

World Religion Day

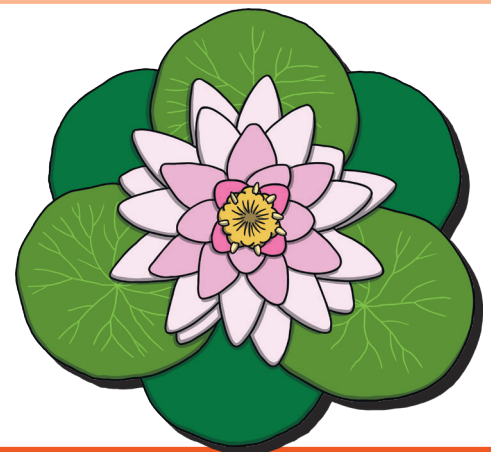
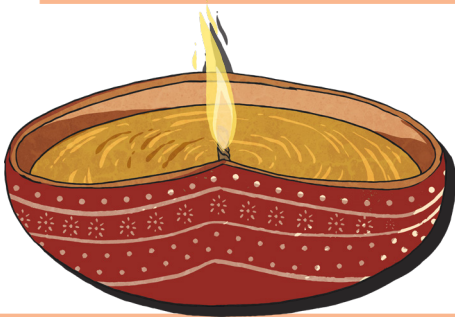
What Is World Religion Day?

World Religion Day is celebrated every January on the third Sunday of the month. It is a special day when all religions are celebrated.



How Did World Religion Day Begin?

World Religion Day was started by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í Faith. It began in the state of Maine in the United States as a day for World Peace Through World Religion in October 1947. By 1949, the event was being held in other areas in the US and in 1950, it became known as World Religion Day. It was decided that for one day a year, all religions should be celebrated and their similarities appreciated.



What Is the Bahá'í Faith?

People who follow the Bahá'í Faith believe that the main religions around the world share some core ideas. For example, the idea of treating other people in the way you would want to be treated.

What Are the Six Major World Religions?

Around the world, there are many religions and faiths. However, the six major world religions are Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, Hindu Dharma and Sikhi. Each of these religions encourages kindness to others.



How Is World Religion Day Celebrated?

World Religion Day is celebrated in a variety of different ways. Many people attend special services. The focus of these services is to gain a better understanding of other religions and to celebrate the similarities between them all. It is about promoting the common message to treat each other with respect in order to create a better world for everyone.

There are lots of different ways we can celebrate World Religion Day.

- Take the time to learn about different faiths from around the world.
- Become aware of how many different religions there are.
- Speak to others about their religion and take the time to speak to people about yours.

What Are the Aims of World Religion Day?

- To develop understanding between all religions.
- To unite everyone, whatever their religious beliefs.

Questions

1. When is World Religion Day celebrated each year? Tick one.

- ☐ the third Sunday in June
- ☐ the fourth Sunday in July
- ☐ the fourth Sunday in January
- ☐ the third Sunday in January

2. Draw **three** lines to match up the statements.

In 1950,...

the event was known as
World Peace Through
World Religion.

In 1947,...

the event became known
as World Religion Day.

In 1949,...

the event was held in
other areas of the US.

3. How many major worldwide religions are there considered to be? Tick one.

- ☐ five
- ☐ six
- ☐ seven
- ☐ eight

4. Draw **three** lines to complete the sentences.

Take the time to
learn about...

different faiths from around the world.

Speak to others about...

different religions there are.

Become aware of
how many...

their religion and take the time to speak
to people about yours.

5. What one thing does the text say the major religions all encourage?

6. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'bringing people together'.

