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| Baha’i’– - What is the Baha’i Faith? | November 2023 Y3/4 | |
| WALT: Explore the Baha’i place of worship and religion and what is important | Me | Teacher |
| WILF:   * I can write a question (or two) to ask a Baha’i person about their faith |  |  |

Year 3 and year 4 classes were asked to write a question. The following are the personal answers from a Baha’i follower living in Chester.

BAHAI FAITH QUESTIONS

1. What age do you have to be to go into the Lotus Temple? - any age including new born babies!
2. Can anyone go into the Lotus Temple? - yes, absolutely anyone.
3. Are you allowed to go in the Lotus Temple if you are not of Bahai faith? - yes, people from any religion or no religion are welcome
4. What drinks do you drink? - any drinks but no alcohol.
5. What foods do you eat? - we can eat any foods although we try to eat healthily
6. What can you do inside the Lotus Temple?  - pray, reflect quietly, sing, meditate, share friendship
7. Why is there water outside the Lotus Temple? - just to make it more beautiful and cooling in a hot country (although people do not bathe in it)
8. What are the pools for? - just for decoration
9. Why are there so many entrances to the Temple and are all Temples the same? each temple has 9 entrances to go inside, representing the major religions of the world
10. Do all Worship Temples have 9 doors? - yes. 9 is a special, spiritual number
11. Out of all the flowers, why the Lotus flower? - this is the national flower of India so the architect designed the Indian temple to look like a Lotus flower
12. What is the meaning of the symbol Bahai people have? - there are 2 main symbols. One is a beautiful decoration made up of Arabic calligraphy which means "God is the most glorious". The other is the 9 pointed star.
13. How many Gods are in the Faith? - we believe there is only one God which is the same God for all the major religions
14. What is the God (or gods) in your Faith? - God
15. Do you learn about religion in school? - yes it is very important for children of Baha'i families to learn about all religions
16. How long does it take to reflect in the worship Temple? - as long as you like
17. Why do you reflect? - to remind yourself that God is greater than us and to ask for guidance in our lives and to reflect on our own daily actions
18. What is like being inside a Temple? - peaceful
19. Are the boys and girls separate? no everyone is mixed together
20. Why do you have a temple? - Baha'is can pray and worship anywhere but it is special to go to a temple where lots of people are gathered together
21. Why are you silent when you worship? we do not have communal prayers where people say prayers altogether - one person reads a prayer at a time whilst the others listen
22. Which country mainly follow the Bahai religion? there are Bahais all over the world

Why are Temples important and why don't you pray inside them?

1. Do you pray and why? Baha'is pray daily, at least once a day, usually morning and night

How long are you inside the Temple?

1. How do you pray? we sit or stand

Why is the Temple so important?

1. Would you go to a different temple or just the Lotus Temple? there are quite a few beautiful temples around the world so people go to whichever one they can. One day there will be one in Britain.
2. Do all have temples have chairs/seating like the Lotus Temple? - yes, some kind of simple seating
3. Why do you want peace between religions? Baha'u'llah (founder of the Baha'i Faith) said that now is the time for religions to come together in unity and to find ways of living peacefully together
4. Where are you from?  (I am not sure if this question is aimed at the you or the religion?) I live in Chester, born in England! The Baha'i Faith started in Iran
5. What do you believe? I think I'll have to come to your school to visit so that we can chat together about this one!!