

Art and D&T Spirituality Opportunities

Cycle A			
	Unit Title	Discussion Questions:	School Value
Reception & Year 1	Art & Design: Drawing - Marvelous Marks	- What did you notice when you slowed down and watched your pencil or tool move? - How do the marks you made show something unique about you?	Respect: Children value their own unique marks and appreciate others' differing styles. Perseverance: Early mark-making involves trial and error; children keep trying when marks don't look how they expected. Hope: Encourages children to see potential and possibility in simple beginnings.
	D&T: Structures - Boats	- What did you discover about how materials float, sink or move in water? - How does it feel when your boat moves or stays afloat—what does that moment tell you about trying new things?	Perseverance: Children revisit and adapt their design if the boat doesn't float at first. Trust: Trusting their ideas and using trial and error to problem-solve. Hope: Hoping and believing their design will work inspires optimism and excitement.
	Art & Design: Painting & Mixed Media -Paint My World	- What surprised you when you mixed colours together? - How do different colours make you feel inside?	Trust – Children learn to trust themselves as experimenters when mixing and choosing colours. Respect – Acknowledging that others may prefer or interpret colours differently. Hope – Colour mixing teaches that new, unexpected beauty can emerge.
	D&T: Textiles - Puppets	- What story does your puppet tell about you or your ideas? - How does it feel to bring your design "to life" so it can speak or act in a story?	Respect: Appreciating different designs and the characters others create. Trust: Trusting their own creativity and building confidence in their skills. Forgiveness: Learning to accept mistakes (mis-sewn, stuck, or cut pieces) and move on positively.
	Art & Design: Sculpture & 3D - Paper Play	- What did you discover about how paper can change when you fold or tear it? - How can something fragile (like paper) still be beautiful or strong?	Respect: Handling materials with care and appreciating their qualities. Perseverance: Folding, joining and shaping paper requires repeated attempts. Hope: Seeing creative potential in a plain sheet of paper.
	D&T: Cook & Nutrition - Smoothies	- What do you notice about the colours, smells and textures of the fruits before and after blending? - How does it feel to create something healthy that can help your body grow and stay well?	Respect: Respecting food, ingredients, and others' preferences or dietary needs. Community: Preparing food together builds shared responsibility and togetherness.

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			Hope: Understanding that healthy choices contribute to a hopeful, flourishing future.
Year 2, 3, 4	Art & Design: Craft and Design - Ancient Egyptian Scrolls	- Why do you think ancient people used symbols to express their deepest beliefs and hopes? - What symbols would tell the story of what matters most to you?	Respect: For ancient cultures and their symbolic languages. Community: Symbols communicated shared beliefs across society. Hope: Egyptians used imagery to express hopes about life and the afterlife.
	D&T: Textiles - Pouches	- Why do we treasure certain objects and feel the need to protect or look after them? - What makes something worth keeping safe?	Trust: We trust important items to protective objects. Respect: Valuing what we treasure and keep safe. Perseverance: Crafting textiles requires patience and care.
	Art & Design: Painting and Mixed Media - Life in Colour	- How do different colours change the way we feel inside? - Why might certain colours remind us of special memories or people?	Hope: Colours evoke optimism and emotional expression. Trust: Trusting our feelings and responses to colour. Respect: Appreciating personal memories attached to colour.
	D&T: Mechanisms - Fairground Wheel	- Why do people enjoy rides and experiences that make them feel amazed or full of wonder? - How does creating something that brings joy to others help us understand what makes life meaningful?	Community: Fairground rides bring people together. Respect (for joy): Creating joy for others reflects valuing human happiness. Perseverance: Mechanisms develop through repeated trial and improvement.
	Art & Design: Drawing: - Growing Artists	- How does slowing down to observe help us appreciate creation more deeply? - Why do small details in nature inspire such awe?	Respect: Slowing down to observe shows care for nature. Perseverance: Observational drawing requires dedication. Hope: Awe in nature inspires wonder and future creativity.
	D&T: Cooking and Nutrition - Eating Seasonally	- How does eating food that grows naturally in each season help us appreciate the changing rhythms of the world? - Why is it important to think about where our food comes from and how it connects us to the earth and to other people?	Community: Seasonal food connects us to farmers and global communities. Respect: For the earth's natural rhythms. Hope: Sustainable choices nurture hope for the planet's future.
Year 4, 5, 6	Art & Design: Drawing - Make my voice heard	- Why is art such a powerful way to speak up for justice or change? - Which issues matter so much to you that you'd want your voice to be seen as well as heard?	Trust: Using art to express truth requires trust in oneself. Respect: Art gives a voice to justice and fairness. Hope: Speaking for change expresses belief in a better future.
	D&T: Textiles - Stuffed toys	- Why do comfort objects hold emotional meaning for people of all ages? - What makes an object feel comforting or full of care?	Community: Comfort objects help people feel belonging and care. Trust: Objects we hold close reflect emotional safety. Forgiveness: Softness and comfort tie to themes of healing.

