# **Disposition:** Being Curious and Valuing Knowledge

## **Lesson:** One

Question/LO: Why do we like asking questions? What do Bahai’s and Jains think about knowledge? Is there a cost to seeking wisdom?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
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| Learning from experience | Ask pupils to work in pairs to generate questions where the answers are not straightforward. After the discussions, the pairs could share their lists to see if there were any questions that they had in common. | n/a |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views | Play the video. Surgeon and consultant Mr. Masoud Afnan takes a moment away from his patients at Birmingham Women’s Hospital to explain why, as a Baha’i and as a doctor, he needs to be curious and value knowledge. Baha’i’s value knowledge at the highest level.  Ask pupils if they can think of other professions or jobs where being curious is useful quality or attribute.  Jains believe that there is not one version of the truth. Truth is complex and can be many-sided, from multiple viewpoints. This is known as Anekantvad.  To illustrate this, show the pupils different accounts of one recent news story and see how different versions have been told, how people have told the story from their viewpoint.  A story associated with the Jain idea of truth and wisdom is the story of the Blind men and the elephant.  Show the video clip of this story.  Discuss and then answer the following questions:   * Make a list of what the different men thought each part of the elephant represented eg. the elephant’s ears were like a fan. * Write a convincing argument as to why you think that elephant is like a particular thing eg. a fan. Pupils to take it in turns to convince each other with your argument. * How would you feel if you were then told the elephant was all of those things? Is there a cost to seeking the bigger viewpoint or picture rather than the only one you can see at the time? | A video clip “Being curious and valuing knowledge” will have downloaded into the same folder as this lesson plan.  KS2\_Y6\_Unit\_011\_Su\_Wk\_01\_of\_03\_R123\_Video\_Being\_curious\_and\_Valuing\_Knowledge\_v1  For information:  <https://anekantvad.wordpress.com/2011/05/12/anekantvad-the-blind-men-and-the-elephant/>  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vn9BUfUCL4I> |