



Tradition	Baha'i
Denomination	n/a
Question answered:	What symbols are important to you? (KS1 Q 1)
Key Concepts, questions, and outcomes:	Symbols, meaning, communication, Why are stories and symbols important in many religions? Pupils can describe the two symbols and say what they mean to Baha'is
Key teaching points:	Baha'is teach that everyone is united, and all are welcome.
Prior knowledge:	A range of symbols used in society and religions.

Core Vocabulary:			
<b>Calligraphy</b>	Special style of handwriting	<b>Temple</b>	Place of worship for Baha'is, open to all people
<b>Baha'u'llah</b>	The founder of the Baha'i faith	<b>Unity</b>	All people being together, harmonious

Summary of answers:
<p>For the first speaker the Greatest Name is an important symbol. It is a greeting – Allah-u-Abha - which Baha'is use on a regular basis. It also means the Glory of Glories, which refers to Baha'u'llah, who for Baha'is is the manifestation of God for the current time. Written in Arabic calligraphy, it is used on jewellery and often reminds people of their commitment to Baha'u'llah and to be a force for good in the world.</p> <p>The symbol is also found in temples and homes. It is not a requirement to wear it, but many people choose to, as a sign of their love.</p> <p>The second and third speakers chose the symbol of the 9-pointed star, which stands for the unity of everyone and every religion. All Baha'i houses of worship are open to everyone. They all have nine doors so that they are seen to be welcoming to everyone, in the same way that the 9-pointed star points in all directions.</p> <p>To illustrate the unity and harmony of the faith, one of the speakers tells a story about a woman who gave a stone to the building of a temple, which while it had been thrown away from another building site became one of the foundation stones of the new temple.</p>

Next Steps:
<p>Look at a range of pictures of Baha'i temples and look for the Greatest Name symbol and the 9-Pointed star.</p> <p>Have a go at copying the Arabic script for the Greatest Name.</p> <p>Talk about symbols that are important to the pupils.</p>