

How do people express their faith through The Arts?

In this unit, I will:
☐ Understand that The Arts can include pieces of art, sculpture, drama, music, dance and poetry.
☐ I know that art forms can be used to express deep feelings and emotions.
☐ I understand that people can express their religious beliefs and ideas through the arts.
☐ I can explain how some religious ideas and beliefs are easier to express through the arts (like through dance in Hinduism and art in Islam).
☐ I understand that not all religions express themselves through arts in the same ways.

Let's get ready for learning!



The verses that we are going to explore are quite tricky. Use these easier versions to understand what the writers mean and how they have written one idea and then emphasised the meaning by repeating the idea in the next line.

Psalm 19:1-2 New Life Version
The heavens are telling of the greatness of God and the great open spaces above show the work of His hands.
Day to day they speak. And night to night they show much learning.

All world's major faiths use the arts but in different ways.



In Islam, pictorial representation of Allah, Muhammad or any living creature is forbidden (shirk). Plants may be

In Hinduism, the Ramanyana is one of the best known poems which tells the story of Prince Rama. It is often performed through dance. The Ramanyana is an ancient Sanskrit epic which follows Prince Rama's quest, with the help of an army of monkeys, to rescue his beloved wife, Sita, from

Isaiah 53:5 New Life Version
⁵ But He was hurt for our wrong-doing. He was crushed for our sins. He was punished so we would have peace. He was beaten so we would be healed.

Psalm 24:1-2 New Living Translation
The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.. The world and all its people belong to him.
For he laid the earth's foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths.

But it was our sins that did that to him, That ripped and tore and crushed him - our sins!

drawn. Islamic artwork tries to represent spiritual truths and beauty, rather than physical representations. Geometric designs are particularly important. The circle and repeat tessellations remind believers that Allah is never ending and everlasting.

the clutches of Ravana. It is thought to be dated to around 500 BC to 100 BC. The central theme of Ramayana is Rama's search of Good – good conduct, good heart, good will, good words and a good world worth living in.



What part do the arts play in your life?
Why do people express themselves through the arts?

Glossary

The Arts	Different creative activity, such as pointing, music, writing and dance, producing works to be appreciated for their emotional power
Awe	A feeling of great respect, mixed with fear or wonder.
Calligraphy	Decorative writing or lettering
Convey	To communicate a message or information. To make an idea or feeling known or understandable.
Epic	A long book, poem, or film, whose story extends over a long period of time or tells of great events.
Examine	Inspect thoroughly to find out answers or further information.
Express	Communicate a thought or feeling in words, gestures or behaviour
Parallelism	In poetry, this is when one idea is echoed again in the next line. For example, using words to do with space in both lines to repeat the same idea. This parallels meaning.
Portray	To represent something. For example, ideas can be shown through dance, art or writing.
Reverence	A deep respect for someone or something.

An envelope is added here with information about the colours used in the Christian Calendar.
See the pdf version.

These are the colours used in the Church of England for the different seasons of the Church Year. There may be some local variations.

