

Year 2 - R.E. - Judaism, beliefs and practices

Judaism - Practices

Judaism is the religion of Jewish people. Jewish people worship in a special building called a 'synagogue'. Inside the synagogue, a Rabbi may read the Torah to worshippers. The Torah is a series of special scrolls that contains stories and teachings. Two important figures in the Torah are Moses and Esther, each have stories written about them in the Torah.

Moses

Moses was the greatest of all of the Jewish prophets. The name 'Moses' means to 'take out' because Moses was taken out of the river when fleeing Egypt. Moses was born in a very difficult time, where the Pharaoh of Egypt (king) had declared that all Hebrew baby boys should be thrown in the river. God revealed the whole of the Torah to Moses, which he wrote down to share the message of God.



Key Vocabulary

Purim - Purim is a holiday that celebrates when Jewish people were saved by the bravery of a Jewish woman named Esther.

Halakha - collective body of Jewish religious laws from the written and oral Torah.

Rabbi - Jewish teacher

Special - belonging specifically to a particular person or place.

Synagogue - a special place where Jewish people worship.

Torah - God as revealed to Moses and recorded in the first five books of the Hebrew scriptures.

Moses - is an important person in Judaism and features in many stories. Moses showed good leadership of the Jewish people.

Esther - the hero of the Purim story. She has a scroll from the Torah to her story.