

UKS2-Green Religion



Key Questions:

- What do religious and non-religious worldviews teach about caring for the earth? (Living)

We already know:

- What is special about our world?
- PSHE learning from environment weeks (KS1 and LKS2)
- How should we care for others and the world and why does it matter?
- What does it mean to be a Christian, Hindu, Muslim or Jewish Person in Britain today?

Key Outcomes:

- Describe some key environmental problems and some key religious teachings about the Earth (A1).
- Respond sensitively to examples of green religious practice with ideas of their own (B2).
- Find out about two examples of religious projects seeking to have an environmental impact (C3).
- Compare beliefs about the earth and activist behaviour in different religions (A1).
- Understand the challenges facing the planet and responses from different religions (B2).
- Discuss their own and others' ideas about the kinds of collaboration, activism and commitment needed to 'save the Earth' (C3).
- Consider and evaluate the contributions religions can make to environmental protection (B3).

Possible experiences linked to outcomes:

- Use a case study about Greta Thunberg to introduce the issues of climate justice. Use this case study to think about questions:

- Whose world is this?
- Why do humans pollute their own earth?
- Why do extinctions matter?
- Can we care better for our planet?
- Who is most at risk from environmental change?
- Does the Earth belong to God?
- If some people believe the Earth does belong to God, how should they live?



- Learn about key concepts such as khalifa (Islam), stewardship (Christianity), Bhumi (goddess in Hindu Dharma) and Tu B'Shevat (Jewish). How do these beliefs outline care of the Earth? Support with examples from sacred texts.
- Learn about the work of religious eco projects (Jewish Ecological Coalition, Islamic Relief's tree-planting, the Hindu Bhumi Project, Christian projects Eco Church or Operation Noah) Do these projects may need to grow and influence their traditions more strongly? Should religions be greener?
- Explore examples of creative expressions of green spirituality in works of art, music, drama, prophecy and activist protests or actions: what are the spiritual roots of such expression, and what impacts can they have?
- Discuss what must happen for people and planet to survive and re-balance the ways humans have exploited the earth.
- What kinds of behaviour, belief and expression does the world need now? Religious vs Non-religious.

ॐ Key Vocabulary

Activism	The action of using vigorous campaigning to bring about political or social change.
Climate justice	Collectively and individually we have the ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from climate change impacts.
Stewardship	Stewardship involves the caretaking of the environment and animals as well as our families and communities.
Bhumi	A Hindu goddess who is the personification of the earth.
Tu B'Shevat	The Jewish new year for trees.
Khalifa	The successor of the Prophet Mohammad.