

KS1 New Beginnings: Unit Overview

Why Is a Baby Being Born a Happy and Special Time?

Introduction

This Unit explores new beginnings and why the birth of a baby is a joyful and special for people of different faiths.

Disciplinary Lens

In this Unit we will be using the social science disciplinary lens. This [Using Lenses in Worldview Explorers](#) resource will help you to understand how we use the Disciplinary Lenses in our Worldview Explorers scheme.

Unit Essentials

- ▶ [How to Teach RE in KS1: Identify Things That Are Important in Their Lives](#)
- ▶ [How to Teach RE in KS1: Understand That There Are Similarities and Differences Between People](#)
- ▶ [How to Teach RE in KS1: Look At How Values Affect a Community and individuals](#)

Prior Learning

Previously in KS1, children have learnt about [Christianity in Art](#), [Jewish Stories](#) and [Churches and Cathedrals](#). They have learnt how people show their beliefs through places, stories and symbols. In this Unit, they will build on their learning by considering how different faiths celebrate the birth of a baby as a special new beginning.

Digging Deeper

Each lesson in this Unit will help your learners understand why new beginnings are special. They will explore how different religions celebrate new life and what these traditions can mean to people of faith. This Unit lays a strong foundation for learning about key life events and their significance in various faiths and worldviews. You could deepen this learning through a visit or visitor to share real-life experiences of welcoming a new baby. Check out our Worldview Explorers Visits and Visitors resources found [here](#).

Progression Statements

- ▶ Identify common celebrations such as birthdays.
- ▶ Recognise that celebrations are special occasions where people come together to mark important events and are times for joy, sharing and being with loved ones.
- ▶ Understand the significance of these celebrations and how they are celebrated by different religious and non-religious communities.
- ▶ Recognise symbols, rituals and traditions associated with religious celebrations.
- ▶ Learn about common rites of passage such as birthdays, christenings and weddings.
- ▶ Tell their peers about any christenings or weddings they have attended.
- ▶ Explain what a ceremony and ritual is.
- ▶ Begin to discuss the meaning of ceremonies and rituals, including expressing their own experiences of them.
- ▶ Observe when practices and rituals are similar to or the same as practices and rituals in other religions and worldviews.
- ▶ Ask questions about their own and others' feelings and experiences.

Lesson Breakdown

Lesson 1: What Is A Ceremony?

An introduction to what ceremonies are, who takes part in them, the different types that exist and why they are important. This lesson will also introduce how different religions mark special new beginnings.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Sikhi

Resources:

- ▶ [Lesson Pack 1](#)
- ▶ [Knowledge Organiser](#)

Lesson 2: How Are New Beginnings Celebrated in Christianity?

In this lesson, children will learn how Christians celebrate the birth of a baby. Children will explore key symbols and how Christians welcome a baby into the world.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Christianity

Resources:

- ▶ [Lesson Pack 2](#)

Lesson 3: How Are New Beginnings Celebrated in Islam?

In this lesson, children will learn how Muslims celebrate the birth of a baby through the Aqiqah ceremony. They will explore key symbols and understand the importance of this tradition in welcoming a new life.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Islam

Resources:

- ▶ [Lesson Pack 3](#)

Lesson 4: How Are New Beginnings Celebrated in Judaism?

In this lesson, children will learn how Jewish families celebrate the birth of a baby. They will explore key symbols in Judaism and discover how new life is welcomed through traditional ceremonies.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Judaism

Resources:

- ▶ [Lesson Pack 4](#)

Lesson 5: How Are New Beginnings Celebrated in Humanism?

In this lesson, children will learn about how humanists celebrate the birth of a baby. They will explore who humanists are and what a humanist baby welcoming ceremony might look like.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: humanism

Resources:

- ▶ [Lesson Pack 5](#)

Lesson Breakdown

Lesson 6: Can You Create a Baby Naming Ceremony?

In this lesson, children will reflect on different beliefs and traditions, choosing their favourite rituals from a range of religions and worldviews to create their own ceremony.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, humanism

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 6](#)

Lesson 7: How Are New Beginnings Celebrated in Sikhi?

In this lesson, children will learn how Sikhs celebrate the birth of a baby through the Naam Karan ceremony. They will explore key rituals and symbols and understand the importance of this tradition in welcoming a new life into the world.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Sikhi

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 7](#)

