

# Expressions through art

## Lesson 1: symbols



# LI: I can explain what a symbol is.

- **What is a symbol?**
- **What does it mean?**
- **What do they symbolise?**
- **What symbols can you see on this building?**
- Write your ideas down of what you think symbols means and what the symbols you can see are.



## LI: I can explain what a symbol is.

- A symbol reflects the figurative meaning (used to mean or represent something) of the picture, object, colour, etc (and so on)
- In the picture of the building, a cross at the top of the church can be seen and Jesus or some sort of human figure underneath the cross.



# Glossary

- **Christ** = the title, also treated as a name, given to Jesus
- **Crucifix** = a representation of a cross with a figure of Christ on it.
- **Disciples** = a person who followed Christ during his life.
- **Eternity** = complete and perfect possession of everlasting life
- **Faith** = Belief, trust, and loyalty to a person or thing.
- **Symbol** = reflects the figurative meaning (used to mean or represent something) of the picture, object, colour, etc (and so on)
- **Symbolise** = to be a symbol of; stand for or represent in the manner of a symbol.



LI: I can describe how signs and symbols are used to express Christian beliefs.

- **What do you think this symbol means?**



It is an alpha and Omega symbol. Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. Used together, they symbolise that Christians believe Jesus is the beginning and end of all things.

*This is where you can see the Alpha and Omega symbol:*



LI: I can describe how signs and symbols are used to express Christian beliefs.

- **What do you think this symbols means?**



The Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The fish symbol was created using the Greek letters which spell out ICHTHUS : Jesus Christ God's Son Saviour. Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen.

In the first 300 years after Jesus' death Christians used to identify each other by drawing the fish in the dirt or sand. If the other person responded, it was good. If they did not, it was just be seen as a scribble.



**We can see them today!**



LI: I can describe how signs and symbols are used to express Christian beliefs.



- ▶ **1. The Cross** symbolises that Christians believe Jesus Christ died for everyone on a Cross.

**How is this cross different?**



It is a Catholic crucifix (which means there is a symbol of Jesus on it).

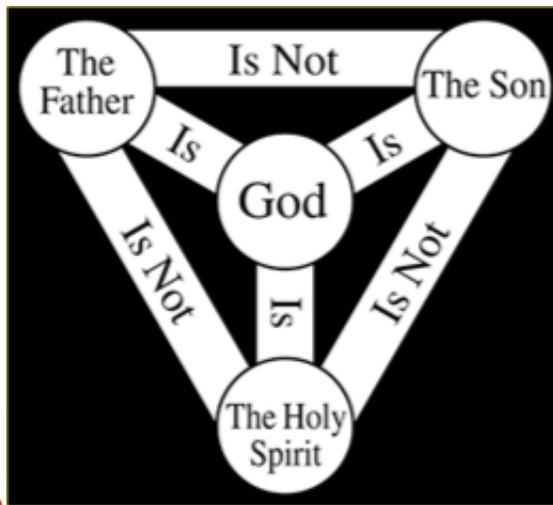
## LI: I can describe how signs and symbols are used to express Christian beliefs.

- ▶ This symbol is called 'The Trinity'



- ▶ Click the link and watch the video to find out what it is.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-1AdUwbWLw>



- The holy spirit is represented by a white dove.



## LI: I can describe how signs and symbols are used to express Christian beliefs.

- **Activity:** You are to draw the symbols out from the 'activity sheet' at the top of the page and then you are to write in a short paragraph which symbol do you think is the most important and why.
- Make sure you:
- Write the long date then LI at the top of the page (in your neatest handwriting) and underline them with a ruler
- Next, you will write a paragraph (using the key vocabulary , glossary and slides) to describe and explain how Christians use symbols to worship at a church.  
[http://www.cleo.net.uk/consultants\\_resources/religiouseduc/usingartefacts/christian.html](http://www.cleo.net.uk/consultants_resources/religiouseduc/usingartefacts/christian.html)
- **Success criteria:**
  - I can explain the importance of Christian symbols.
  - I can identify different Christian symbols.

### **Key vocabulary:**

Symbols, alpha, omega, fish, cross, crucifix, other symbols of the trinity.

# Activity sheet

L.L. I can describe how signs and symbols are used to express Christian belief

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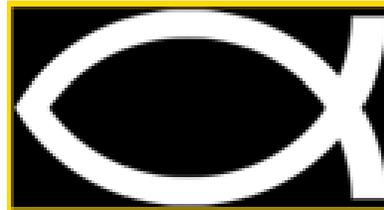


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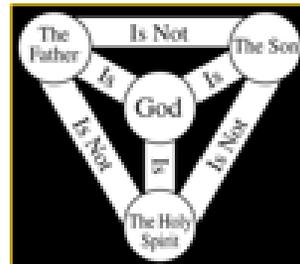


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