

Exploring the Sikh Way of Life with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the core values of Sikhism, the significance of the Five Ks, and the importance of Seva (selfless service) in the lives of believers.

Ellie the Elephant has been learning about the Sikh faith. She has compiled a list of key concepts, but they have become muddled! Use the word bank to correctly complete the definitions of the Five Ks and the principles of Sikhism. For the final two questions, use your deeper understanding of the faith to justify your answers.

Word bank: Kesh · Kara · Kanga · Kachera · Kirpan · Seva · Langar · Equality · Guru Granth Sahib · Waheguru

1. 1. ____ is the act of selfless service performed without the expectation of reward. In the ____, a communal kitchen, this service is demonstrated by serving free, vegetarian meals to everyone, regardless of their background. (2 marks)

2. 2. The Five Ks are articles of faith worn by initiated Sikhs. Match the item to its meaning: ____ (uncut hair representing holiness), ____ (a wooden comb for cleanliness), ____ (a steel bracelet representing an unbreakable bond with God), ____ (special cotton undergarments), and ____ (a small sword representing the duty to protect the weak). (5 marks)

3. 3. Explain why the concept of equality is so central to the Sikh faith, particularly within the practice of the Langar. (3 marks)

4. 4. Justify your answer: Why do you think the Guru Granth Sahib is treated with the same respect as a living human Guru? (3 marks)

5. 5. Compare and contrast the role of 'Seva' in the Sikh community with the concept of charity in other worldviews. What are the similarities and differences? (4 marks)

6. 6. What might happen if the practice of Langar was removed from a Gurdwara? Explain the impact this would have on the community spirit. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene inside a Gurdwara, focusing on the Langar hall. Ensure you include people of different ages sitting together on the floor, highlighting the concept of equality.



Extension challenge: Design a poster for a local community project inspired by the Sikh principle of Seva. Your poster must identify a specific need in your local area and explain how your project will provide service without asking for money in return.