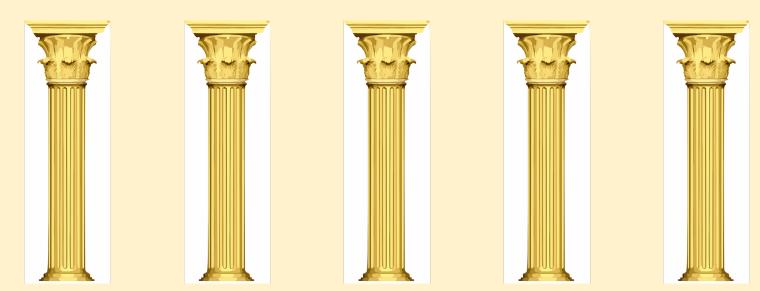
Week 2 - RE

The 5 Pillars of Islam

Why are the 5 pillars important to Muslims?

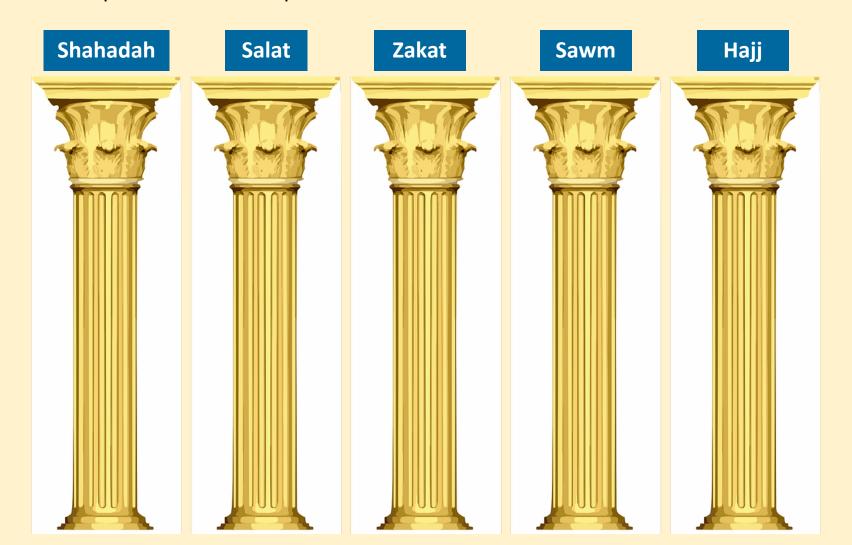
To begin with, make a note of anything you know or can remember about Islam.

Think about what you know about the word 'pillar'. What do you think the 5 pillars of Islam might be?



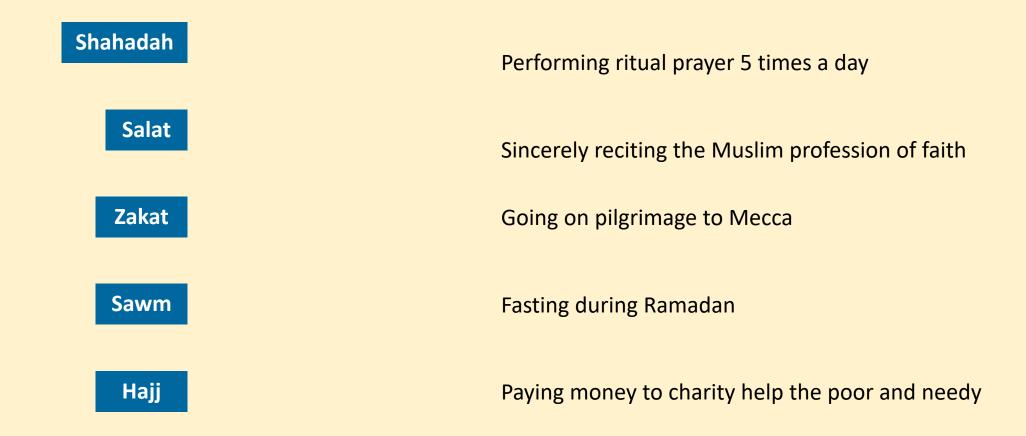
What are the 5 pillars of Islam?

The 5 pillars are an important part of Muslim life. Muslims believe that they should follow the pillars to live a good and responsible life. Each pillar has a different name:



Follow this link to a video. Watch the video and see if you can match the name of each pillar to its meaning.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9U8T8x1AhQ



Watch the video again, this time I want you to make notes on what Amina says about why the pillars are important to Muslims.

Here is some extra information about each pillar. Can you match each card to the correct pillar?

The Five Pillars of Islam Information Cards

- 1. This is the declaration of faith in Islam. This means it is a statement of what they believe.
 - 2. It says 'There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger'.
- 3. This should be the first words an Islamic child hears after birth and the last words someone hears before they die.

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The Five Pillars of Islam Information Cards

- 1. This is worship of Allah (prayer).
- Before praying, Muslims should carry out ritual washing. This is known as wudu. It symbolises purity.
- 3. Muslims are expected to pray five times a day. Mosques will make a 'call to prayer' so believers know when to pray. However, these prayers can be said anywhere that is clean.

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The Five Pillars of Islam Information Cards

- 1. This is an annual charitable payment. This money is used to help the poor.
 - 2. Each Muslim able to afford it should give 2.5% of his savings.
 - 3. This charitable donation has the effect of purifying your money.

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The Five Pillars of Islam Information Cards

- 1. This is fasting during the month of Ramadan.
- 2. During this time, Muslims do not eat or drink between dawn and sunset. They will eat large meals at other times to sustain themselves. These meals are often taken with family and friends.
- 3. This is a very difficult task that helps Muslims develop spiritually. In some countries, there can be more than 20 hours between sunrise and sunset.

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The Five Pillars of Islam Information Cards

- 1. This is the pilgrimage to Makkah. Makkah is the birthplace of the Prophet Muhammad and was also central to the story of Prophet Ibrahim.
 - 2. Muslims are expected to perform this once in their lives.
- 3. It is a challenging journey, which requires great dedication. It brings Muslims closer to God and can lead to the forgiveness of sin.

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Activity:

Present your ideas about why the 5 pillars of Islam are important to Muslims.

You could make a poster, write a short paragraph or create a presentation on the computer.

Try to include:

- The name of each pillar and what it means
- Some reasons why it is important to Muslims
- Some images to show its meaning and/or importance

An extra thing to think about:

 Which pillar do you think is the most important? Can you justify your opinion in a short paragraph?