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	Art & Design: Sculpture and 3D - Interactive installation	- How does experiencing art together help people feel connected? - What shared messages do you think art can communicate better than words?	Community: Shared experience strengthens connection. Respect: Allowing different interpretations of art. Trust: Interactive art depends on trusting the audience to engage.
	D&T: Structure - Bridges	- Why are bridges such powerful symbols of connection? - What relationships or situations in life need "bridges" to bring people together?	Community: Bridges literally unite people and places. Trust: Engineers and users rely on structural integrity. Hope: Bridges symbolise reconciliation and future connection.
	Art & Design: Craft and Design - Fabric of Nature	- How does nature reflect beauty, pattern, and creativity? - What part of the natural world makes you feel closest to peace or wonder?	Respect: Nature's patterns reflect beauty that deserves care. Hope: Nature often symbolises renewal. Community: Nature connects all people through shared environments.
	D&T: Mechanical Systems - Automata toys	- Why does movement bring joy and fascination, especially in handmade objects? - What does the way things move teach us about cause, effect, and intention?	Perseverance: Mechanisms demand repeated refinement. Respect (for creativity): Celebrating the delight of movement. Community: Handmade toys often stem from shared cultural traditions.

Cycle B

	Unit Title	Discussion Questions:	School Value
Reception & Year 1	Art & Design: Drawing - Make Your Mark	- What small details did you notice when you looked really closely at your object? - How does your drawing show the way you see the world?	Respect: Valuing the different ways that children observe and interpret the same object. Perseverance: Observational drawing demands focus and willingness to try again. Trust: Trusting their own viewpoint and artistic judgement.
	D&T: Cooking and Nutrition -Soup	- How does it feel to create something that can help warm, comfort or care for someone? - What do you notice about the colours, smells and textures of the ingredients?	Community: Making food helps children think about caring for and sharing with others. Respect: Valuing ingredients, showing care when preparing food, and respecting others' choices. Hope: Seeing how simple ingredients can come together to make something nourishing and new.
	Art & Design: Painting & Mixed Media - Colour Splash	- How do different colours change the feeling or mood of your artwork? - Which colours remind you of peaceful, joyful or special moments?	Hope: Colours can inspire optimism, calm, joy and emotional wellbeing. Respect: Recognising that colours hold different meaning or feeling for different people. Forgiveness: Learning to move forward when colours mix unexpectedly or something goes "wrong."

