of the 'Chauri' when it is waved over the Guru Granth Sahib, and what does this action symbolise?
3. Define 'Seva' in your own words. Why is this concept considered a vital part of daily life for a Sikh?

4. Justify why the Langar kitchen is located within the Gurdwara building. What does it teach us about the Sikh community?
5. Compare and contrast the Gurdwara with another place of worship you have studied. Identify one major similarity.
6. What might happen if the principle of 'Seva' was removed from the Sikh community? Explain your reasoning.