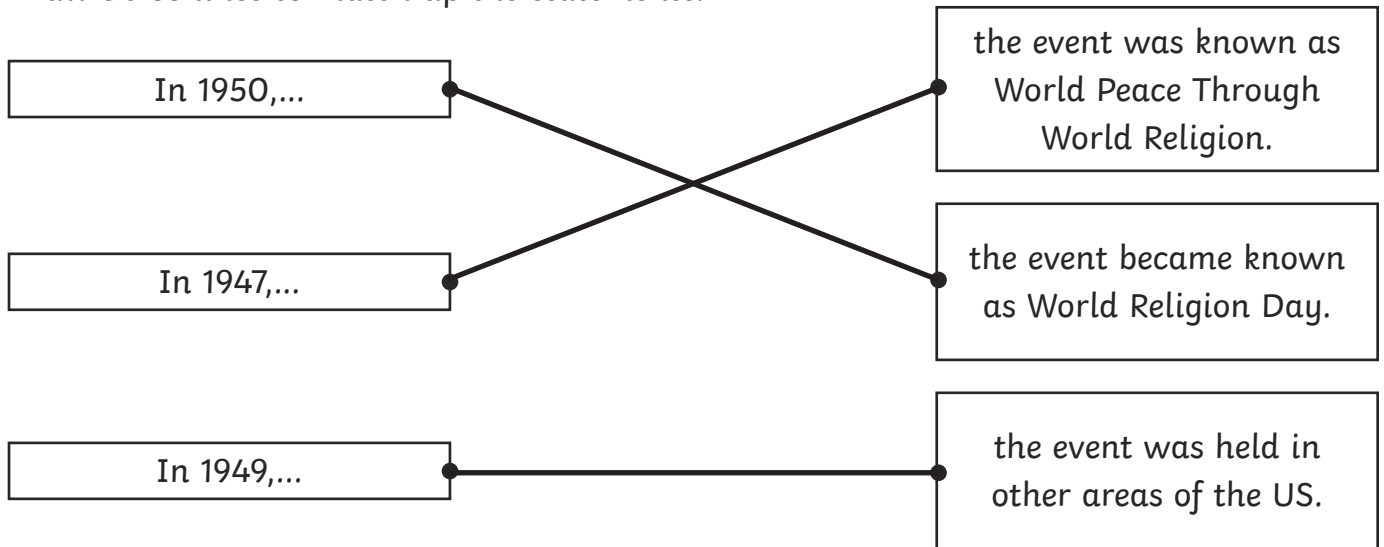
7. In your own words, describe the purpose of World Religion Day.

Answers

1. When is World Religion Day celebrated each year? Tick one.

- ☐ the third Sunday in June
- ☐ the fourth Sunday in July
- ☐ the fourth Sunday in January
- ☒ **the third Sunday in January**

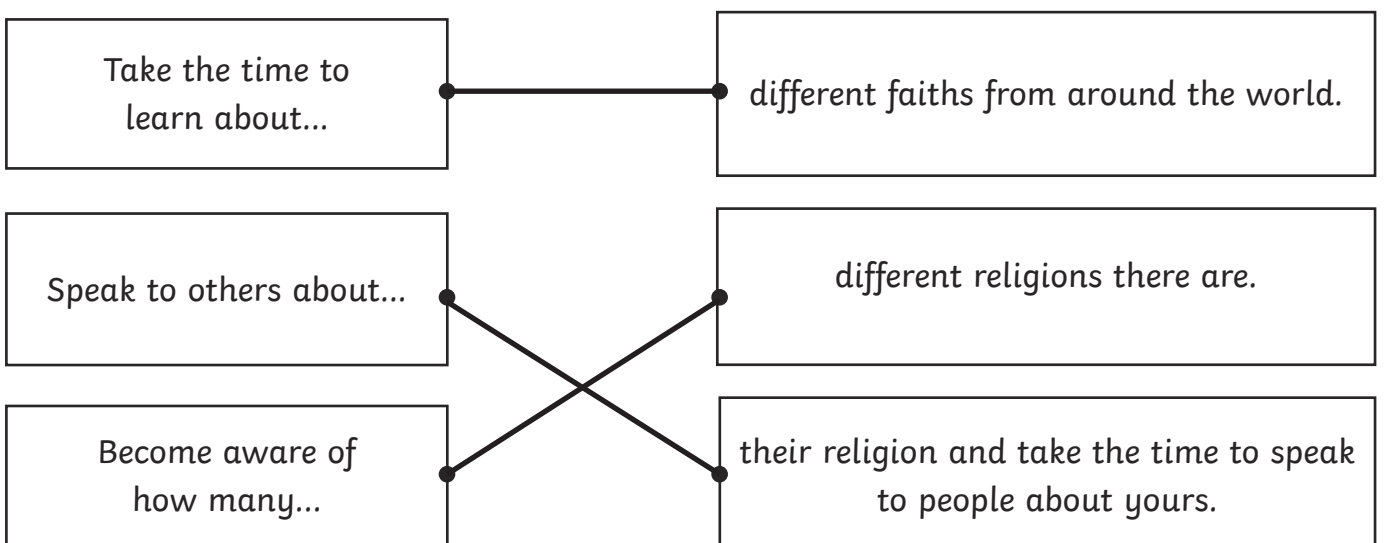
2. Draw **three** lines to match up the statements.



