

World Religions Project

Name: _____

Religion: _____

In this research project, you will become an expert on one of the five major world religions. You will be part of a group that works together to create an eye catching poster and put together a memorable class presentation all about your religion. The religions we will study are:

Buddhism Hinduism Islam
Judaism Christianity



You will be responsible for teaching the rest of the class all about your religion. Make sure to use your time wisely, do your best, take this project seriously, and have fun!

STEP 1: RESEARCH

After you have been assigned your religion, you and your group members will begin researching the provided subtopics in the library. You will decide among you how exactly you will divide the work, but ALL fact grid sheets MUST BE COMPLETED and everyone will receive an individual grade for this project.

The subtopics are as follows:

- Worship
- Origins / Founder
- Beliefs and teachings
- Festivals
- Buildings and places of worship
- Scriptures and important people
- Rites of passage/rituals
- Geography and Holy Places

*You will spend three classes in the library completing your research. For each day you are in the library, you will be required to completely fill out one fact grid sheet. Hence, you must use your time wisely and stay on track!

* You **must** use at least two print sources (books, articles).

*You will be required to submit a bibliography with your final project, so **DON'T FORGET TO WRITE DOWN YOUR SOURCES ON YOUR DRAFT BIBLIOGRAPHY SHEET EVERY TIME!**

STEP 2: POSTER

Working with your group, you will plan and complete a visually appealing poster that shows all of the important information you found. Think of your poster as a museum exhibit to teach the rest of the class about your religion.



- ❖ Each person is responsible for their own subtopic.
- ❖ Your information must be TYPED and presented in point form.
- ❖ Each member is responsible for contributing at least one large or two small pictures/diagrams/photos to the poster.
- ❖ On the reverse side of your poster, include a good copy of your bibliography. (It must be clear which sources were used by which students.)

STEP 3: PRESENTATION

As a group, plan a class presentation of your religion.

- ❖ Your presentation should be approximately 10 minutes long.
- ❖ Remember to cover only the most important points of your religion, not every single detail (this is where your summarizing and paraphrasing skills will come in handy!).
- ❖ Each person must contribute to the presentation. You will receive an individual mark for your speaking/presenting skills.
- ❖ Try to make the presentation interesting, or even unusual, so people remember the facts about your religion. If you wish, you may teach the class through a skit or play, as long as you make sure to get the basic facts across!



- ❖ During presentations, you will be required to take notes on other religions that you did not research. Make sure to pay close attention because you will be quizzed on all the religions!

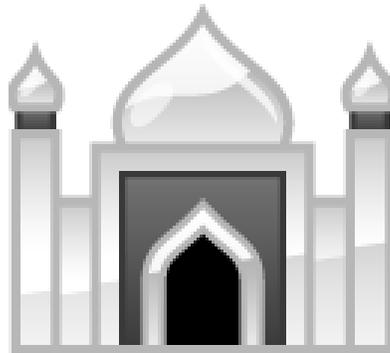
Presentation Date: _____

CRITERIA:

You will be evaluated on:

- Note-taking/research (/20)
- Poster/visuals (/10)
- Presentation skills (/30)
- Self-evaluation (/5)
- Peer-evaluation (/5)
- Work habits (/10)

TOTAL: 80 MARKS!



Geography

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- In which country did your religion begin? Briefly describe the climate and topography of the region.
- Complete a map showing the country of origin in red (you will be provided with a world map for this purpose).
- Identify other parts of the world where the religion is practiced today. Colour those areas yellow on your map. Make sure to clearly label the names of the countries.
- Identify and locate any holy places specific to your religion. Label them on the map and explain their significance/history in point form on a separate piece of paper.

Rites of Passage/Rituals

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- List (in point form) some key rites of passage / rituals practiced by the members of this religion.
- Under each rite of passage/ritual provide the following information in point form:
 - What are the activities associated with the ritual?
 - What are the rules and regulations?
 - Why is the ritual/rite important to the religion?
- Rites of passage/rituals contribute to a feeling of community or belonging among people who believe in a religion. List the ways that these rites/rituals encourage a feeling of community.
- Who is allowed to be included in the ritual/rite? Are there people excluded? If so, why?

Provide a drawing or photo that represents one or more of the rituals/rites. It may be a symbol used in the ritual/rite.

Scriptures

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- Give the name of the important book or books used in this religion.
- In point form, tell why the book or books are important to the religion.
- Who is said to have written the scripture?
- Is the language used in the book or scroll prose or poetry?
- How is the scripture used in the religion's ceremonies?
- Include a brief passage from (one of) the scriptures.
- Sketch the way the scripture looks.

Buildings and Places of Worship

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- Find the name of the building(s) used in this religion.
- Make notes on what the building used by this religion looks like.
- Describe the role of the building in this religion (How is it used? How often? Who uses it?)
- SKETCH:
 - The outside of a typical building used by the religion.
 - A floor plan of the interior layout of a typical building.

On your drawing, label important features and areas where specific religious activities take place.

*Alternatively, you may construct a model of a typical building used by the religion. If you wish to pursue this option, discuss it with your teacher first.

Worship

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- How do groups and individuals who believe in this religion worship?

- How do these people pray?
 - To whom do they pray?
 - What sorts of things do they pray for?
 - How often do they pray?
 - Do they pray publicly or privately?

- Who are the people that lead the faithful in worship?
 - What is their title?
 - What do they do to lead the faithful in worship?
 - What is their role in the religion?
 - How are these leaders dressed during various ceremonies?

- Provide one or more drawings/pictures that represent worship in this religion.

Origins

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- Where was your religion founded?
- How did it begin? Provide information outlining your religion's history.
- Was the religion successful immediately? What obstacles or difficulties did its founders and early followers face?
- Who the founder of this religion? Indicate 5 key points regarding the founder's life and their contributions to the religion.
- Name one other key figure, modern or historical, of this religion. Indicate 5 key points regarding this person's life and their contribution to the religion.

Festivals

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- List a minimum of 4 important festivals that people in this religion celebrate. Include the dates and time of the year the festival/holiday is held.

- Under each festival/holiday, provide the following information in point form:
 - What are the key features of the festival?
 - Why is the festival celebrated?
 - Are there important foods related to the festival? If so, what are they?
 - Where is the festival celebrated? Do the people have to go to a special place?
 - How long is the festival?
 - Do you have to wear special clothing or costumes at the festival?

- Provide at least one drawing or photo representing these celebrations.

Beliefs and Teachings

THE RELIGION I'M STUDYING IS: _____

- What are the major beliefs and/or teachings of this religion? Give a brief explanation of the teachings and/or beliefs.
- What deities (God or Gods) do the people of this religion believe in? What do the deities represent?
- If there are no gods in this religion, explain why.
- List important symbols that are a part of this religion. Sketch one or more of the icons or symbols and briefly explain what each one means.