

Muslims believe that there is only one God called Allah. They believe Allah is the only ruler of the universe. The word 'Islam' means submission and obedience to Allah.

The five pillars of Islam:

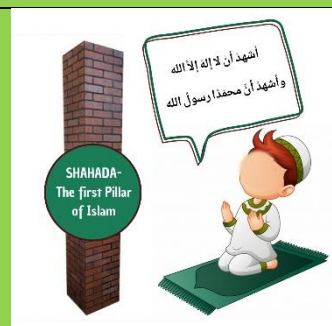
Shahadah: Muslims say a declaration of faith

Salah: Muslims pray five times a day. Before prayer, they must wash themselves and then face Mecca whilst praying.

Zakat: Muslims must donate to charities.

Sawm: Muslims fast for one month during a time called Ramadan.

Hajj: Muslims have to travel to Mecca once in their lifetime, if they can afford to.



Place of worship:

The Muslim place of worship is called a mosque. Services are held in mosques every day. The most important service for Muslims is on a Friday. Mosques often have a domed roof. There are no images of people or animals in mosques. They are decorated with patterns and words from the Qur'an. Muslims take off their shoes before going into the mosque and wash before they pray. Muslims pray kneeling on the floor on a prayer mat. The wall of the mosque which faces Mecca is called the qibla wall. It has an empty arch to show the direction of Mecca. The holy book is called 'Quran'.



Key vocabulary of Islam	
Muslim	A follower of the religion of Islam.
Allah	The Arabic name that Muslims use for God.
Five Pillars of Islam	The five things that Muslims are expected to do.
Prophets	Special messengers sent from Allah.
Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him)	The last prophet and the key prophet in Islam. Muhammad is so highly respected by Muslims that they will say "peace be upon him" after his name is spoken.
Mecca	Mecca is an important place to Muslims. It is where Muhammad was born. Muslims face Mecca to pray and try to visit it sometime during their lives.
Hajj	The name Muslims give to the special pilgrimage to Mecca.
The Qur'an	The holy book of Islam.
Ramadan	A Muslim festival where Muslims fast during the daylight and only eat after the sun has set.
Sawm -Fast	A period of time when Muslims do not eat
Mosque	Muslim place of worship.

Useful websites:

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/religion/Islam.htm>

Questions:

What are the five pillars of Islam?

Who is Muhammad (PBUH)?

How long do Muslims fast for?

Which country do Muslims travel to perform Hajj?

What is the holy book called?

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