

**Caroline Haslett Primary School – RE**

**Topic: Unit 6 - Judaism;  
Sacred space; Synagogue,  
Belonging**

**Year 1**

**Do we need shared special  
places?**

**Knowledge**

A synagogue is a place of Jewish worship.

Important features of a synagogue include the Ark, the Torah scrolls, the Bimah and the Ner Tamid.

There are different special places for different religions and beliefs.

Shared special places can help people feel like they belong.

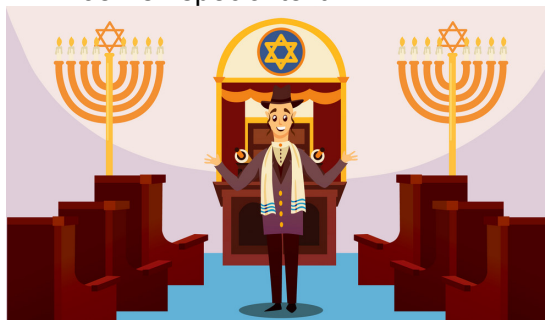
Special places can help people to practice their spiritual beliefs.

**Activities**

- Do you have a special place? Describe it, draw it and say why it is special.
- Explore a synagogue, especially the Ark, the Torah scrolls, the Bimah, the Ner Tamid and find out how the synagogue is used for worship, prayer and celebration.
- Visit a synagogue or take an online tour.
- Interview a Jewish believer about how they use the synagogue and what it means to them.
- Look at how a synagogue helps Jewish people to understand their faith.

**Vocabulary**

- **Ark** – a place in a synagogue where the scrolls of the Torah are kept
- **Bimah** – a platform in a synagogue where scrolls are read and prayers led
- **Hebrew** – the language of the Jewish people
- **Judaism** – religion based on belief in one God and on the laws contained in the Torah and Talmud
- **Ner Tamid** – an eternal light that reminds worshippers of the presence of God
- **Synagogue** – a Jewish place of worship
- **Scrolls** – a roll of paper with writing on
- **Torah** – the first 5 books of the Jewish special text



**Skills**

- Recognise artefacts from a synagogue
- Recognise what makes the synagogue special to Jewish people
- Say what is good about having a shared special place
- Talk about whether special places help people to feel that they are part of a group