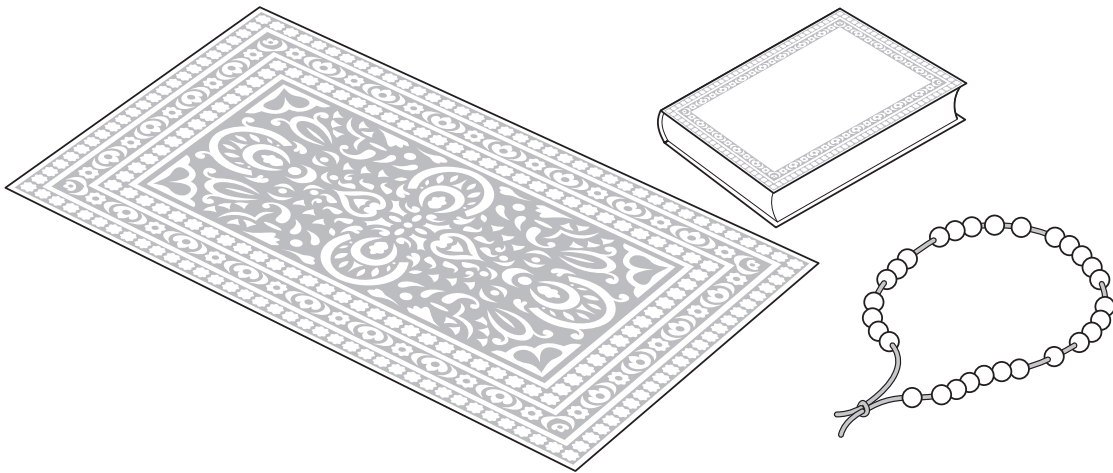


## The mosque and the community

Your community is made up of people who you have something in common with. A mosque is an important part of any Islamic community around the world.



**Q1.** The picture shows a prayer mat, prayer beads and a book about Islam. Where can Muslims buy such things?

.....

**Q2.** What is the centre of any Islamic community? .....

**Q3.** What is the umma? .....

**Q4.** Some mosques have a place where Muslims can get meals. What is it called?

.....

**Q5.** How is the mosque useful to a Muslim in a foreign country?

.....

**Q6.** Name four benefits that a Muslim gets from going to a mosque.

.....

.....

.....

.....

## Answers

1. **They can buy such things from a shop inside a large mosque.**
2. **The mosque.**
3. **The worldwide community of Muslims.**
4. **Cafeteria.**
5. **It is a place which provides help and guidance.**
6. **A chance to meet and make friends with other Muslims, having a place to celebrate, being able to learn more about Islam and the country your family came from, having a place to pray, having people to talk to about your concerns and problems, having a place to learn.**

## Lesson objectives

- ▶ To introduce the concept of a worldwide Islamic community.
- ▶ To show that people in the Islamic community have rights and responsibilities when visiting a mosque.
- ▶ To show that the mosque provides many benefits to the Islamic community it serves.

## Lesson outcomes

- ▶ The children know that there is a worldwide Islamic community called the umma.
- ▶ The children recognise that Muslims visiting a mosque have rights and responsibilities.
- ▶ The children recognise that the mosque provides many benefits to the Muslim community.

## Teaching notes

*You may wish to help the children see that culture is different from each community. You may give a very simple account of the concept of culture such as "In different parts of the world groups of people, which form whole countries, have certain kinds of behaviour (for example it is normal in some countries for two people when they meet to continue holding hands after a handshake as they talk, while in other countries it is not) and a certain set of laws and have developed a particular style of art". The Muslim community also has its own culture but when a group of Muslims set up a community in another country they may adopt some of the culture from the country they are living in. For example the Muslims who live in Egypt celebrate the birth of the prophet Mohammed (pbuh) with huge street carnivals.*

## Complementary work

The children could look at a world map and identify countries which have a high Muslim population and countries where there is a low Muslim population. You may like to link this work with Activity C in Unit 7A looking at prayer times around the world.

## Resources

A world map showing the percentage of Muslims in the population of each country. A map which has a colour code is the easiest for the children to use. The world map which is an appendix to Unit 10 (pages 56 and 57) may help to get the children started in this activity.