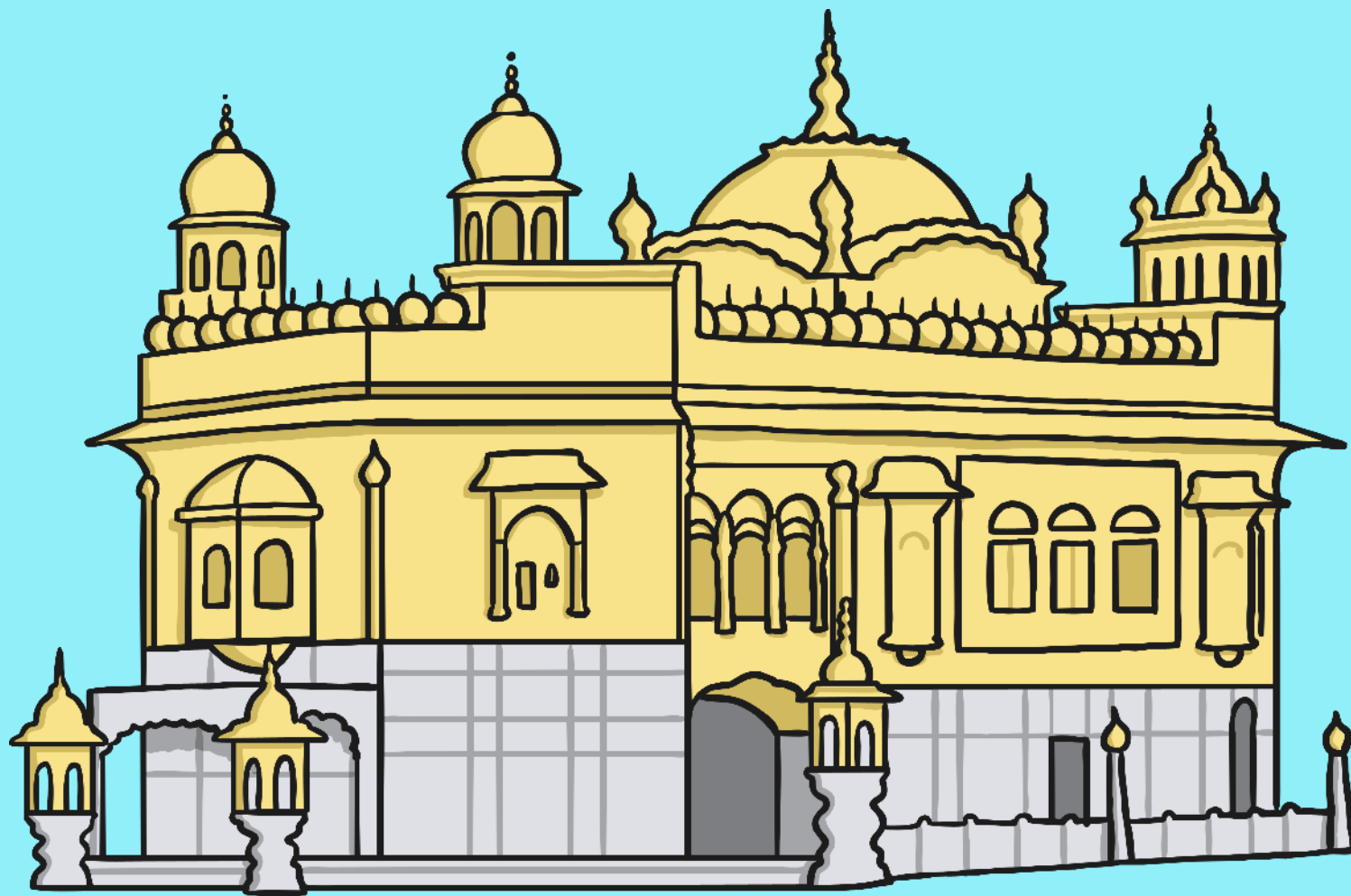


Places of Worship



A task setting PowerPoint about the Sikh gurdwara for Key Stage 1.



Learning Objective

- To learn about what you might see and experience at a Sikh gurdwara.
- To learn about why it is an important place to many people.

