

Y4/5 RE: The Life of the Buddha



Why are we learning about the Life of the Buddha?

We are **building on all our previous learning** about other world religions to help us with our understanding when learning about a new faith.

This **new learning is important because** Buddhism is the fourth largest world religion and is followed in many Asian countries. Learning about Buddhism offers us the opportunity to consider a widely followed faith that is not based upon the relationship between humanity and God but is rather focused on an understanding of human suffering and how to prevent it.

This **will help us get ready for future learning** about Buddha's teachings - exploring whether they can make the world a better place and the best way for a Buddhist to lead a good life. This learning also prepares us for learning about other faiths in Y5/6. This learning will also help us to be aware of our mental health in the future.

Important questions to answer:

- What makes you happy?
- Does being rich always make people happy?
- Did all of Siddhattha's actions make him happy? Why/why not?
- What does being happy mean to Buddhists?
- Is it possible for everyone to be happy?

Experiences we will have:

- Listen to music to evoke feelings and memories of happiness
- Create a class mobile of happiness

Things we need to know:

- To know how to describe what it feels like to be really happy
- To know different ways that money can be used, including buying/doing things for ourselves and helping others
- To know that Siddhartha was shocked by seeing illness, old age and death, which led him to his journey to enlightenment
- To know that Buddhists believe that trying to lead a good life which helps other and does not hurt people or animals helps keep people happy
- To know our own ideas for how people may help themselves to be happy

Skills we need to learn:

- I can recall a time I was really happy and how it felt
- I can categorise ideas for how to spend lots of money
- I can sequence events of the story of Siddhattha and reflect on which of them made him happy
- I can explain what the Buddha realised under the Bodhi tree
- I can express my own beliefs about whether helping others to be happy could help me to be happy

Subject Specific Vocabulary:

Bodhi tree	Channa	interpretation
Buddha	enlightenment	meditate
Buddhism	guru	Siddhattha
	holy man	suffering

