

Treasure Hunt: Teacher Notes

- ◇ The treasure hunt is a great way for students to learn about Islam and why the Mosque is a special place for Muslims.
- ◇ Simply print the following on single sheets of paper and display around the classroom. Students will travel around the room finding answers to the questions on their pupil sheets. They can be answered in any order.
- ◇ You may see the letters '**pbuh**' being used after names of the prophets. These letters are an abbreviation of '*peace be upon him*', which is a form of respect and endearment Muslims use after mentioning a prophet.
- ◇ When pupils have answered all the questions, you can use these questions for review and discussion with the whole class:
 - ◇ What are 3 things you have learnt about Islam?
 - ◇ What is the most interesting fact you have learnt?
 - ◇ Is there anything else you'd like to know about Islam, Muslims or the Mosque? (Write these down in preparation for the Zoom Meet and Greet).

1

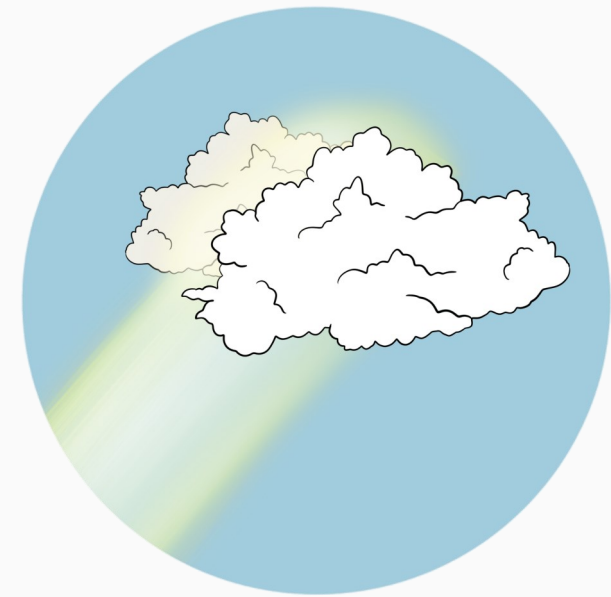
The first pillar of faith for a Muslim is belief in God. Muslims call God by an Arabic word, '**Allah**' which means '*The One True God*'.

God is unique and is beyond our time and space. He is not a human being. God is neither a male nor a female. God is not like anything we can imagine. This is why Muslims will not draw pictures of God.

2

The second pillar of faith is belief in angels. They are created from light and are designed to carry out specific tasks.

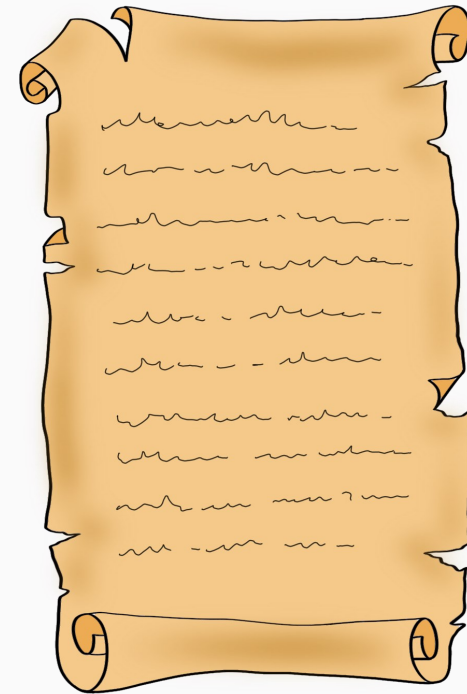
One of the most important angels is the angel Gabriel (*the same angel who spoke to Mary, mother of Jesus*).



3

The third pillar of faith is belief in God's Scriptures. The Qur'an is the final scripture from God.

In Islam, The Torah, The Gospels, The Scrolls of Abraham and the Psalms of David are also scriptures from God.



4

The fourth pillar of faith is belief in God's messengers and prophets.

God sent messengers and prophets to remind people about how to lead good lives.



5

The fifth pillar of belief is in the day of resurrection. This is when people will be brought back to life to stand in front of God.

