#### **Teacher Supplementary Notes**

#### Slide 1 of 10 - Salat (Prayer)

Slide 2 of 10 - Lesson Outline (outline learning objectives and activities from the slide)

## Slide 3 of 10 - What is Salat (prayer)?

(A) Knowledge and understanding

- Salat (prayer) is a form of worship for Muslims.
- Salat is one of the five pillars of Islam *(Can children remember any of the other Pillars?).*
- Muslims worship and communicate with Allah through prayer.
- As part of the Salat, there are certain prayers which must be recited in Arabic. Muslims try to learn these prayers by heart from a young age.
- In addition to reciting these Arabic prayers, Muslims also pray to Allah in their own language, asking for Allah's help, thanking Allah, asking for forgiveness or seeking guidance from Allah.
- Salat helps Muslims to build a closer relationship with Allah.

(B) Ideas and insights

• Who do you turn to when you have a problem or need help?

## Slide 4 of 10 - Video on Salat

(A) Knowledge and understanding

- Note: Focus on the ablution aspect of the video as the remainder of the content will be addressed in the presentation slides.
- Ablution (wudhu) is how Muslims clean themselves before every Prayers.
- They can also perform '*tayyamum*' if no water is available this is done by rubbing hands on clean dust or sand and then wiping them over the face and forearms.
- Wudhu helps to keep Muslims clean and gets them ready for Prayer.
- Ablution has to be performed again if you sleep, pass wind, go to the toilet, fall unconscious, are injured, bleed or vomit.
- In every step that involves the right and left body part, wash the right one first and then the left one e.g.: first the right hand, then the left. Most steps are carried out 3 times.

(B) Ideas and insights

• Discuss the reasons for ablution - why do Muslims have to be clean before Prayer? Explain to the children that we clean ourselves before meeting others, or going somewhere special. Praying to Allah is very special, so it's important that we become clean to prepare ourselves physically and mentally for Prayer.

## Slide 5 of 10 - the 5 Daily Prayers

- Knowledge and understanding
  - Muslims can pray to Allah in their hearts at any time but there are 5 obligatory Prayers each day.
  - The 5 obligatory Prayers are called Fajr, Zuhr, Asr, Maghreb and Isha.
  - As well as performing ablution, Muslims should also cover their heads before offering Salat as a mark of respect.
  - Women wear a scarf and men wear a cap called a Topi (*pictures on slide 5*)
- Ideas and Insights
  - Why do you think Muslims pray 5 times a day? This allows Muslims to remember Allah throughout the day.

# Slide 6 of 10 - When do Muslims Pray?

(A) Knowledge and understanding

- Each prayer has a designated time of day during which it must be performed.
- Muslims plan their day-to-day tasks around the Salat times to ensure that Salat is performed at the correct times.
- The exact time of each prayer changes throughout the year as the days become longer and shorter. For example, the time for sunrise and sunset changes throughout the year.
- The importance of praying on time was emphasised by the Holy Prophet of Islam, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Once the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was asked: Which action is dearest to Allah?" He answered: "Performance of Salat (prayer) at its proper time." (Source: Bukhari). This is a Hadith', or 'saying' of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

(B) Ideas and insights

- What things do you do at set times during the day?
- Do you think having a routine in our day helps us? How?

## Slide 7 of 10 - Adhan: The Call to Prayer

- Knowledge and understanding
  - In the early days of Islam, there was no prescribed way of telling people that the time for prayer had commenced, nor was there any means to call the Muslims to the mosque for congregational prayers.
  - The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) asked his companions as to what should be done to call Muslims to the mosque for congregational prayers. Two of his companions related to him a dream in which they had seen someone announcing the prayer time and calling people to the mosque for congregational prayer in a loud voice. They both related the same words which they had heard in the dream.

- The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was in no doubt that this was a message from Allah so he adopted the method of Adhan to call worshippers to the mosque.
- Adhan is recited in a loud voice, with fingers touching the ears and while facing the direction of the Holy Ka'aba in Makkah.
- The person who recites the Adhan is known as the "Mu'adhin".
- In Muslim countries, the Adhan can be heard five times a day from a Mosque. When Muslims hear the Adhan, it means it is time to go to the Mosque for prayer.
- Ideas and Insights
  - Use the Audio link on slide 7 to listen to the Adhan being recited.
  - Have children ever been to a Muslim country where they heard the Adhan being relayed from a Mosque (eg, Dubai)?

## Slide 8 of 10 - Actions of Salat

(A) Knowledge and understanding

- Watch the video (*link in slide 8*) and summarise the actions of Salat (*Note that if someone is unable to physically perform all the movements, like the elderly, they can sit and perform salat.*)
  - Qiyam: standing position
  - Ruku (bending forward with hands on knees),
  - $\circ$  Sajdah forehead, hands and knees touching the floor

(B) Ideas and insights

• Allah has made it easy for everyone to pray - young and old, and allows other options for ablution - what does this show about Allah and his attributes? He is kind and wants to make Islam easy for everyone to follow.

## Slide 9 of 10 - Where do Muslims pray?

(A) Knowledge and understanding

- Muslims can pray at the Mosque with others. These are called congregation prayers and are led by an 'Imam'. The Imam leads the prayer from the front of the mosque. Worshippers stand in rows, shoulder to shoulder behid the Iman. Everyone follows the same actions of prayer at the same time.
- Muslims can also pray individually at home, at work, at school or anywhere that is quiet and clean and allows them to concentrate and focus on their prayer.
- Muslims pray on a Prayer Mat (see pictures on slide 9).

(B) Ideas and insights

- Prayer mats what does a prayer mat look like? Can you guess how it might feel?
- At the Mosque, everyone is praying together, standing in rows. There is no reserved spot for anyone. What does that show? It shows that everyone is equal and that Allah wants us to be united.

**Slide 10 of 10 –** Quiz: Online; link on slide.

Activities - See lesson plan