3. How many major worldwide religions are there considered to be? Tick one.

- ☐ five
- ☒ **six**
- ☐ seven
- ☐ eight

4. Draw **three** lines to complete the sentences.



5. What one thing does the text say the major religions all encourage?

The six major religions encourage kindness to others.

6. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'bringing people together'.

unite

7. In your own words, describe the purpose of World Religion Day.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the purpose of World Religion Day is to celebrate and recognise the things which are similar and different between worldwide religions.

World Religion Day

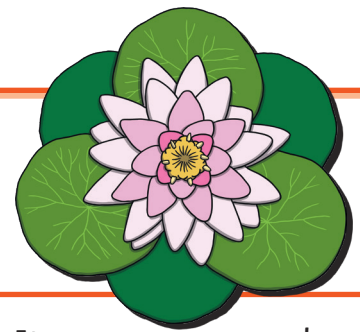
What Is World Religion Day?

World Religion Day is an annual event celebrated on the third Sunday in the month of January. It was initially started by followers of the Bahá'í Faith.



What Is the Bahá'í Faith?

- Bahá'ís believe that all human beings are different but equal.
- Bahá'ís believe that all religions have value and that there are common features and similarities between them.
- They believe that there is one God or higher power in each religion.
- The diversity between the religions are due to the way people think about God.
- Bahá'ís believe that no one should be treated differently because of their colour, age, race or which religion they believe in.



How Did World Religion Day Begin?

The idea of World Religion Day is to follow the Bahá'ís beliefs. It encourages people to understand that all people are equal, all religions have value and that religions can contribute to uniting humanity, rather than dividing it.

The idea for World Religion Day began at a Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í Faith. The day was called World Peace Through World Religion and first took place in the state of Maine, USA, in 1947. It was renamed World Religion Day in 1950. The intention was that for one day a year, all religions should be celebrated and their similarities and differences respected and appreciated.

What Are the Six Major World Religions?

Around the world, there are many religions and faiths. However, the six major world religions are Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, Hindu Dharma and Sikhi.

Although each religion has its own beliefs and practices, they all show the importance of treating others with kindness and respect. This lesson in each religion is known to some as The Golden Rule.

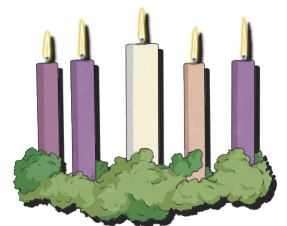


How Is World Religion Day Celebrated?

World Religion Day is celebrated in a variety of ways. Many people will attend special services, which centre around respecting other religions and reflecting on the universal message of the six religions. The message is to treat each other with respect and understand the need to create a better world for everyone.

There are many other ways to celebrate World Religion Day.

- Take the time to study different faiths from around the world.
- Become aware of how many different religions there are.
- Speak to others about their religion and take time to speak to people about yours.



What Are the Aims of World Religion Day?

World Religion Day aims to help to develop understanding between all religions. It also seeks to help unite everyone, whatever their religious beliefs.

