My Pilgrimage Fact-File: A Journey of Faith

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

Join Ellie the elephant as we explore the concept of pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is a special, often long journey made to a place of religious importance. Use this fact-file to record what you have learned about why people travel, what they hope to experience, and how these journeys impact their lives. Research two different examples of pilgrimage sites to complete your notes.

Word bank: Pilgrimage · Sacred · Journey · Devotion · Reflection · Tradition · Significance · Faith · Shrine · Belief

1. Defining Pilgrimage: Explain in your own words what a pilgrimage is and why it is different from a regular holiday or trip. (2 marks)

2. Motivations: List three reasons why a person might decide to go on a pilgrimage. Think about their feelings, their faith, and their goals. (3 marks)

3. Site Comparison: Choose one pilgrimage site. Name the place and describe why it is considered sacred or special to those who visit. (2 marks)

4. Personal Reflection: Imagine you are preparing for a journey. If you were going on a pilgrimage, what one item would you take with you to help you focus on your thoughts or prayers, and why? (2 marks)

5. The Journey's End: Describe how a pilgrim might feel when they finally arrive at their destination after a long and challenging journey. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a famous pilgrimage route, such as the Camino de Santiago or a journey to Makkah, Varanasi, or Jerusalem. Create a map showing the start and end points and list three things a pilgrim might see along the way.