

RWV

Green religion? How and why should religious communities do more to care for the Earth?

Year 5

Spring 2

Key Knowledge

Many people from all different religious and non-religious backgrounds have strong views about the planet and how we can do more to care for Earth. They may have different views about who or what created the Earth but they agree that it is our responsibility to care for it.

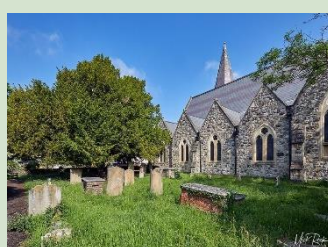
Muslims believe that Allah create the Earth and its beauty. Many believe that they have been appointed as a guardian of Earth. The Qur'an tells teaches that all living things should be treated equally.

Many Christians think of the world as a gift from God, a gift that people have damaged and need to mend and look after better. Some Christians teach that people are God's Stewards. God gives them the task of caring for the planet, loving the Earth.

Two fundamental beliefs of Hinduism are in Ahimsa and Atman. As a result, many Hindus are vegetarian. They also honour the goddess Bhumi, the goddess of Earth and believe they should love the Earth and take great care of it.

The festival of Tu B'Shevat, a new year for trees, is celebrated by Jewish people. It reminds them of the importance of the land and how much they rely on it for food. Jewish people often celebrate this festival by planting trees and eating fruit, particularly fruit that grows in Israel.

Key images



Enfield SACRE Statutory requirements

- A1 – Describe and make connections between different features of the religious and non-religious worldviews they study, discovering more about celebrations, worship, pilgrimages and the rituals which mark important points in life, in order to reflect on their significance.
- B2 – Understand the challenges of commitment to a community of faith or belief, suggesting why belonging to a community may be valuable, both in the diverse communities being studied and in their own lives.
- C3 – Discuss and apply their own and others' ideas about ethical questions, including ideas about what is right and wrong and what is just and fair, and express their own ideas clearly in response.

Prior learning

- Throughout their time at the school children will have learnt some of the major beliefs of different religions including the different creation stories and theories. In Year 5 Geography, they will have learnt about climate change.

Key vocabulary

Spelling	Definition
Khalif	A guardian.
Steward	Someone who is responsible for taking care of somewhere.
Atman	A belief that there is a divine spirit in all living things.
Ahimsa	The practice of non-violence and harmlessness
Deity	A God or Goddess.
Tu B'Shevat	A festival celebrating the new year for trees.

Possible experiences

Invite parents in to talk about their religion and beliefs related to the environment.

Plant a tree in the school grounds or park.

Possible deeper thinking questions

Who does the Earth belong to?

What can we really do to help prevent worsening the climate crisis.