

POSSIBLE DURHAM SACRE ART COMPETITION

What do Christians believe about Jesus?

The exemplar plan for lower Key Stage 2 (Agreed Syllabus page 113) recommends the above unit question in the Spring Term in Year 4. A newly revised plan for this unit is being made available to schools. The plan suggests that a final activity could be for pupils to design and produce a picture / painting / collage of a church window showing what Christians believe about Jesus.

This could be the basis for a SACRE art competition with entries sent at the start of the Summer Term. SACRE members could judge entries and send letters / comments to schools as appropriate (even visit schools if there were a lot of entries).

Below is the excerpt from the plan.

Learning Activity

Show examples of stained-glass* (plenty of really good examples on Google; use photographs you may have taken in the local church or Durham Cathedral) on the whiteboard (OHT). Do they recall any they have seen? Discuss how they are designed; what are they showing? Why do many Christians have stained-glass in their churches? Recap on the main unit question: What do Christians believe about Jesus? Revisit the idea that Jesus is important because of what he did (miracles, helping people) and what he said (teaching about his father God and how to live).

Remind them they are going to design a window to include what they have been learning - it must not just be about the stories but must show what Christians believe about Jesus as God's Son and the promised Messiah as well as the teaching of Jesus. Ask the pupils to talk about what they have in their note books and the time-line of Jesus' life.

Take some time for pupils to design their window (will it just be one panel? Will they have different panels for the different beliefs about Jesus and his teachings?) Plan how the pupils will make their panel - colouring, painting, collage, photos?. At the end of the activity, display the 'stained-glass windows' and ask pupils to evaluate them. Draw together what they have learned about Jesus.

Teacher Notes

You could hold a competition within the school. You may like to invite the local vicar/minister/member of SACRE/inspector for RE to look at the work.

The finished designs plus captions could be displayed on the wall or around the school to lead up to Easter work.