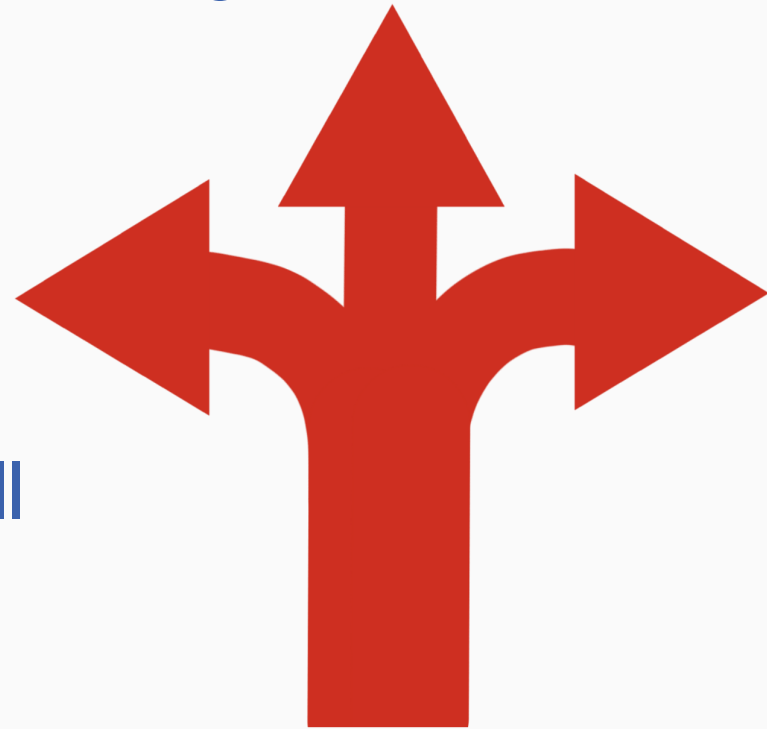
God will hold a fair trial of all our deeds. Those who are the best in deeds will be the winners on this day.



6

The sixth pillar of belief for a Muslim is in Divine Destiny. This means that nothing happens without God's knowledge.

He knows everything that has happened, all that is happening now and everything that will happen in the future.



7

‘**Masjid**’ is an Arabic word for mosque which means ‘*place of prostration*’ because Muslims prostrate to God during the prayer.

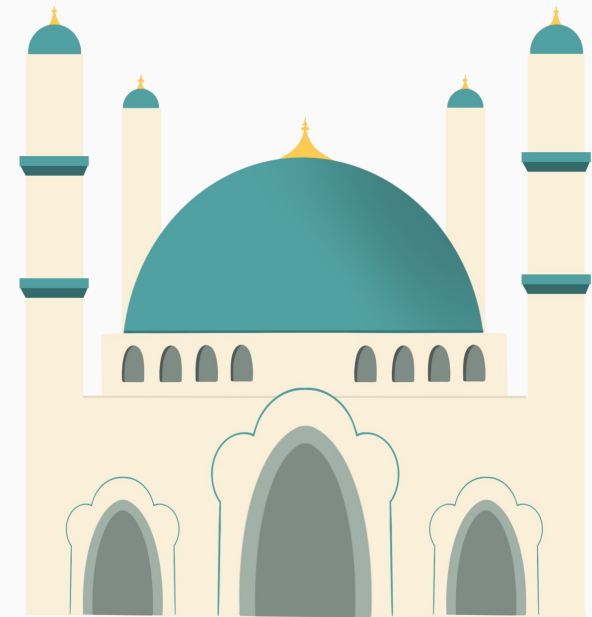
Here is a picture of someone in prostration to God.



8

‘*Jami*’ is another Arabic word for mosque which means ‘*the place where Muslims gather*’. It is not just a place for the prayer.

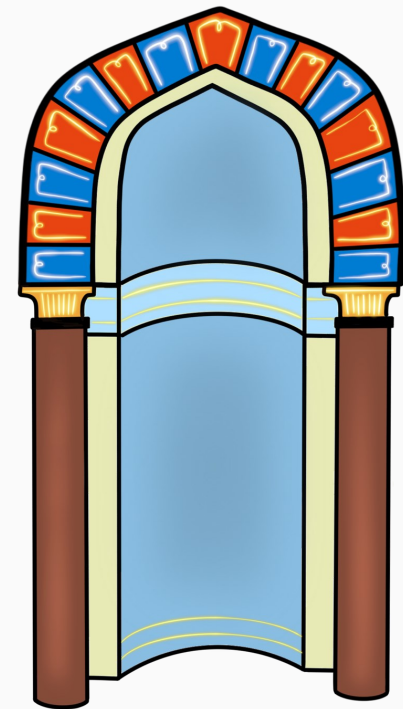
They gather here for many events such as weddings, birth ceremonies, education etc.



