

NATIONAL CURRICULUM

What should I already know?

- The Bodhi tree is a special place for followers of the Buddha.
- Buddhist respect and follow the ways of the Buddha.
- Buddhist celebrate Wesak which is Buddha's birthday.
- Prince Siddhartha Gautama became Buddha when he was enlightened.
- Buddhists live their life without harming any living thing.



What will I know by the end of this unit?

- Understand how the writings of the Buddha are respected.
- Understand some basic signs of respect for visiting a Vihara e.g. removing shoes before entry.
- Identify some important features of a Vihara e.g. statues and images of the Buddha, flowers, a singing bowl and other symbols.
- Identify some simple ways that family members show that they follow the Buddha.
- Make links and discuss similarities between celebrations e.g. Wesak and New Year.
- Understand why people follow - The way of the Buddha.
- Understand how followers of the Buddha live life without harming any living thing.

Key beliefs



Buddhism is a religion which began over 2500 years ago. Buddha's real name is Siddhartha Gautama. He only became known as the Buddha after he had found enlightenment. Enlightenment means he found the truth about life.

Special Places

The Buddhist place of worship is a temple or Vihara. Every temple has at least one statue or image of Buddha. Buddhists go to the temple to:

- worship the image of Buddha
- to meditate
- give offerings to Buddha

Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha) became enlightenment in Lumbini, which was then in India and is now in Nepal. He meditated under a Bondi tree

	<p><i>Special festivals:</i></p> <p><i>Wesak is the Buddha's birthday. It is celebrated on the full moon in May and is the most important Buddhist festival. Buddhist celebrate Wesak by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>· houses are cleaned and decorated</i> <i>· visit the holy temple (vihara)</i> <i>· bathing the Buddha</i> <i>· gifts are left for Buddha</i> <p><i>Around the world people celebrate Wesak in other ways, which include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>· paper and wood lanterns are made</i> <i>· traditional dragon dancing</i>
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SCHOOL KEY DRIVERS		
<i>Language</i>	<i>Possibilities</i>	<i>Diversity</i>
<p><i>Vihara - Buddhist temple.</i></p> <p><i>Singing Bowl - this is used to help Buddhists meditate and pray.</i></p> <p><i>Wesak - celebrates the Buddha's birthday. It is called Buddha Day.</i></p> <p><i>Bhikkhus - monk, a male who follows the way of the Buddha and lives in a monastery.</i></p> <p><i>Bhikkunis - nun, a female who follows the way of the Buddha and lives in a monastery.</i></p> <p><i>Vegetarian - Buddhist do not eat meat.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Visiting a Buddhist temple.</i> <i>• Experiencing what it is like to meditate including job possibilities.</i> 	<p><i>To understand different cultures and beliefs.</i></p>