



# What do people believe happens after death?

## Applying Past Knowledge

*This learning links with the lessons you had in year 5 learning of Islam and Year 4 learning of Christianity.*

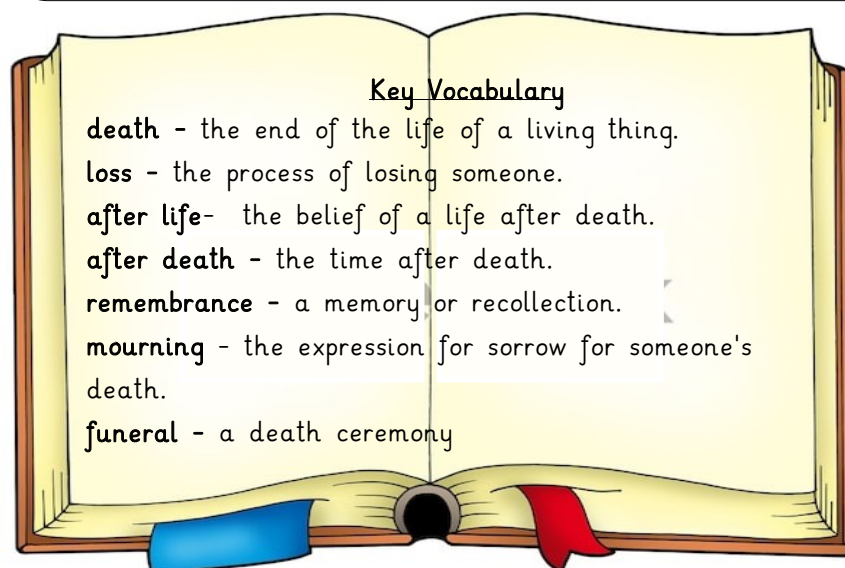
### Why do living things have to die?

- Death is an essential part of the circle of life.
- The first step in the circle of life is birth.
- At some point, our bodies begin to age more rapidly until our eventual death ends the life cycle.



### What can we learn from death rites about what happens after death in Christianity?

- Christians believe that the death of a body is not the end. They believe that humans will have eternal life in the afterlife.
- Christian death rites focus on the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of eternal life. The body of the deceased will either be buried or cremated - ensuring that it is always treated with respect.



#### Key Vocabulary

**death** - the end of the life of a living thing.

**loss** - the process of losing someone.

**after life** - the belief of a life after death.

**after death** - the time after death.

**remembrance** - a memory or recollection.

**mourning** - the expression for sorrow for someone's death.

**funeral** - a death ceremony



### What can we learn from death rites about what happens after death in Islam?

- The dying one asks for blessings and forgiveness from God and their family.
- The Shahadah is repeated as death nears.
- The body is very gently washed 3 times in the same way as is for daily prayer (wudu).
- The body is anointed with perfume and wrapped in sheets of white unsewn cloth (as on Hajj).
- The funeral itself is simple and inexpensive.
- The service is held in a mosque or cemetery.
- The body is buried with the face turned towards Makkah, it is never cremated.
- Graves are raised above ground level, large tombstones or decorations are discouraged as material possessions and wealth are of no use to the dead.
- Mourning should last no more than 3 days.

### How are people remembered after death?

- People experience death and loss in different ways. Some people might lay flowers, create a memorial, have photographs, have personal belongings of the deceased.
- Some people may have a special place where they go that reminds them of that person.
- Some people pray and think of them during their prayer time while some people may donate to charities that may have supported them and their families e.g. Macmillan Cancer or Race for Life.