

RE lesson 2

LI: I can show understanding of how Christians express their beliefs through stained glass windows



Glossary

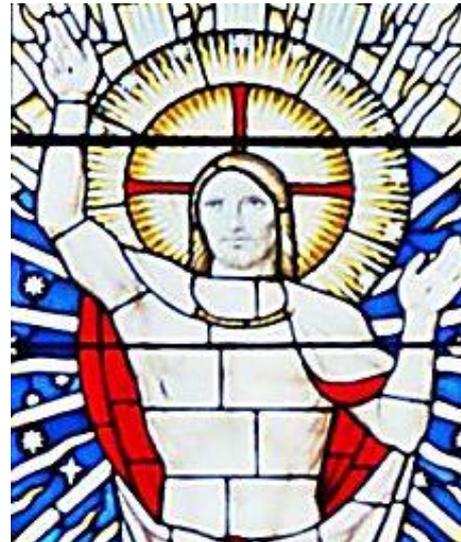


- Architecture= practice of designing and constructing buildings
- Art Nouveau = is an international style of *art*, architecture and applied *art*
- Banner= a long strip of cloth showing a slogan or design and hung in a public place
- Base = the lowest part of something
- Blessing = God's favour and protection
- Cathedral = the main church run by a bishop
- Christian= a person who has received Christian baptism or is a believer in Christianity
- Community = group of people living in the same place
- Crèche = a nursery where babies and young children are cared for during the work hours
- Disobey = fail to obey
- Memorial = a statue or structure built to remind people of a person or event
- Metallic oxide = where a metal has been combined with oxygen
- Monastery = a building or buildings lived in by a community of monks (person of a religious group) living under religious promises
- Roundel = a small disc, especially a decorative medallion (a piece of jewellery in the shape of a medal)

Stained Glass and Banners

- Today we are going to explore how drawings and pictures are used by Christians as a way of expressing their beliefs.
- Stained glass windows and banners bring colour to a church. They also remind people of stories in the Bible or of important truths.
- Before TVs or LCD projectors, stained glass windows could be used as visual aids.

This is the risen Christ in the window of a church in the Cotswolds.



About stained glass

- Stained glass is simply coloured glass but the term stained glass is normally used in referring to pictorial windows and are found in some churches. The colours are produced by adding a metallic oxide to the glass.
- Stained glass became an immensely popular art in the medieval period when it was used in the windows of numerous churches and cathedrals, especially in the thirteenth century. Some of the earliest medieval stained glass in England can be seen in Canterbury Cathedral. The greatest quantity of medieval glass is to be found in York Minster.
- The earliest stained glass in Europe has been found at Jarrow at the monastery where Bede lived, prayed, taught and wrote. It dates from the seventh century and some of the fragments have been pieced together to form a roundel which has been placed in a window of the Saxon church.
- There was a massive revival of interest in stained glass in Britain in the nineteenth century with the Gothic revival - a return to medieval styles of architecture for both places of worship and major public buildings. Stained glass was created by members of the Arts and Crafts movement, notably William Morris and Edward Burne Jones.
- The Art Nouveau movement at the end of the nineteenth century saw an emphasis on the use of coloured glass in secular contexts



Modern Stained Glass Window



- This modern stained glass window is in memory of a young man. He died while mountaineering aged 19.
- The mountain in the window - the Eiger - is on the last photo that he took.

When looking at this window – what do you think people think about?

This window may help people to think about their own lives, too.

What does the bird in the sky make you think of?

Write down your thoughts from the questions.

Can you see the cross?
Look closely at what is
behind the base of it
...

Do you think that
this is a good
memorial for a
young person?



What do you think the cross
towering over the town
represents?

Write down your thoughts from the blue and yellow questions.

This wonderful Nativity scene is in the creche area of a church.
Which parts of the Christmas story do you recognise?



Do you notice
anything strange
about the baby Jesus?

- He looks like a miniature adult, not like a baby at all!
- His hands are raised in the way used to give a blessing. The artist wants us to think about Jesus when he was born *and* when he grew up - both at the same time.
- Look at the first picture of Jesus look at his hands. What do you see?

Write down your thoughts from the questions.

This window is in Canterbury Cathedral. It is 800 years old - the oldest in Britain. It is a picture of Adam, the first man, after he had disobeyed God. He has an animal skin around his shoulders, and life has become hard for him.

**How do you think Adam feels?
What does the artist want you to feel?**

**What do you think the artist's
'message' is?**

You can read about Adam in the bible
(Genesis chapter 5)



Write down your thoughts from the questions.

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Catholic church

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdi9CK7-gj4> (Play from 1:30 to 2:10 for information about stained glass windows)



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Activity:

1) You will design your own stained glass design in your book (half of a page). Try to use one of the bible stories that you have learned about so far this year.

-Noah's ark <https://vimeo.com/56055146>

-Birth of Jesus <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztkxpv4/articles/zdjf4j>

-Jesus on the cross <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zwb9jxs>

-Moses and the Pharaoh, parting of the sea.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zbsb9j6>

2) You are going to write a paragraph about why Christians have stained glass their churches (including protestant and Catholic church). Describe what the purpose of it is. Use the slides to help you.

Success Criteria:

- I can recognize symbolism in stained-glass windows
- I can discuss the purpose of stained-glass

Teacher's examples for you to look at and design your own!