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	D&T: Textiles - Bookmarks	- What makes the bookmark you made special or meaningful to you? - How does it feel to create something that someone else might enjoy or treasure?	Respect: Children design with care and consider how others will handle or use their creations. Trust: Trusting their design ideas and the process of making. Perseverance: Trying again when joining or decorating is fiddly or challenging.
	Art & Design: Creation Station	- How does it feel to create something new from ordinary materials? - What makes your creation special or different from anyone else's?	Perseverance: Children keep going when structures fall or ideas change. Trust: Trusting their creative choices and problem-solving. Hope: Seeing how simple materials can transform into something imaginative.
	D&T: Structures - Constructing a Windmill	- How does it feel to use wind or movement to bring your design to life? - What do you notice about how the different parts work together like a team?	Community: Highlighting that parts must work together, just like people in a community. Perseverance: Structures often need adjusting, strengthening and rebuilding. Hope: Believing that small changes can help make the windmill work successfully.
Year 2, 3, 4	Art & Design: Painting and Mixed Media- Prehistoric Painting	- What do you think prehistoric artists were trying to say about life, nature, or themselves? - Why might humans feel a need to record their experiences, even thousands of years ago?	Respect: Honouring early humans' experiences. Community: Prehistoric art communicated shared stories. Hope: Art preserved meaning beyond an individual's lifetime.
	D&T: Mechanisms - Making a Moving Monster	- Why do stories and imaginary creatures spark curiosity and creativity in us? - What makes imagination such an important part of being human?	Perseverance: Creativity flourishes through trial and error. Trust: Trusting imagination and the creative process. Hope: Imaginary creatures reflect human wonder and aspiration.
	Art & Design: Drawing - Power Prints	- How can repeating an image make its message more powerful? - What message would you want others to remember about you or the world?	Hope: Powerful repeated images can inspire change. Trust: Trusting your message to resonate with others. Respect: Honouring the importance of personal or social messages.
	D&T: Mechanical Systems - Pneumatic Toys	- Why do you think movement and animation capture our imagination and bring designs to life? - How does creating something that moves remind us of the creativity and complexity in the world around us?	Perseverance: Producing motion requires accuracy and resilience. Respect: Appreciating the complexity of design. Hope: Animation sparks curiosity and wonder.
	Art & Design: Sculpture and 3d - Abstract Shape and Space	- How can shapes express ideas or feelings that are hard to put into words? - Why do you think humans create abstract art that doesn't look like real objects?	Trust: Trusting non-literal expression to communicate meaning. Respect: For individual interpretations of abstract art. Hope: Abstraction invites possibilities beyond the familiar.

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	D&T: Structures - Constructing A Castle	- Why do you think people throughout history built strong, protective places — what were they hoping to keep safe? - How does designing a place of safety help us think about what we value and want to protect in our own lives?	Hope: Castles reflect hope for safety and security. Trust: People relied on strong structures to protect communities. Respect: Understanding why protection mattered through history.
Year 4, 5, 6	Art & Design: Sculpture and 3D - Mega Materials	- How do different materials change the way we understand or value an artwork? - Why might an artist choose to work with unexpected materials?	Respect: For varied materials and artistic experimentation. Trust: Artists must trust new processes and tools. Community: Shared exploration fosters collaborative creativity.
	D&T: Textiles -Fastenings	- What everyday items hold things together in your life — both physically and emotionally? - Why is it important that some things stay connected or held securely?	Trust: Fastenings hold things securely — symbolising emotional security. Respect: Design choices must respect users' needs. Community: Good design supports interconnectedness.
	Art & Design: Drawing - Power Prints	- How can repeating an image make its message more powerful? - What message would you want others to remember about you or the world?	Hope: Powerful repeated images can inspire change. Trust: Trusting your message to resonate with others. Respect: Honouring the importance of personal or social messages.
	D&T: Mechanical Systems - Making a pop-up book	- How does adding movement bring a story to life in new ways? - Why do stories stay with us long after we first hear them?	Community: Stories help people connect and understand each other. Trust: Trusting narratives to carry meaning across time. Hope: Stories endure because they offer meaning and hope.
	Art & Design: Painting and Mixed Media - Portraits	- What makes every person worthy of being seen and valued? - How can a portrait reveal the inner life of someone?	Respect: Every person is worthy of being seen. Trust: Portraits reveal truth about identity. Hope: Art captures human dignity and aspiration.
	D&T: Electrical Systems - Doodlers	- What can unexpected creativity (like random lines) show us about freedom and expression? - How does movement help us appreciate spontaneity and surprise?	Hope: Embracing spontaneity reflects openness to creativity. Trust: Trusting unpredictability in design. Respect: Valuing unexpected beautiful outcomes.
Cycle C			
	Unit Title	Discussion Questions:	School Value
Year 2, 3, 4	Art & Design: Drawing - Tell A Story Art & Design: Craft and design - Map it out	- How can pictures speak truths that words sometimes can't? - Which places in your life hold special meaning, and why?	Respect: Stories shape identity. Trust: Art communicates truths beyond words. Community: Shared narratives create belonging.
	D&T: Structures -Baby Bear's Chair	How does thinking about others' needs affect the choices we make when designing?	Respect: Designing with empathy for others' needs.