Questions

1. How is World Religion Day celebrated? Tick one.

- ☐ people put up decorations
- ☐ people celebrate all the different religions for a week
- ☐ people go to parties and dance
- ☐ people reflect on the universal message of the six major religions

2. When did the World Peace Through World Religion day first take place? Tick one.

- ☐ 1948
- ☐ 1947
- ☐ 1950
- ☐ 1949

3. Draw **four** lines to complete the sentences.

World Religion Day is...

special services.

Around the world,...

there are many religions and faiths.

Each of these religions
encourage...

an annual event celebrated on the third
Sunday in the month of January.

Many people will attend...

respect, equality and kindness to others.

4. Which of the following statements are true? Tick **two**.

- ☐ World Religion Day was originally called World Peace and Religion.
- ☐ It began in Maine, Australia.
- ☐ It was renamed World Religion Day in 1950.
- ☐ It is celebrated every year on the third Sunday in the month of January.

5. Which religious group started World Religion Day?

6. Fill in the missing words.

Bahá'ís believe that all _____ have value and that there are
_____ features and similarities between them.

7. In your own words, describe the purpose of World Religion Day.

8. Do you think World Religion Day is a positive event? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. How is World Religion Day celebrated? Tick one.

- ☐ people put up decorations
- ☐ people celebrate all the different religions for a week
- ☐ people go to parties and dance
- ☒ **people reflect on the universal message of the six major religions**

2. When did the World Peace Through World Religion day first take place? Tick one.

- ☐ 1948
- ☒ **1947**
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3. Draw **four** lines to complete the sentences.

World Religion Day is...	special services.
Around the world,...	there are many religions and faiths.
Each of these religions encourage...	an annual event celebrated on the third Sunday in the month of January.
Many people will attend...	respect, equality and kindness to others.

4. Which of the following statements are true? Tick **two**.

- ☐ World Religion Day was originally called World Peace and Religion.
- ☐ It began in Maine, Australia.
- ☒ **It was renamed World Religion Day in 1950.**
- ☒ **It is celebrated every year on the third Sunday in the month of January.**

5. Which religious group started World Religion Day?

Followers of the Bahá'í Faith started World Religion Day.

6. Fill in the missing words.

Bahá'ís believe that all **religions** have value and that there are **common** features and similarities between them.

7. In your own words, describe the purpose of World Religion Day.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the purpose of World Religion Day is to celebrate and recognise the features that are similar and different between worldwide religions.

8. Do you think World Religion Day is a positive event? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think World Religion Day is a positive event because it is about uniting humanity and treating people with kindness and respect.

World Religion Day

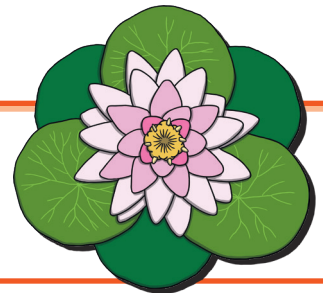
What Is World Religion Day?

World Religion Day is celebrated annually on the third Sunday of January. The idea for it originated with followers of the Bahá'í Faith.



What Is the Bahá'í Faith?

- Bahá'ís believe that all human beings are different but equal.
- They believe that all religions have value and that there are common features and similarities between them.
- They believe that there is one God or higher power in each religion.
- The diversity between the religions are due to the way people think about God.
- Bahá'ís believe that no one should be treated differently because of their colour, age, race or which religion they believe in.



How Did World Religion Day Begin?

The purpose of World Religion Day is to promote the principles of the Bahá'í Faith; that all people are equal, all religions have value and the idea that religions can contribute to uniting humanity, rather than dividing it.

World Religion Day was first observed by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í Faith in October 1947. The day was initially referred to as World Peace Through World Religion, which took place in the state of Maine, United States. By 1949, it was recognised in a range of communities in the US and became known as World Religion Day. Internationally, it began to be celebrated in 1950 in Australia and then throughout the world.

