



Jigsaw RE Knowledge Organiser

This knowledge organiser is a guide, offering key information to point the teacher in the right direction as to the beliefs underpinning the particular enquiry. The summaries must not be taken as the beliefs of ALL members of the particular religion.

Religion /Worldview: Christianity	Enquiry Question: Why has the Coventry Blitz shaped Christian worldviews locally and globally?	Age: 5-7	Local Enquiry
In this enquiry, the children focus on the Coventry Blitz (14th November 1940) and how Christians responded with forgiveness and reconciliation. They explore the symbols of peace created from the ruins (Cross of Nails, Charred Cross, "Father Forgive") and how this message spread globally through the Community of the Cross of Nails.			

Core Knowledge		Link to other aspects of belief	Personal connection / resonance
<p>14th November 1940: The morning after destruction of cathedral, Provost Richard Howard, the Cathedral leader, made a crucial decision. Instead of calling for revenge, he wrote "Father Forgive" on the cathedral wall (this phrase comes from Jesus' words on the cross).</p> <p>Reverend Arthur Philip Wales collected medieval nails from the burnt roof beams and fashioned them into a cross, representing reconciliation and the transformation of destruction into hope</p> <p>The new Cathedral (consecrated 1962): Built alongside the preserved ruins to show that new life can grow from destruction while remembering the past.</p> <p>Over 250 churches, cathedrals, and community centres worldwide have received a Cross of Nails from Coventry as part of the Community of the Cross of Nails.</p>		<p>Christian beliefs about forgiveness: Jesus taught "Love your enemies" (Matthew 5:44) Jesus forgave those who crucified him</p> <p>Christian beliefs about Peace-making: "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9) Christians believe peace-making requires action, not just words</p>	<p>Have I forgiven someone who hurt me? Was it hard? What helps me rebuild friendships? Can I be kind to people who are unkind to me? How would I feel if something I loved was destroyed? What would help me choose forgiveness? How can I be a peace-maker?</p>
Key Terms and Definitions	History/Context	Impact on believer/daily life	Spiral curriculum link
<p>Forgiveness: Choosing not to seek revenge</p> <p>Reconciliation: Making peace and restoring relationships</p> <p>"Father Forgive": Words expressing Christian choice to forgive</p> <p>Peace-maker: Someone who actively creates peace</p>	<p>The Blitz: A period during WW2 (1939-1945) when German aircraft bombed British cities</p> <p>Coventry was targeted because it was an important industrial city making vehicles, aircraft parts, and other equipment for the war</p> <p>14th November 1940: The night Coventry Cathedral and much of the city centre was destroyed by bombing. The old medieval cathedral had stood for hundreds of years before its destruction</p>	<p>At Coventry Cathedral: Daily prayers for peace; educational programmes; reconciliation services.</p> <p>Community of the Cross of Nails: Members commit to "Three Pillars": healing history's wounds, living with difference, building peace culture.</p> <p>Christian daily life: Practice active forgiveness; choose reconciliation over revenge; remember that peace-making requires courage.</p>	<p>EYFS Summer 2: What makes places special?</p> <p>Y1 Autumn 1: God as Father; "love your neighbour"</p> <p>Y2 Autumn 1: Is it possible to be kind to everyone?</p> <p>Y4 Spring 2: Is forgiveness always possible?</p> <p>Y6 Spring 1: Is anything eternal?</p> <p>Other Local units from syllabus</p>
Home learning ideas/questions: Visit Coventry Cathedral or view photos online. Talk about times when forgiveness was difficult. Create your own peace symbol. What would you include in a "Peace Toolkit"? How does your family practice forgiveness?			