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		Why is it important to create things that offer comfort and care to others?	Community: Care for comfort and support. Forgiveness: Creating something supportive reflects compassion.
	Art & Design: Painting and Mixed Media - Light and Dark	- Why do you think light and darkness are such powerful symbols in stories, beliefs, and art? - How does contrast help us notice beauty or meaning we might otherwise miss?	Hope: Light symbolises hope across cultures. Respect: For contrasts that reveal hidden beauty. Trust: Embracing the balance between darkness and light.
	D&T: Cooking and Nutrition - A Balanced Diet	- Why is taking care of our bodies an important part of valuing the life we've been given? - How can the choices we make about food show respect for ourselves and the world that provides for us?	Respect: For our bodies and the planet. Hope: Healthy choices shape a hopeful future. Trust: In the systems that provide our food.
	Art & Design: Sculpture and 3d - Clay Houses	- What makes a place feel like "home" to someone? - How does the idea of home shape who we are?	Community: Home represents belonging. Respect: Honouring different cultures' ways of living. Hope: Home shapes identity and future dreams.
	D&T: Mechanical Systems - Making a slingshot car	What does building something that moves teach us about cause, effect, and responsibility in our choices?	Perseverance: Engineering through repeated testing. Respect: Decisions affect outcomes. Trust: Trusting one's own judgement and design choices.
Year 4, 5, 6	Art & Design: Drawing - I Need Space	- Why are humans so fascinated by space and the idea of the unknown? - How does thinking about the universe make you reflect on your own life?	Hope: Curiosity about the universe opens imagination. Respect: For the vastness and mystery of creation. Trust: Reflecting on our place in the universe.
	D&T: Cooking and Nutrition - What could be healthier	- Why is caring for our bodies an important part of valuing ourselves? - How does the food we choose reflect how we see ourselves and others?	Respect: Caring for our health and wellbeing. Hope: Healthier choices improve our future. Perseverance: Changing habits takes determination.
	Art & Design: Painting and mixed media - Artists study	- How do an artist's experiences and beliefs shape the art they create? - What can learning about artists teach us about understanding others' perspectives?	Respect: Valuing artists' perspectives and experiences. Trust: Learning to see the world through another's eyes. Community: Art connects people across cultures and time.
	D&T: Electrical Systems	- What does light represent to people, and why do we seek it in times of challenge? - What does it mean to "shine" in someone else's life?	Hope: Light symbolises guidance and comfort. Trust: Electricity teaches reliability and safety. Community: Shared light brings people together.

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	Art & Design: Craft and Design - Photo opportunity	- Why do certain moments feel worth capturing and holding onto? - How can a photograph help us see beauty, meaning, or truth that we might otherwise overlook?	Respect: Photos preserve meaningful moments. Hope: Capturing joy and beauty for the future. Trust: Photographs reveal truth that words may miss.
	D&T: Structures - Playgrounds	- How does designing spaces for joy and play show care for others? - Why is play important for our wellbeing and relationships?	Community: Playgrounds are built for shared enjoyment. Respect: Designing safe play spaces shows care. Hope: Play nurtures wellbeing and future confidence.