# **Disposition:** Cultivating Inclusion, Identity and Belonging

## **Lesson:** Three

### **Question/LO:** What do (RT) do when a baby is born?

Is it important to feel you belong?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views  *Introduce the concept of belonging in a religious sense. Explore either Islamic naming and belonging rituals or Sikh naming and belonging rituals* | Look at birth ceremonies from other religious traditions. Either look at Islam or Sikhism:  **Islam**    Muslims believe that every child that is born is free from all sin and of any wrong doing.  Muslims believe a child joins a wider family, (Ummah) family of Allah (God).  Muslims celebrate the birth of the new baby because children are a blessing and a very precious gift from Allah to the child’s parents and the wider family.  Muslims celebrate the birth of the child in the following way:   1. Muslims welcome children born into a family of Muslim heritage by saying the Adhan (the Muslim call to prayer – calling the new baby to a life of worship). Adhan (the call to prayer) includes the Muslim declaration of Faith called the Shahadah, ‘There is no God but Allah and Mohammad ﷺ is the Prophet and Messenger of Allah.’   The five pillars of Islam are the defining practices of being a Muslim. **The Shahadah is the first pillar of Islam;**  ***Teacher information***  1.Shahadah (Belief in one Allah and Mohammad ﷺ *the last prophet of Allah)*  *2. Salah (Five daily prayers)*  *3. Zakah (Charity)*  *4. Sawm (Fasting)*  *5. Hajj (Pilgrimage)*  *The five pillars of Islam help each Muslim to form a personal relationship with Allah (God) and understand the central principles of Islam; equality, justice and human dignity.*   1. All head hair is removed from the baby’s head and a charitable gift is given as a thank you to Allah (God). 2. Meat is given as a shared meal. Sometimes families will invite wider family and friends and throw a party to celebrate the birth of the child. At other times cooked meat or uncooked meat is given as a gift to wider family and friends as gift to thank Allah.   Ask children to talk about the photographs and other memorabilia they have bought into school to share their family experiences of when any new baby has been born into their family.  Celebrate the birth of the pretend new child by sharing the food children have bought into school and having a party.  **Sikhism**  *Sikhs believe that a child is a gift of God.*  Discuss and look at videos or pictures of Namkaran.  What experiences do the children have of these things?  *Namkaran is a naming ceremony (Nam = name, and Karan = to do). The Paathi (priest) prays and then opens the Guru Granth Sahib (the Sikh holy book) at a random page. The first letter on the page is read out and that becomes the first letter of the baby’s name.*  *The ceremony usually occurs within 6 weeks of birth and the baby is unnamed until after the ceremony. The ceremony is sometimes elaborate, including a shared meal (Langar) and possibly sung prayers. But a simple ceremony is equally valid.* | Naming Ceremonies  Mandy Ross  ISBN 0431177171    New Baby  Judith Baskerville  ISBN 0713626453    Births  Jacqueline Dineen  ISBN 0750228164  [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS\_bfom5pSM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS_bfom5pSM)  or search You Tube for Namkaran+ceremony |
| Learning from faith and non-religious world-views | Discussion:  How do families feel when the babies have been through a ceremony? | n/a |