

**Subject**

R.E.

Theme

Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?

Term

4

What should I already know?

I will already have learnt about:

- Jewish people believe in one God.
- Family and home are important to Jewish people.
- Jewish people celebrate festivals to remind them of what God is like. Festivals include Passover and Rosh Hashanah
- Gratitude, forgiveness, salvation and freedom are important values to Jewish people.

What should I know by the end of the unit?**Make sense of beliefs:**

- Identify and explain Jewish beliefs about God.
- Give examples of some texts that say what God is like and explain how Jewish people interpret them.

Understand the impact:

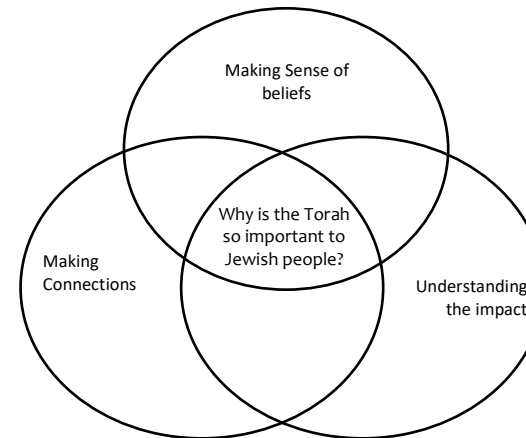
- Make clear connections between Jewish beliefs about the Torah and how they use and treat it.
- Make clear connections between Jewish commandments and how Jews live (e.g., in relation to kosher laws).
- Give evidence and examples to show how Jewish people put their beliefs into practice in different ways (e.g., some differences between Orthodox and Progressive Jewish practice).

Make connections

- Make connections between Jewish beliefs studied and explain how and why they are important to Jewish people today.
- Consider and weigh up the value of tradition, ritual, community, study and worship in the lives of Jews today, and articulate responses on how far they are valuable to people who are not Jewish.

What will I learn about?**I will learn about:**

- Jewish beliefs about God in the 'Shema' and its use in the mezuzah and tefillin.
- Jewish ideas about the nature of God.
- Sefer Torah – how it is produced, treated, and used.
- Examples of texts and stories from different parts of the Torah and the importance of regular study for Jews.
- The Torah commandments (mitzvot), including the Ten Commandments.
- Kosher food laws - one group of mitzvot which deals with food. How kosher food laws affect everyday lives of Jewish people.
- Diversity in Judaism – Orthodox and Progressive Jews. Similarities and differences in synagogues.
- The role of tradition, ritual, community, study and worship in the world today.

How do these ideas work together?**Key Vocabulary**

Shema	A very important Jewish prayer.
Mezuzah	A parchment inscribed with texts and attached in a case to the doorpost of a Jewish house.
Orthodox	A traditional branch of Judaism, strictly observing Jewish laws.
Progressive	A more relaxed and open view of the beliefs, teachings and practices of Judaism.
Tefillin	A cubic black leather boxes with leather straps that Orthodox Jewish men wear on their head and their arm during weekday morning prayer.
Sefer Torah	A handwritten scroll
Torah	The Jewish holy book. Torah means law...
Synagogue	A Jewish place of worship.
Shabbat	Most important day of worship.