

Make a church booklet



Time needed: 30 minutes

Suggested resources:

- sheet of St Paul's Bow Common logos (attached)
- sheets of A4 paper cut into thirds horizontally so that each child has 3 sheets (or more) to fold in half and make into a notebook
- coloured pens and pencils
- stapler

Idea:

Churches are buildings where Christians meet to worship and pray. Muslims worship in a mosque; Jews in a Tabernacle or Temple; Hindus also meet in a Temple; and Sikhs meet together in a Gurdwara. Each place has its own special features, signs, symbols and styles of architecture.

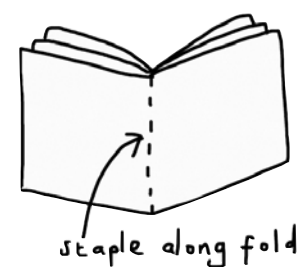
When you're outside St Paul's Bow Common, you will notice some of the most common features of a church building. It has a cross, which is also a weather-vane, on the very top of the roof. Can you see it? It has a bell and some very big doors for welcoming in the people. And it has some text written in red around the entrance. What does it say?

Inside there are more special features including a font, a bible, an altar, silver and glass candle holders, an organ, pews (the benches that people sit on) and a special chair for the priest. Which of these things would you also find in a religious buildings? Making a record of what you see helps to remember what they mean and why they're important.

Making a church booklet.

Step 1

Take your sheets of paper and fold them in half so that they make a little booklet.



Step 2

Staple them at the centre of the book so that pages hold together. Now cut out the St Paul's Bow Common logo and stick to the front cover, or draw a church.



Step 3

On each page draw and colour one of the features or symbols of St Paul's or the church you visited. Add some key words which describe what it might be used for or symbolises.

Step 4

Decorate each page so that it becomes a special booklet.



Further reading and things to think about

The church of St Paul's Bow Common was built in 1958. The original church had been built 100 years earlier, in 1858. It was destroyed by a bomb during World War II (1939-45). The people who designed the new church (called 'architects') wanted the new building to reflect the ideas of the post-war world. The building also symbolises many important Christian beliefs.

Churches and other places of worship often have windows and arches that point upwards to remind them of God and heaven. Can you see the triangular windows and the pointed lantern roof at St Paul's?

As well as the cross on the top of the church there is a bell on the outside. Can you find it? Think about when the bell is rung and what it might mean. What other religions have a 'call to prayer' or use bells?

Above the entrance to St Paul's is some writing from the Bible. It includes the words 'This is none other but the House of God'. Where else might you see writing in a religious building? Think about which

religions use specially written texts from which to read and learn.

When you go inside St Paul's can you find:

- the octagonal-shaped font with water in it
- the organ pipes (can you also find where the organist plays it?)
- a dove and olive branches
- the cross with silver circles
- candles in purple glass holders
- a red anchor painted on an altar
- a processional route or path that is in a different colour paving stone

Think about other religions that use water for washing or blessings.

What do you think the organ is used for and what other kinds of music do you hear in churches or other religious buildings?

Why do you think there is a path around the church? Who would process on it?

Lots of religions use candles as a symbol for God and goodness. Can you see other places in St Paul's where there are candles?

Learning objectives

- Understand that religions make use of symbols to express their beliefs
- Understand that religious buildings are designed to reflect important beliefs and to fit the practices of the religion
- Understand that many religions share similar symbols

Curriculum links

Religion KS1 - Visiting a church / St Paul's to find out about the features of a church and the meanings of symbols that are used.

Art KS1 - to use drawing to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination; to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products.

