

Sikhism — The Birthday of Guru Nanak



Activities

1. Answer these questions in full sentences.



- a) What is a Guru?
- b) How many years ago was Guru Nanak born?
- c) Where was Guru Nanak born?
- d) In which month is his birthday celebrated?
- e) What is a Gurburb?
- f) Which book is read from beginning to end during each Gurburb?

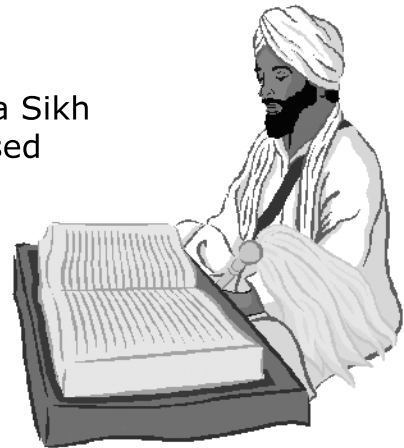
2. Read this passage. Then make a list of five ways in which Sikhs show respect for their holy book.

The Guru Granth Sahib is the name of the Sikh holy scriptures. It contains teachings, hymns and poems written by the Gurus and by Hindu and Muslim Saints.

The tenth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, declared that the Guru Granth Sahib would become the final Guru, the living word of God.

Sikhs treat these scriptures with great respect. Anywhere the Guru Granth Sahib is kept becomes a Sikh place of worship. The scriptures are kept on a raised platform under a special canopy.

Sikhs take off their shoes when they are in the presence of the holy scriptures and they never turn their back on them. During each Gurburb, or festival, they are read continuously from beginning to end. This takes a total of 48 hours.



3. Make a wordsearch containing words or phrases linked to Sikhism. Under the wordsearch, write a clue for each word or phrase. For example, the clue for 'Guru Nanak' could be 'The first Sikh Guru'. When you have finished, swap wordsearches with a partner and try them out!