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| Religion | Islam |
| Denomination | Shi'a |
| Question answered: | What stories are important to you? (KS1 Q2) |
| Key concepts, questions, and outcomes: | Faith, Belief, Guidance, Qur'an, Hadith, Prophets, Saints Why do symbols and stories play important roles in religions? Why do some people follow religious leaders and teachings? Retell a range of religious stories and explain how they link to the core beliefs and practices. |
| Key teaching points: | There are two sources of story for Muslims – the Qur'an and the Hadith. For these Muslims, all stories are equally important because they give principles for Muslims to live by. |
| Prior knowledge: | Pupils should know that many stories from the Qur'an are shared with Jews and Christians |

| Core Vocabulary: | | | |
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| Qur'an | The Muslim holy book, containing the words of Allah | Hadith | The traditions of Islam containing many stories and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad |
| Moses | The person who led the Jewish Hebrew (Jewish) people of God out of Egypt where they had been held as slaves | Allah | The word or name for God in Arabic |

| Summary of answers: |
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| <p>The first speaker does not pick up on any one particular story from either the Qur'an or the Hadith. He talks about how the Qur'an* contains mostly stories of prophets and saints from before the time of Muhammad. The Hadith focuses on the principles to help Muslims live day to day.</p> <p>The second interviewee concludes by saying that all the 200 or more stories in the Qur'an and the Hadith are equally important, but he takes two examples to illustrate the principles Muslims learn from them.</p> <p>The first from the story of Moses (Musa in Arabic) focuses on the crossing of the Nile (in Jewish and Christians writings it is the Red Sea; in the Qur'an the sea is not named) and how this demonstrates that having a genuine faith and trust in God will give you a way through even when there is a dead end.</p> <p>He talks about the story of Muhammad and the cave, where the spider weaves a web across the entrance so that the people looking for Muhammad to arrest him pass by. He says that this is an example of Muhammad being inspired by the story of Moses.</p> <p>The mother of Moses showed the same kind of faith when she left the baby Moses in God's hands when the Egyptians were killing all the Hebrew babies.</p> |

| Next Steps: |
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| <p>Read the story of Muhammad and the cave in a child-friendly version and talk about what this story teaches Muslims about God (Allah). Interview some other Muslims about their opinions. Think about what it means if every story is equally important and link this to the fact that many Muslims try to learn the whole Qur'an by heart.</p> <p>Get the children to learn something valuable by heart and talk about the difference it makes when you really know something.</p> |



*Notes: The way the stories are told in the Qur'an is not the same as in the Christian Old Testament or the Jewish Torah. The Qur'an seems to assume that people are familiar with these tales, so it will not be easy to read the story from the Qur'an. There are three references to the crossing of the sea: Surahs 2:50; 20:77-78 and 26:63-66.