9

A '***mihrab***' is a niche in the wall (usually semi-circular) that indicates the direction of the Ka'ba in Mecca.

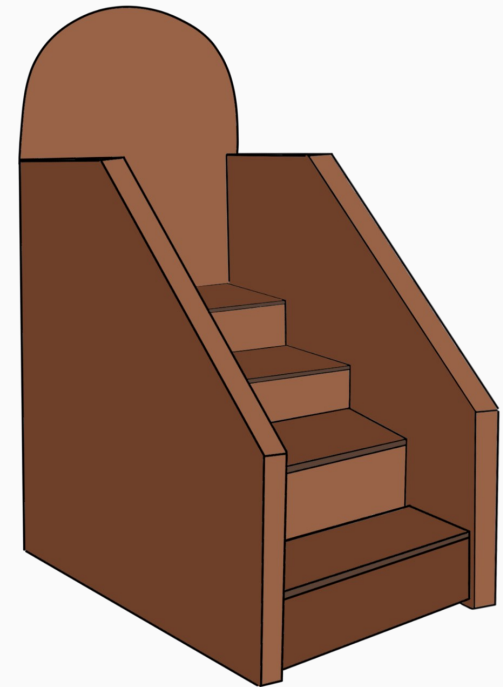
It shows the direction Muslims must face to pray to God.



10

The '*minbar*' is a pulpit where the imam will stand to deliver a sermon (khutbah).

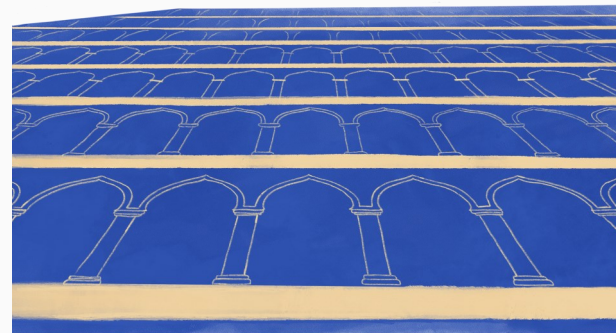
There are special khutbahs on Fridays and on the festivals of Eid.



11

Worshippers and visitors to the mosque are required to remove their shoes as it is important to keep the '*musalla*' clean.

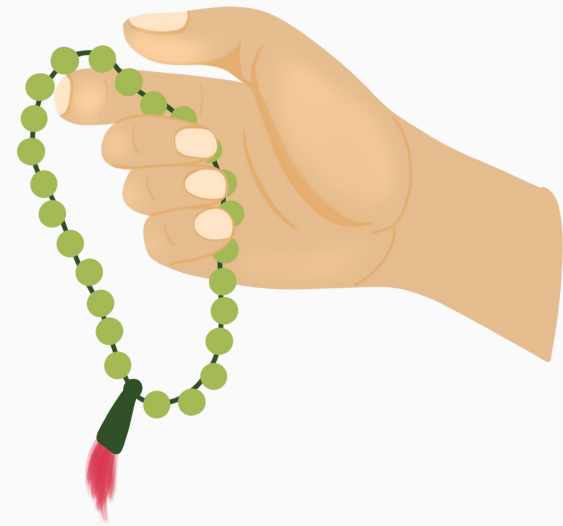
The musalla is the space of the mosque used for praying to God.



12

Islamic prayer beads, called subha, are used to help count recitations and glorify God (Muslims can use their fingers for this too.)

Subha usually have a minimum of 33 round beads.



13

‘*Wudhu*’ is a ritual washing performed by Muslims before prayer. It is a way to prepare to connect with God.

Muslims must be clean and wear good clothes before they present themselves before God in prayer.



14

The Qur'an is the holy book that Muslims hold to be the words of God.

