

Islam

Islam is the second most popular religion in the world.

Key Vocabulary

Muslim	A follower of the religion of Islam.
Allah	The Arabic name that Muslims use for God.
Five Pillars of Islam	The five things that Muslims are expected to do.
ummah	Global Muslim Community.
Salah	The second pillar of Islam where Muslims are encouraged to pray to Allah five times a day.
Aqiqah	A Muslim rite of passage at 7/14/21/28 etc days old to welcome the infant into ummah .
adhaan	A call to prayer, that is whispered into the baby's ear soon after it has been born.

Key Questions

- What do Muslims believe about Creation?
- What do Muslims do to celebrate the birth of a baby?
- How does it help Muslims belong to the community?
- How does praying 5 times a day help a Muslim to feel like they belong?

Main Beliefs

Muslims believe that there is only one God called Allah. They believe Allah is the only ruler of the universe. The word 'Islam' means submission and obedience to Allah.

Muhammed is so highly respected by Muslims that they will say "Peace and blessings be upon him" after his name is spoken.



Welcoming a new baby in Islam.

When a baby is born into a Muslim family, it has the **adhaan** (call to prayer) whispered into its ears so it is the first words they hear. This is to encourage the baby to grow into an individual who will love and worship Allah.

At 7 days (14/21/28 etc days) old, the family will hold an **Aqiqah** ceremony to welcome the infant into the **ummah** (Muslim community). The baby's hair is shaved and the weight of the shaved hair is used to calculate the worth of a gift, which is offered to those less fortunate in order to bring harmony and balance to the world, in which Allah created.