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| <h1 style="color: red; font-size: 48px; margin: 0;">F</h1>  | <h2 style="color: blue; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">FORGIVENESS</h2>   | <p><b>What's it all about?</b><br/> <b>The significance of forgiveness in different religions.</b><br/>                 Does everyone need forgiveness? Jesus' key prayer, the Lord's Prayer, asks God to 'forgive us our sins in the same way we forgive others.' The idea is that God will forgive, but humans should respond by being forgiving too. Jesus demonstrated what he meant when he was nailed to the cross, praying for forgiveness for those who were killing him. In the teaching of the Buddha, holding on to anger is no use in seeking enlightenment. Detachment and letting go of wrongs done to us are the way to live so that suffering is reduced. If we forgive, we free ourselves.<br/>                 113 of the 114 Surahs of the Muslim scriptures, the Qur'an, begin with a reference to the mercy of Allah, and because God is merciful, then Muslims seek to show mercy too. In Sikhi religion, followers try to overcome evil. Recognise what is wrong, and try to put it right: 'hate the sin but not the sinner'. So, is forgiveness good for us – and is it good for the world?<br/>                 As usual with the A-Z programmes, there is lots more to be said about the big questions to do with forgiveness and religion. This is just a start. It's a sensitive issue, so take all the usual care.</p>  |  |   |   |
| <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Forgiveness matters in many religions – and some people think no one can get through one day of school or family life without a little bit of forgiveness.</p>  |   | <p>113 of the 114 Surahs of the Muslim scriptures, the Qur'an, begin with a reference to the mercy of Allah, and because God is merciful, then Muslims seek to show mercy too. In Sikhi religion, followers try to overcome evil. Recognise what is wrong, and try to put it right: 'hate the sin but not the sinner'. So, is forgiveness good for us – and is it good for the world?<br/>                 As usual with the A-Z programmes, there is lots more to be said about the big questions to do with forgiveness and religion. This is just a start. It's a sensitive issue, so take all the usual care.</p>  |  |   |   |
| <p><b>Which religions and beliefs?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christianity</li> <li>• Buddhism</li> <li>• Islam</li> <li>• Sikhi</li> </ul> <p><b>Clip available here:</b><br/> <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-education-ks3-a-z-of-religion-and-beliefs-f-is-for-forgiveness/zf62pg8">https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-education-ks3-a-z-of-religion-and-beliefs-f-is-for-forgiveness/zf62pg8</a></p>   | <p><b>Key Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What makes forgiveness rather difficult?</li> <li>• But why is forgiveness so important?</li> <li>• How could Jesus forgive people who nailed him to a cross?</li> <li>• Are all religions teaching similar ideas about forgiveness, or different ones?</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Classroom or homework task: forgiveness scenarios</b></p> <p><b>1.</b> Consider which of these two scenarios is harder to forgive:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>A&gt; Lois wanted to win the 200m race a bit too much. As they were getting ready to start, she looked across at Sharmila, the fastest in the school. She spoke quietly, but in the voice of a bully to the tall girl: 'I'll kick you in if you win today'. The gun went off and Sharmila was quicker. But in the last quarter of the race she slowed up, looking tired. Lois won by 3 metres. 'Hah, loser' she said to Sharmila.<br/>                     What should Sharmila say next?<br/>                     Difficulty of forgiving: [ ??/10]</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>B&gt; Gran came to stay most weekends. Callum was living with his dad, six months after his parents split up. Callum didn't understand it. One Sunday Gran sat him down and told him all about his dad, and gave him some reasons why it had all gone wrong. Callum was very tense, but he wanted to hear. After a bit, Gran said 'I do hope you'll be able to forgive your parents, love...'<br/>                     What should Callum say next?<br/>                     Difficulty of forgiving: [ ??/10]</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p><b>2.</b> Write two more, one easier, the other harder to forgive. What makes the difference? Share round the class.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Look up 'The Forgiveness Project' online for some amazing stories of forgiveness, its power and its difficulty.</p> <p><b>Suggested outcomes: students can...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Give an informed account of how different religions explain the value of forgiveness</li> <li>▪ Give reasons for their views about why forgiving is hard, but important</li> <li>▪ Handle information and ideas effectively by responding to some scenarios of forgiveness.</li> </ul> |  | <p>A&gt; Lois wanted to win the 200m race a bit too much. As they were getting ready to start, she looked across at Sharmila, the fastest in the school. She spoke quietly, but in the voice of a bully to the tall girl: 'I'll kick you in if you win today'. The gun went off and Sharmila was quicker. But in the last quarter of the race she slowed up, looking tired. Lois won by 3 metres. 'Hah, loser' she said to Sharmila.<br/>                     What should Sharmila say next?<br/>                     Difficulty of forgiving: [ ??/10]</p> | <p>B&gt; Gran came to stay most weekends. Callum was living with his dad, six months after his parents split up. Callum didn't understand it. One Sunday Gran sat him down and told him all about his dad, and gave him some reasons why it had all gone wrong. Callum was very tense, but he wanted to hear. After a bit, Gran said 'I do hope you'll be able to forgive your parents, love...'<br/>                     What should Callum say next?<br/>                     Difficulty of forgiving: [ ??/10]</p> |
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| <h2 style="text-align: center; color: #0070C0;">F is for Forgiveness</h2>  | <p>Scores out of ten: How hard did you think it was for Lois and Callum to forgive?</p>                          |
| <p>What makes forgiveness difficult?</p>   | <p>Lois: ?? / 10                      Callum ?? / 10</p> <p>Because....</p>                                      |
| <p>Why is forgiveness important?</p>   | <p>Write your own dilemma: devise a situation where someone has to decide whether to forgive. Write it here:</p> |
| <p><b>Factors in forgiveness:</b> what makes it hard or easier? Write your notes on why these six ideas matter when you are considering forgiving.</p> <p>A. Is the person who wronged me close to me?</p><br><p>B. Did they do it on purpose?</p><br><p>C. Have they ever done something similar before?</p><br><p>D. Was I shamed?</p><br><p>E. Did they say sorry?</p><br><p>F. Is she/he a damaged person?</p> | <p>Try out your scenario on a friend or an adult. Get them to give marks out of ten.</p>                         |
| <p>'Father, forgive them,' prayed Jesus as his killers nailed him up. How could Jesus forgive people who nailed him to a cross?</p>  | <p>Are all religions teaching similar ideas about forgiveness, or do they have different approaches?</p>         |