

# Religious Education Knowledge Organiser – Year 3

## Thematic Unit

## How and why do people mark the significant events in life?

### Key Vocabulary

<b>life</b>	Existence of an individual
<b>commitment</b>	Being dedicated to a cause of activity
<b>baptism</b>	Becoming part of the Christian church by being immersed in water
<b>Bar Mitzvah</b>	Jewish ceremony marking a boy becoming an adult or 'son of the commandments'
<b>Bat Mitzvah</b>	Jewish ceremony marking a girl becoming an adult or 'daughter of the commandments'
<b>ceremony</b>	A religious occasion celebrating an event
<b>reincarnation</b>	Rebirth of a soul into another body or 'transmigration of the soul'
<b>marriage</b>	The legal, and sometimes religious, union of two people
<b>dharma</b>	Performance of duties for a Hindu
<b>the Vedas</b>	Holy scriptures for Hindus
<b>Upanayana</b>	The Hindu 'sacred thread' ceremony usually for boys

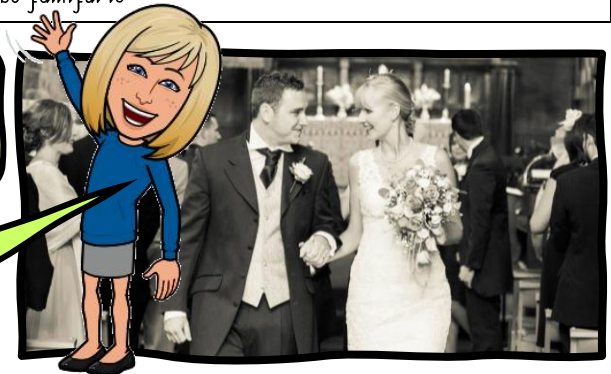
### Key Questions and Golden Nuggets

What does the idea of the journey of life mean to us?	Many people describe life as a journey with lots of different significant events. Many religions mark these significant events with special ceremonies.
What is the significance of baptism to Christians? What happens and what does it mean?	Different Christians have different beliefs about baptism but they all involve becoming part of the Christian church and being washed clean with water. 'Infant baptism' happens when parents bring a small child to be baptized. This is often followed by 'confirmation' when the child has grown up and makes the commitments for themselves too. A 'believer's baptism' happens when an adult chooses to be baptised."
How do Jewish people mark becoming an adult?	Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah mark the move for Jewish young people from childhood towards adulthood. After becoming Bar Mitzvah (boys) and Bat Mitzvah (girls) – meaning 'son/daughter of the commandment' – young people are considered responsible for their own decisions and actions and old enough to follow the mitzvot, commandments, for themselves.
What ceremonies do Hindus mark in the journey of life?	Between the age of 8 and 12 some Hindu boys (and sometimes, but more rarely, girls) go through the ceremony of the 'sacred thread'. He will be given a 'sacred thread' which he must wear all his life, a new thread must be put on before an old one can be removed. The ceremony is sometimes called second birth because it is meant to purify the person giving him a fresh start for the next stage of his life as an adult.
Why do people choose to get married? What do wedding ceremonies show us about commitment, love, promises?	<p>Many people choose to get married as a commitment to each other. Most major religions share some key ideas about marriage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is intended to be a lifetime commitment</li> <li>• It is a place to raise children in a family</li> <li>• It is something both people should be faithful to</li> </ul>



Here is Mr Willetts at his Christian believer's baptism. He was fully immersed under the water as a symbol of his faith.

Here is Mrs Powell at her wedding. It took place at a church because Mrs Powell wanted a traditional wedding.



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Here is an adult Christian have a believer's baptism in the sea!




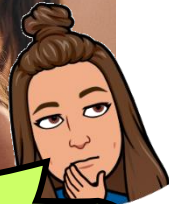
Here is a little baby being Christened at her local church. The vicar uses water and marks the symbol of a cross on her forehead. Her parents are making promises on her behalf. When she is older she can go through 'confirmation' if she wants to and confirm her belief in the promises her parents made for her.




Here is a 13 year old Jewish boy reading the Torah scrolls at his Bar Mitzvah. He is celebrating becoming a 'son of the commandment'. He is now old enough to make his own decisions and to follow the mitzvot (commandments) himself.




This Jewish girl is now Bat Mitzvah. Most Jewish girls become adults at age 12 but this girl had her ceremony age 13 like Jewish boys because she is from a progressive family and believes in equality between boys and girls. She is now a 'daughter of the commandment'.



1. I'm a Hindu
2. My faith is called Hinduism
3. I go to Mandir
4. I read the Vedas
5. I believe in one main god called Brahman who takes many forms



Rahul



Maya



I had my upanayana ceremony (Sacred Thread) when I was nine. I was very excited. First, I had to bathe and have my head shaved. Then I put on new clothes. One of our traditions is that we ask our mother and relatives to give us alms (this may be money or gifts). My guru (spiritual teacher) said the Gayatri mantra – it's a special prayer I have to say three times every day. When the thread, which some Hindus call Jenoi, was placed over my shoulder, I felt so proud. It has three strands which remind me of my duties to God, to my ancestors and my guru. I had to promise to study the Vedas (holy books) with the help of my guru. Then I gave my teacher a present.

