

# LEARNING IN INSPIRING SPACES

## SENSES IN SPECIAL PLACES

<b>Activity</b>	Senses in Special Places
<b>Activity type</b>	Cathedral activity
<b>Duration</b>	75 minutes
<b>The children will: They will do this by:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand why the Cathedral is a special place for Christians</li><li>• Learning about important places inside the Cathedral and how they are used in worship</li><li>• Learning about Christian symbols and how they express religious meaning</li><li>• Using their senses to describe and respond to the Cathedral</li><li>• Reflecting and considering religious and spiritual feelings and experiences and concepts such as worship, wonder, joy, praise, thanks, concern and sadness</li><li>• Identifying what matters to them and others and communicating their responses</li></ul>
<b>Key vocabulary:</b>	Cathedral, font, cross, lectern, altar, bible, incense, choir, organ
<b>Please note:</b>	The children are invited to taste wafers used during Holy Communion and are welcome to touch the water in the font when learning about baptism. <b>Please advise us of any children who would not be permitted to do this.</b>
<b>Peterborough Agreed Syllabus</b>	<b>AT1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use religious vocabulary to describe some of the key features of Christianity</li><li>• Make links between beliefs and stories</li><li>• Begin to identify the impact religion has on the believer's lifestyle</li><li>• Describe some forms of religious expression</li></ul> <b>AT2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify what influences them, making links between aspects of their own and others' experiences</li><li>• Ask important questions about religious beliefs and lifestyles, linking their own and others' responses</li></ul>
<b>SMSC Ofsted Inspection Handbook 2015</b>	<b>Pupils' spiritual development is shown by their:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values</li><li>• sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them</li><li>• use of imagination and creativity in their learning willingness to reflect on their experiences.</li></ul> <b>Pupils' cultural development is shown by their:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others</li><li>• willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities</li><li>• interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.</li></ul>

- Before the visit why not.....**
- Introduce the children to the key vocabulary
  - Prepare some questions – what do we want to find out? You can send them to us ahead of time
  - Know the five senses
  - Go on a senses walk around the school
- During the visit why not.....**
- Teachers can take pictures of the Cathedral to use in follow up work
  - Record the words and phrases children use to describe and respond to the building
- After the visit why not.....**
- Create a display of the Cathedral using photos taken and words generated– what you found out
  - Reflect on the experience of being in the Cathedral – how did it make you feel?
  - Visit another Christian place of worship to compare. This website lists many different churches in Peterborough [www.churches-in-peterborough.org.uk](http://www.churches-in-peterborough.org.uk)
  - Write to us – tell us about your visit and what you did on your return to school. We'll display your letters and pictures in the Learning Centre!

### Preparing children for a visit to a place of worship

During your visit, there will be people in the building to pray. A member of the Schools and Families team will introduce the children to the Cathedral but it would be helpful if you could prepare them. Below are a few ideas:

- The Cathedral is a place of worship. **What is worship?** What does that mean to you?
- **Who worships at the Cathedral?** It is a Christian place of worship, and services (group worship) take place every day. The main service takes place on a Sunday but the Cathedral is open all year (except Boxing Day) for other services or for people to visit to pray on their own or in small groups or for general visitors
- **Will we experience worship on our visit?** If you are participating in a RE-focussed activity then you will learn about Christian worship. During your visit to the Cathedral there won't not be services taking place but there will be people visiting to pray on their own or in small groups
- **What will they be doing?** Lighting candles, talking to the priests about their worries or concerns, reading the bible, sitting quietly on one of the chairs
- **How should we show respect to those people?** By moving round the building sensibly, slowly and quietly, removing a hat if wearing one, keeping to main parts of the church and away from areas roped off (these are the most holy (important) areas of the church to Christian people), by having our phones on silent and taking telephone calls outside, being mindful of people sitting on their own or in small groups or lighting candles – they could be saying prayers.
- **"I'm not a Christian though...."** All are welcome in the Cathedral regardless of whether they are Christian or not.

**We hope you enjoy your visit to the Cathedral and look forward to welcoming you  
Alex, Judi and all the team in the Schools and Families Department**