It was revealed to the prophet Muhammad pbuh over 1400 years ago.



15

In a mosque, you will find a charity box where Muslims worshippers donate money which is then used for good causes.

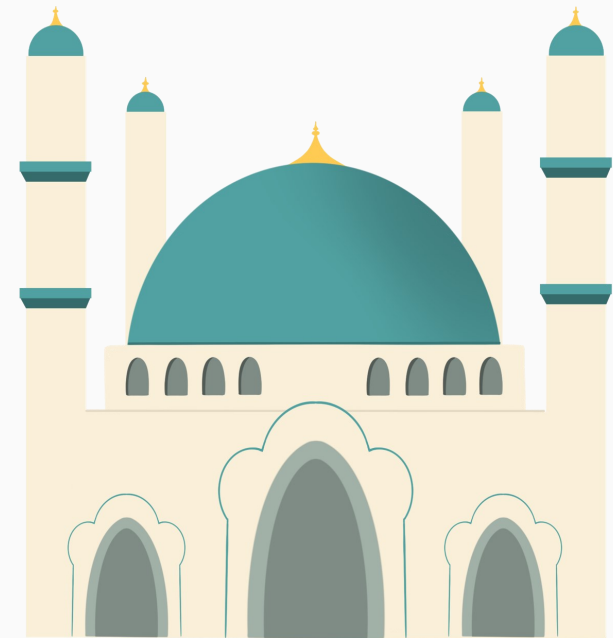
The money can be used to help the poor, fund schools, or other community projects.



16

There are no pictures or statues of people or animals in a mosque. Even the prophet Muhammad *pbuh* is not depicted.

This is because it can lead to idolatry which is the worship of something instead of God.



17

The word '*Islam*' carries three meanings:

- Peace
- Full Submission
- Sincerity



18

The word '*Muslim*' means:

A sincere person
who searches for
peace through sub-
mitting humbly to
their Creator.



19

The Qur'an has remained exactly the same, letter for letter, sound for sound, since it was first revealed over 1400 years ago.

A reason is because millions of Muslims have memorized the whole Qur'an from beginning to end.



20

Muslims believe all messengers and prophets are the best human beings, but none are divine.

The prophets include:
Adam, Noah, Moses, Jesus Christ, Muhammad
pbuh and many more.



21

All people in the eyes of God are as equal as the teeth on a comb. We are judged by God on our level of piety and righteousness.

In Islam, a male does not have privilege over a female. Whites do not have privilege over Blacks.



22

There are over 1.6 billion Muslims in the world which makes it the second largest religion in the world.

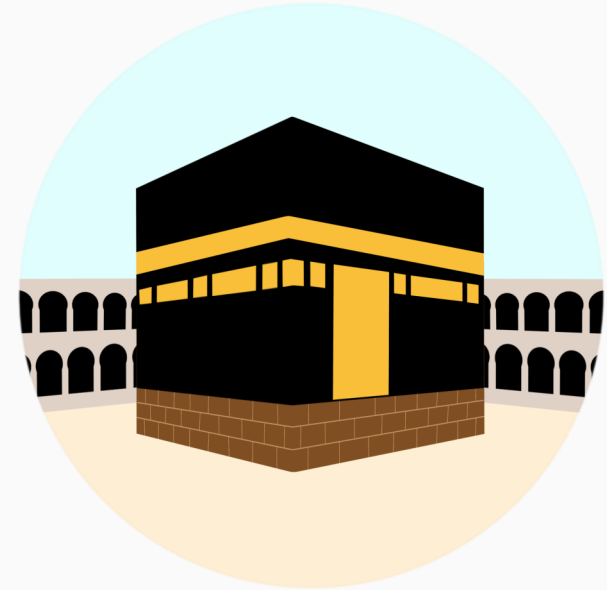
At 23%, Muslims make up nearly a quarter of the world's population.



23

The Ka'ba is a cube shaped building in Mecca. It is the most holiest site in the world for Muslims.

Muslims do not worship the Ka'ba. Instead, it is a centre point that unites Muslims around it for prayer.



24

When praying, Muslims face the Ka'ba which is in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. This direction of prayer is called the '*qibla*' (*kibla*).

No matter where we are on the planet, Muslims will find the qibla by locating Mecca using a compass (or a special app).

