THE SPIRE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND LEARNING TRUST
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Unit 2.11 RE TODAY	How and why do people mark the significant events of life?	Year:	3	Term:	Summer 2

KNOWLEDGE BUILDING BLOCKS

Pupils should know:

❖ Which times are special and why (EYFS)
❖ How and why we celebrate sacred times such as Christmas (Incarnation), Easter (Salvation), Shabbat, Ramadan, Eid-ul-Fitr and Diwali.

Ceremonies mark milestones in life.

Christians have **baptisms** to welcome babies, children and adults into church. It symbolises a commitment to living a life as a Christian. Holy water is used as a symbol of being cleansed and made ready for a new life for God.

Some Hindu communities have a **Sacred Thread** ceremony for boys to show they are ready to take on religious responsibilities.

Bar Mitzvah is when a Jewish child reaches an age where they take responsibility for themselves. They read from the Torah, in Hebrew publicly in the synagogue. The ceremony is usually followed by a party involving food, music and dancing. It is expected for a boy to give a speech at the do to mark his new status as a man.

Humanists are non-religious. They celebrate special moments too. People get married as a symbol of love and commitment.

ceremony	A formal religious or public occasion, especially one celebrating a particular event, achievement, or anniversary	publicly	To be seen by other people
community	A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common	symbolism	The use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities
humanist	Someone with a a rationalist outlook attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters	Bar Mitzvah	The initiation ceremony of a Jewish boy who has reached the age of 13 and ready to observe religious precepts and take part in public worship
Baptism	The ceremony where someone is welcomed into the Christian Church.	Sacred Thread	A cotton thread with which a Hindu youth is given at the ceremony of initiation. It is worn constantly thereafter from the left shoulder across the body to the right