Sacred Texts: Symbols of Wisdom

Learning objective: To identify and explore the importance of sacred texts within different religious traditions and reflect on how they are treated with respect.

Use your knowledge of religious education to complete the drawing activity. Use the word bank to help you label the key features of the sacred texts you illustrate.

Draw: Draw a scene featuring a sacred text being held or displayed with great care. Use a respectful and calm style. Include an ornate stand (like a Rahl or lectern) or a protective cloth (like a mantle). Decorate the borders of the pages with intricate patterns or 'illuminations' inspired by historical manuscripts. Ensure the text looks like an important, ancient, or treasured object.

Label words: Reverence · Scripture · Scroll · Illumination · Guidance · Tradition · Respect · Manuscript

Steps:

1. Name two different sacred texts from world religions and identify the religion they belong to.
2. Why do many religious communities use special covers or stands for their sacred texts? Explain the idea of 'reverence'.
3. Label your drawing to show where the 'scripture' is located and where you have added 'illumination' or decorative patterns.

4. How might a sacred text provide 'guidance' to a person in their daily life?

5. If you were to design a cover for a book that contains your own personal values and wisdom, what symbols would you include and why?