# **Disposition:** Imaginative and Exploratory

## **Lesson:** Two

Question/LO: What do Christians, Hindus and Sikhs think God is like?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
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| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | Ask pupils to think back to last lesson and the use of our imaginations. Can you remember some of the amazing things that the Humanist writers thought about in their books?  Explain to pupils that in this lesson they will explore what a number of different religious people think about God.  **Sikhism**  Show pupils a Kara – a steel bracelet (if you have one in your Sikhism box). This can be passed around the class for pupils to feel it.  Show the film of Taran talking about his Kara.  Reinforce the concept that Sikhs wear a Kara as part of showing their identity as a Sikh and that it shows the Oneness of God – one single piece of metal with no beginning or ending; that God is strong, steel is a strong, hard metal.  Ask pupils to briefly reflect on something that they wear that shows their beliefs, feelings or identity. | A Kara or photograph <https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/sikhism/customs/fiveks.shtml>:  Taran and his Kara:  https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks2-five-ks-of-sikhism/znbhf4j  Play from .58 seconds in until 1.17 |
| Learning from faith and non-religious world-views | Thinking of ‘How do I make sense of the world around me?’  Ask pupils to draw a picture of themselves emphasising different aspects of their life or personality. For example if they are good at football they might show themselves with larger feet carrying a ball…If musical their arms might be violins etc… |  |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | **Hinduism**  Explain that since many Hindus believe God to be so vast and difficult to comprehend, it is easier to focus on one aspect of God though one of the Hindu deities or murti (image). It’s a little like focusing on one aspect of their personalities or life. The deities are themselves are not gods or goddesses but show an aspect of what God is like. For example if a deity has many arms, this is a symbol for showing God has power.  Other symbols include:  Many heads showing knowledge  Arms showing power or pointing in four directions of the world  A lotus flower showing purity  A Mace showing kingliness and knowledge  Having blue skin – showing that they are more than human, are godly  From a google image search for Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva:  What are the symbols meaning? (what do the different deities look like? What are they holding?)  What are the similarities and differences?  Why do you think that there might be differences? | You may wish to have printed out copies of three of the images for use on tables, so that pupils can work in groups |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | **Christianity**  Many Christians see God as being Love.  Read 1 Corinthians 13 4-8a. Explore some of the words with your pupils: ‘patient’ ‘not boastful’ ‘not arrogant’ ‘not irritable’ ‘not resentful’.  Another part of the Bible states that God is Love (1 John 4:7-21).  Print out the Corinthians passage for pupils. Ask pupils to substitute the word ‘love’ with the word ‘God’… Explore what this means if Christians say God is like this. Do you think that Christians would like to add any other words to a list to describe God? | BibleGateway:  [1 Corinthians 13 ESV - The Way of Love - If I speak in the - Bible Gateway](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+13&version=ESV)  [1 John 4:7-21 ESV - God Is Love - Beloved, let us love one - Bible Gateway](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20John%204%3A7-21&version=ESV) |