Journeys of Faith: The Pilgrimage Path

Learning objective: To understand the meaning of pilgrimage and identify why people travel to places of religious significance.

Max the monkey is helping organise a map of special journeys! Read the descriptions of different types of journeys below. Decide if the description describes a 'Pilgrimage' or a 'Holiday'. If it is a Pilgrimage, tick the box and explain the spiritual reason behind the travel. If it is a Holiday, mark it as a leisure trip.

Word bank: Sacred · Spiritual · Reflection · Leisure · Tradition · Devotion · Community

1. A family travels to a mountain shrine to pray for peace and reconnect with their faith. Is this a Pilgrimage or a Holiday? Why? (2 marks)

2. A group of friends flies to a seaside resort to relax, swim in the ocean, and eat ice cream for £3.50 each. Is this a Pilgrimage or a Holiday? Why? (2 marks)

3. A person walks a long, historic route to a cathedral to show their devotion and seek forgiveness. Is this a Pilgrimage or a Holiday? Why? (2 marks)

4. Why might a pilgrim want to visit a place that is considered 'sacred' rather than just a beautiful tourist spot? (2 marks)

5. Max asks: If a journey costs £500 in travel and accommodation, does the price make it a pilgrimage? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Pilgrimage Passport' stamp for a place that is special to you. Include symbols that represent peace, reflection, and your journey.

Extension challenge: Research a famous pilgrimage site, such as Lourdes, Varanasi, or Jerusalem. Create a list of three items a pilgrim might pack in their bag that they would not necessarily need for a standard holiday.