

Unit U2.11 Why do some people believe in God and some people do not?

Enquiry Questions

- How many people believe in God?
- Is God real? What do people think?
- Why do people believe or not believe in God?
- What do people say about science and believing in God?
- What impact does believing in God have on how people think and live?

What will I know by the end of the unit?

For many people, the issues around life's big questions can be explored through their religions and worldviews.

All over the world, people have different beliefs. Some people believe in a God or Goddess. Others believe in many gods and goddesses. Some people don't believe in any kind of god. People who don't believe in gods are often called atheists. People who aren't sure about the existence of gods can be called agnostics.

Judaism, Christianity and Islam are often referred to as the 'Abrahamic religions'. This is because they can all be traced back to the prophet Abraham (Ibrahim in Islam).

Although they refer to him by different names, they all believe in the same God.

Non-religious people do not believe in an afterlife such as heaven or reincarnation. They believe in scientific explanations for how the universe works and reject the idea of supernatural influences over the world.

Key Vocabulary

Christianity, Christian, Judaism, Jew, Islam, Muslim, belief, faith, religion, secular, theist, atheist, agnostic, Humanist, afterlife, reincarnation