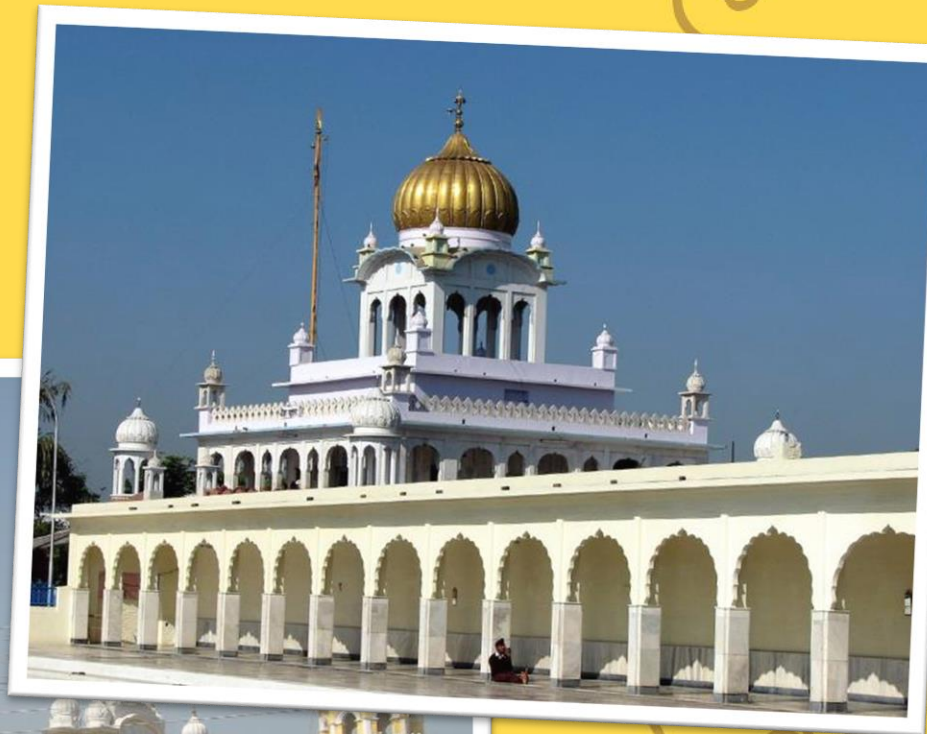
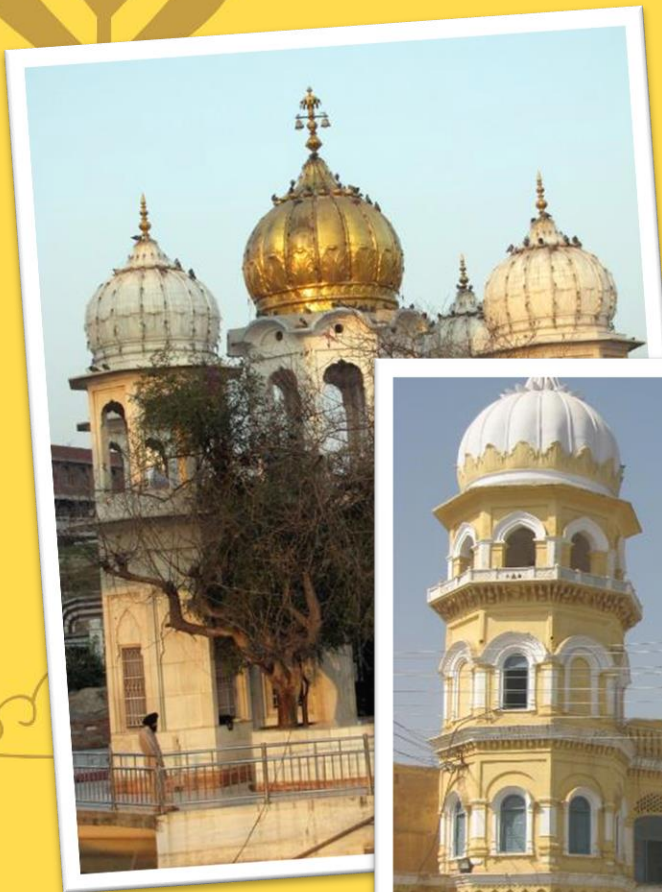


Success Criteria

- I can list the things that are the same and different about Sikh gurdwaras around the world.
- I can name and describe special objects that can be found inside.
- I understand why the gurdwara is an important place by describing what happens there.
- I can list rules for how to behave inside.

Starter Activity

What do all of these buildings have in common?



What is it like inside a Sikh gurdwara?



Guru Granth Sahib

This is the Sikh holy book. It is treated like a person and even has its own room during the night. The book is placed on a raised platform under a canopy and covered with an expensive cloth during the day



Important Features of a Sikh gurdwara

Chaur

A fan which is waved over the Guru Granth Sahib as a sign of respect.



Langar

This is a free kitchen where food is served to worshippers without charge.



Flags

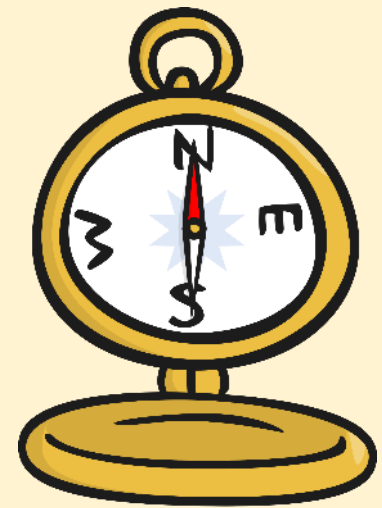
Gurdwaras fly flags outside to show that they are a special place of worship. The flag contains the Sikh symbol.



Important Features of a Sikh gurdwara

The Four Doors

There are four doors into the gurdwara to show that people from the north, east, south and west are welcome.



Why do people go to a Sikh gurdwara?

Many Sikhs visit a gurdwara for worship. The gurdwara is also a place to learn more about Sikhism. The gurdwara is a community centre too, offering food, shelter and company for those who need it.

The morning service begins with singing a hymn, there is also a religious talk (called a sermon), prayers are said then there are readings from the Guru Granth Sahib (the holy book). Last of all, food is offered to everyone so people can eat and spend time together.



Why do people go to a Sikh gurdwara?

People also visit the gurdwara during special festivals to celebrate Gurus such as Guru Nanak because he started the Sikh faith.

Sikhs don't have priests so any Sikh can lead the prayers and read from the Guru Granth Sahib.



Showing Respect

Anyone is welcome in a gurdwara but there are certain rules to follow:



- Cover your head
- Take off your shoes and wash hands and feet before entering
- When you enter the main prayer hall, bow in front of the holy book, touching the floor with your forehead

Showing Respect

- Offer a donation such as money, flowers or food
- Sit quietly on the floor with your legs crossed, facing the Guru Granth Sahib
- Never point your feet at the Guru Granth Sahib as this is disrespectful
- Men and women sit in different places





Plenary

Why do you think it is important to many Sikhs to worship and eat together in the gurdwara?

Do you have any other questions about this place of worship?

