Exploring the Sikh Faith with Pip and Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the core beliefs and practices of Sikhism, including the significance of the Gurdwara, the Five Ks, and the concept of Seva.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of Sikhism to provide detailed answers. Think about the values of equality and community that are central to the Sikh faith.

Pip and Ellie are learning about Sikhism. They have discovered that the Sikh place of worship is called a Gurdwara, which means 'the doorway to the Guru'. Inside, the most important book is the Guru Granth Sahib, which Sikhs treat with the same respect as a living Guru. A key part of Sikh life is Seva, which means selfless service to others, often shown through the Langar, a community kitchen where everyone is welcome to eat a free vegetarian meal regardless of their background.

Word bank: Gurdwara · Seva · Langar · Khanda · Five Ks · Guru Granth Sahib · Equality

1. Explain the importance of the 'Langar' in a Gurdwara. Why is it significant that everyone sits on the floor to eat together? (3 marks)

2. What are the 'Five Ks'? List them and briefly explain the meaning of one of them. (3 marks)

3. Why do Sikhs show such high levels of respect for the Guru Granth Sahib? How is this different from how we treat regular books? (2 marks)

4. Define the word 'Seva'. Give one example of how a person might perform Seva in their own local community. (2 marks)

5. Sikhism teaches that all human beings are equal. How does the design and practice of a Gurdwara reflect this belief? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw the symbol of Sikhism, the Khanda, and label the three parts: the central sword, the two curved swords (kirpans), and the two circular quoits (chakkar).

Extension challenge: Research why Sikhs choose to wear a turban. Write a short paragraph explaining the values of identity and responsibility it represents.