

Year Group	Worldview: Sikhi
Strand:	Theology and Human and Social Science
Key Question:	What is the Guru Granth Sahib and why is it important to Sikhs?
Focus of study:	Sacred text and the impact on practice.
<p>Brief Background knowledge for teachers</p> <p>The Sikh Holy text is called the Guru Granth Sahib and is regarded by most Sikhs as the 11th guru- not a book or a god. It was first compiled by the 5th Guru and then added to by the 10th, after which time it has been copied so as to ensure that every copy has 1430 pages and the same words in the same places.</p> <p>It contains hymns of praise to God, written by the Gurus and some Hindu and Muslim teachers. The prayers are designed to be sung and are arranged according to the melody in which they are to be sung, by theme and by author.</p> <p>Copies are kept in the Gurdwara, as the text has to be treated in certain ways. It is placed ceremonially in a bed overnight and got up in the morning and placed under the canopy in the centre of the prayer room during the day, where it is kept under cover when not being read. Anyone may read from the book, as all people are viewed as equals.</p> <p>The Guru Granth Sahib is at the centre of most Sikh festivals, called Gurburbs, and particularly the Arkhand Path festivals where the entire scripture is read over a 48hour period.</p> <p>At A Sikh wedding, the couple bow before the book and between stanzas of the wedding hymn walk in a clockwise direction around the book on its canopy.</p> <p>At the naming ceremony for a child, the book is opened at random and the hymn on that page is read. The child's name is then chosen using the first letter or the first word of the hymn.</p> <p>Prayers from the Guru Granth Sahib are used daily in the Gurdwara and also in Sikh homes, though most Sikh families have a copy of the Dasam Granth (poetry written by Guru Gobind Singh and not included in the Guru Granth Sahib) or the sacred Nit naym (a prayer book) at home rather than the Guru Granth Sahib itself.</p> <p>The opening prayer of the Guru Granth Sahib is recited daily and is known as the Mool Mantra. It sets out the key Sikh belief in one God and describes his character as understood by those of Sikh faith.</p> <p>Daily words of wisdom are taken from the GGS to provide guidance and inspiration</p>	
Prior learning:	<p>What do Sikhs believe about God and why? (Y3/4)</p> <p>Mool Mantra, Waheguru, Nam Japna, Simran, Ik Onkar,</p>
Building Blocks:	<p>The Guru Granth Sahib is a living Guru (not a book or god), treated as sacred.</p> <p>It contains prayers, hymns, advice (no stories)</p> <p>It is used in rituals and festivals.</p>
Outcomes:	<p>Children will know that the GGS is the Sikh holy text and be able to give examples of ways in which it is treated respectfully and how it is used in ritual and everyday life.</p> <p>Ancient texts can still speak to the modern reader, even if they are interpreted and read in different ways.</p> <p>There are ways that texts are read that are considered as more authoritative than others.</p>

	<p>It is important to understand the context in which a text was written, and the genre of the text.</p> <p>Many sacred texts appear to draw on ideas from other traditions and so there are similarities as well as differences.</p> <p>Pupils can make links between the texts and their use in religious and non-religious contexts today.</p> <p>Pupils know that time, culture, practice and place influence religions and worldviews, and that religions, practices and beliefs in their turn, impact on cultures and traditions.</p>
Resources:	<p>RE Today publications: Words of Wisdom, Investigating Sikh World Views (11-16), Reflections</p> <p>Sikhnet</p> <p>BBC clips</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwj634j/watch/zdstb9q</p> <p>Real People Real Faith, on the Natre website</p> <p>Oak Academy Y4 Slides</p> <p>Oak Academy Y6 slides</p>
Engagement:	<p>Engagement: What is a sacred text?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last piece of paper in the world activity from the RE Today Publication: Reflections. (Give pupils a blank piece of paper and ask them to imagine that it is the last piece of paper in the world and they need to think of the best way to use it – what would they write. Precede this with a stilling activity.) What do the children think is the most important idea to communicate? Play Chinese whispers – what are the advantages of writing things down? Images of different sacred texts- what do children notice? Contrast and compare the different texts, what are they for? How are they being treated?
Enquire and Explore:	<p>What is the Guru Granth Sahib?</p> <p>Oak Academy slides y4/5 as introduction to Guru Granth Sahib</p> <p>What is in the Guru Granth Sahib?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> divine revelations and the roles of the 5th and 10th Gurus linguistic origins the Mool Mantra and some of the other prayers. Establish that there are no stories in the Guru Granth Sahib, only prayers and hymns of praise that show people how they might live, in terms of meditation. how it addresses the human <i>mind</i>? It does not contain rules just general truths/advice. <p>How is it treated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at the way the Guru Granth Sahib is treated – got up in the morning, kept covered, put to bed at night. <p>How is it used in the Gurdwara and during rituals and festivals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rituals involving the GGS- weddings (Anand Karaj), naming ceremony, Akhand Path and Sehj Path (reciting the Guru Granth Sahib)

	<p>How is it used in everyday life?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore hakamnama (daily advice) -RE today Words of Wisdom activity 5- Quotations from GGS, simplified version, discuss advice offered.
Reflect and communicate:	<p>Do you need a Sacred Text? How would you use a Sacred Text? Is it valuable to read a Sacred Text? Would you read one? Why? How would it change you? Re-do the Last Piece of Paper in the world reflection.</p> <p>Have you changed your mind? If so, what other changes do you need to decide to make?</p>
Assessment opportunities:	<p>Discuss: Do we need sacred texts? Would you read one? Why? How could/do they change/inspire people? How would you inspire change in others?</p> <p>Read quotes from GGS: Which quotes have the biggest impact on Sikhs' lives? - order them/pick out top three and explain your choice.</p> <p>Compare: what they have learned about the Guru Granth Sahib with the Bible, Torah and Koran. What do the similarities/ differences show us about the way the sacred texts are regarded and used?</p>
Notes	