

RE Organiser – Welcoming New Life

What are key events?



How do different religions celebrate new life?



What are the similarities and differences?



Are there other rites of passage in life?



I know...

There are different ways in which the beginning of life is celebrated. All religions treat the birth of new life as special and celebrate the importance of this new life. In the three religions we will study, God is acknowledged to have an important role in the creation and safe delivery of a new life and is thanked for the new baby.

Christians, Muslims and Sikhs have different ceremonies which reflect their beliefs in life and behaviour. However there are some similarities between these ceremonies. All of the ceremonies show how each religion wants to set the new baby up for their life.

When a baby grows up, there are different rites of passage at various ages of its life. Some of these rites of passage are religious but some are based on an age of responsibility. We can prepare ourselves for these rites of passage in different ways.

Did you know...

- In a Baptism, the water is poured 3 times to represent Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- In the Muslim birth ceremony, they shave the baby's head and give the hair's weight in silver to the poor.
- Sikhs use their holy book to choose baby names.

Keyword

Definition

Ceremony

A formal act or series of acts done in a particular way to honor a special occasion.

Baptism

A Christian birth ceremony.

Font

An open container that holds holy water for baptism.

Adhan

The Muslim call to ritual prayer.

Allah

The name of the supreme deity in the Muslim religion.

Amrit

A syrup considered by Sikhs to be divine.

Rite of passage

A ceremony or event marking an important stage in someone's life

Key skills:

- Identifying symbols and their significance.
- Comparing similarities and differences.
- Responding sensitively to the beliefs of others.