Year 3 Religious Education Assessment: Bonfire Night and Community Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the historical origins of Bonfire Night and reflect on the importance of community, remembrance, and safety in British traditions.

Read each question carefully. Answer in full sentences where possible. Use your knowledge of history and community values to provide detailed explanations.

On the 5th of November, many people in the UK gather to watch fireworks and light bonfires. This tradition began after the failure of the Gunpowder Plot in 1605, when a group of people tried to destroy the Houses of Parliament. Today, while we remember this historical event, Bonfire Night is also a time for communities to come together, enjoy the warmth of the fire, and reflect on the importance of peace and safety.

Word bank: Guy Fawkes · Parliament · Remembrance · Tradition · Community · Safety · Plot · Celebration

1. Identify the historical event that Bonfire Night commemorates. (1 mark)

2. Explain why the 5th of November is considered a significant date in British history. (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey is confused. He asks, 'If this event was about a dangerous plot, why do we celebrate it today?' How would you explain the modern meaning of this tradition to him? (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast how people might celebrate Bonfire Night at a public display versus a small gathering at home. What are the benefits of each? (4 marks)

5. Justify why firework safety is a vital part of the Bonfire Night tradition. Give two specific examples of how people stay safe. (4 marks)

6. Nova the owl is planning a community event. She wants to ensure everyone feels included. Explain why it is important for communities to have shared celebrations, and suggest one way to make the event welcoming for everyone. (3 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Imagine you are writing a diary entry from the perspective of a villager in 1605, or a child today. Describe the atmosphere of the evening, the sights and sounds you experience, and explain why you think it is important for people to gather together. (Total: 8 marks) (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing how a community might gather safely on Bonfire Night. Include at least three elements that show respect for others and the environment.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: What might happen if we stopped observing historical traditions like Bonfire Night? Write a short persuasive paragraph explaining whether you think it is important to keep these traditions alive for future generations.