



### Y3 – Think like a Theologist

#### Hinduism

Would visiting the River Ganges feel special to a non-Hindu?

#### Key Knowledge:

The River Ganges holds deep spiritual significance for Hindus. This unit explores its importance as a pilgrimage site, the rituals associated with it, and its cultural and religious meaning.

The River Ganges (or Ganga) is a sacred river in India and Bangladesh.

Hindus believe it is a goddess named Ganga and a source of life, purity, and spirituality.

Bathing in the Ganges is believed to wash away sins and bring purity

Hindus believe the god Brahman is present in the water, making it sacred.



Word	Meaning
<b>Pilgrimage</b>	A journey to a holy place for religious reasons.
<b>Brahman</b>	The supreme God in Hinduism, present everywhere.
<b>Purity</b>	Cleanliness, free from sin or guilt.
<b>Ritual</b>	A religious ceremony or act.
<b>Sacred</b>	Something holy or highly respected.
<b>Varanasi</b>	A holy city on the Ganges where many Hindus go to pray and die.

### Learning Questions

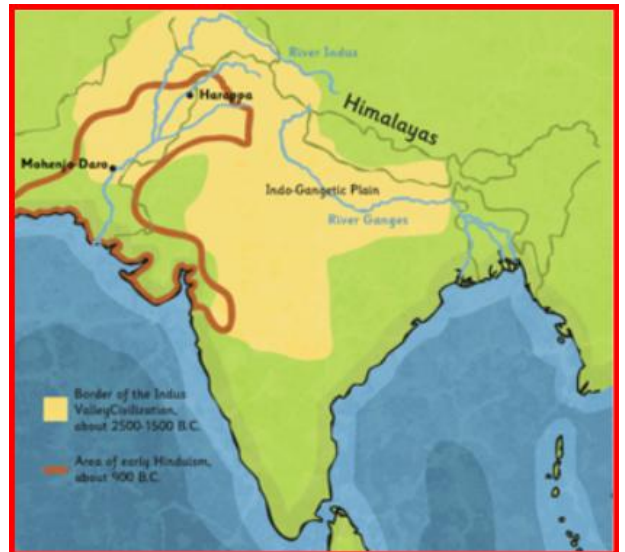
How can I explain why water is important in our lives?

Why is the River Ganges so important to Hindus, and what might make it feel special to someone who isn't a Hindu?

If you visited the River Ganges, how might your experience and feelings be different as a Hindu compared to a non-Hindu?

How does water make us feel, and why is it important to appreciate its role in our daily lives?

#### What else have I learned?



What do Hindus do at the Ganges?	
Activity	Meaning
<b>Bathing</b>	Cleanses the body and soul.
<b>Collecting Water</b>	Take holy water home for rituals or blessings.
<b>Offerings</b>	Flowers, food, or lamps floated on the river as prayers.
<b>Funeral Rites</b>	Ashes of the dead are scattered in the Ganges to help their soul reach heaven.
<b>Prayers and Chanting</b>	Singing hymns or meditating by the river.