

RE · Y2–Y6

World Religion Festivals

Learning mat — Y2–Y6

Major festivals across religions

1

Christmas (Christianity)

Celebrates the birth of Jesus. 25 December. Key practices: gift-giving, church services (especially midnight mass), nativity scenes, Advent.

2

Easter (Christianity)

Celebrates Jesus's resurrection after crucifixion. Most important Christian festival. Includes: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday.

3

Eid ul-Fitr (Islam)

Celebrates the end of Ramadan (month of fasting). Key practices: prayer, new clothes, family gatherings, charity (Zakat ul-Fitr), sweet foods. Three days long.

4

Eid ul-Adha (Islam)

Festival of sacrifice. Commemorates Ibrahim's (Abraham's) willingness to sacrifice his son. Includes: sacrifice of an animal (meat shared with others and charity), family gatherings.

5

Passover / Pesach (Judaism)

Celebrates the Exodus from Egypt. Eight days. Key practices: Seder meal (retelling the Exodus story), removing leavened bread (chametz), reading the Haggadah.

6

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (Judaism)

Jewish New Year and Day of Atonement. Ten days of reflection between them. Yom Kippur: a day of fasting and prayer — the holiest day in the Jewish year.



7

Diwali (Hinduism and Sikhism)

Festival of lights. Hindus celebrate Lakshmi and the return of Rama. Sikhs celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas (Guru Hargobind's release from prison). Key: lights (diyas), fireworks, sweets, family.

8

Vaisakhi (Sikhism)

Harvest festival and anniversary of the founding of the Khalsa (Sikh community). Key practices: processions (Nagar Kirtan), gurdwara services, langar.

9

Wesak / Buddha Day (Buddhism)

Marks the Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and death. Celebrated at the full moon in May. Key practices: meditation, releasing captive animals, lantern-floating.