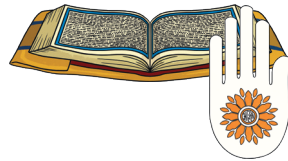
What Are the Six Major World Religions?

The six major world religions are Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, Hindu Dharma and Sikhi. Each of these religions encourages respect, equality and kindness to others.

Although each religion has its own beliefs and practices, they all show the importance of treating others with kindness and respect. This lesson in each religion is known to some as The Golden Rule.



Christianity



Sikhi



Hindu Dharma

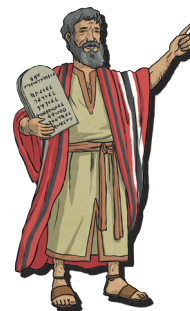
Islam



Judaism



Buddhism



How Is World Religion Day Celebrated?

World Religion Day is celebrated in a variety of ways. People from different faiths are encouraged to listen and talk to one another. Many people attend special services and some religions hold interfaith events, where faith leaders get together to give lectures and talks.

Ultimately, the different events that take place help people to understand the basic values and beliefs of other religions. They highlight the need to respect other religions and demonstrate how everyone can cooperate to create a cohesive world for humankind.

There are many other ways we can celebrate World Religion Day.

- Take the time to study different faiths from around the world.
- Become aware of how many different religions there are.
- Speak to others about their religion and spend time speaking to others about yours.



The Aim of World Religion Day

World Religion Day invites members of all religious groups from across the globe to recognise that all religions have a common spiritual goal. It aims to promote interfaith understanding and harmony and unite people, regardless of their beliefs. World Religion Day also seeks to overcome historical differences between religious groups. Throughout history, many conflicts and wars have been caused by arguments over religion and beliefs. The day aims to overcome this and achieve a peaceful understanding between faiths.

Questions

1. How often is World Religion Day celebrated? Tick one.

- ☐ twice a year
- ☐ once a month
- ☐ once a year
- ☐ every third week throughout the year

2. Which of the following statements are true? Tick **two**.

- ☐ World Religion Day was originally called World Peace and Religion.
- ☐ It began in Maine, Australia.
- ☐ In 1949, it was celebrated in different US communities.
- ☐ It grew internationally, being celebrated in Australia after the US.

3. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'bringing people together'.

4. Underline the word in the sentence below that means 'between people of different religions'.

Many people attend special services and some religions hold interfaith events, where faith leaders get together to give lectures and talks.

5. Fill in the missing words.

Although each religion has its own _____ and practices, they all show the importance of treating others with _____ and respect.

6. **Take the time to study different faiths from around the world.**

How does this help to celebrate World Religion Day?

7. Explain how the beliefs of the Bahá'í Faith relate to World Religion Day.

8. Explain how it could be said that there is a common message or theme linking all the statements from the six major world faiths.

Questions

1. How often is World Religion Day celebrated? Tick one.

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- ☒ **once a year**
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uniting

4. Underline the word in the sentence below that means 'between people of different religions'.

Many people attend special services and some religions hold interfaith events, where faith leaders get together to give lectures and talks.

Award 1 mark for:

- **interfatih**

5. Fill in the missing words.

Although each religion has its own **beliefs** and practices, they all show the importance of treating others with **kindness** and respect.

6. **Take the time to study different faiths from around the world.**

How does this help to celebrate World Religion Day?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think taking time to study different faiths is important because it helps you to learn about and celebrate the similarities and differences in the religions around the world.

7. **Explain how the beliefs of the Bahá'í Faith relate to World Religion Day.**

Pupils' own responses, such as: The Baha'is believe that all religions have common features and similarities and that all human beings are different but equal. This relates to World Religion Day because that means that as everyone is equal, they should have their religion respected. If people tried to understand different religions, and tried to see the similarities as well as the differences, then the world would be a better place.

8. **Explain how it could be said that there is a common message or theme linking all the statements from the six major world faiths.**

Pupils' own responses, such as: The beliefs and values from the six major world faiths seem to have the same message in common, which is to show care and kindness towards other people and to treat them as you would want to be treated yourself.