

Places of Worship

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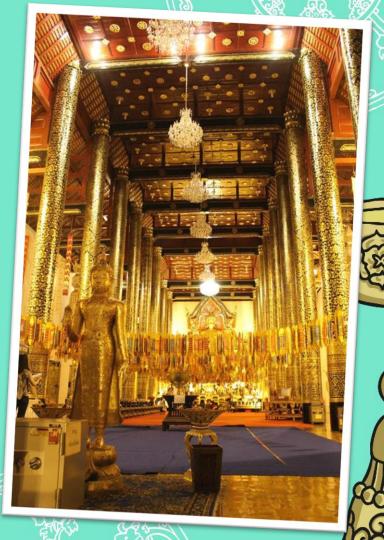
What do all of these buildings have in common?

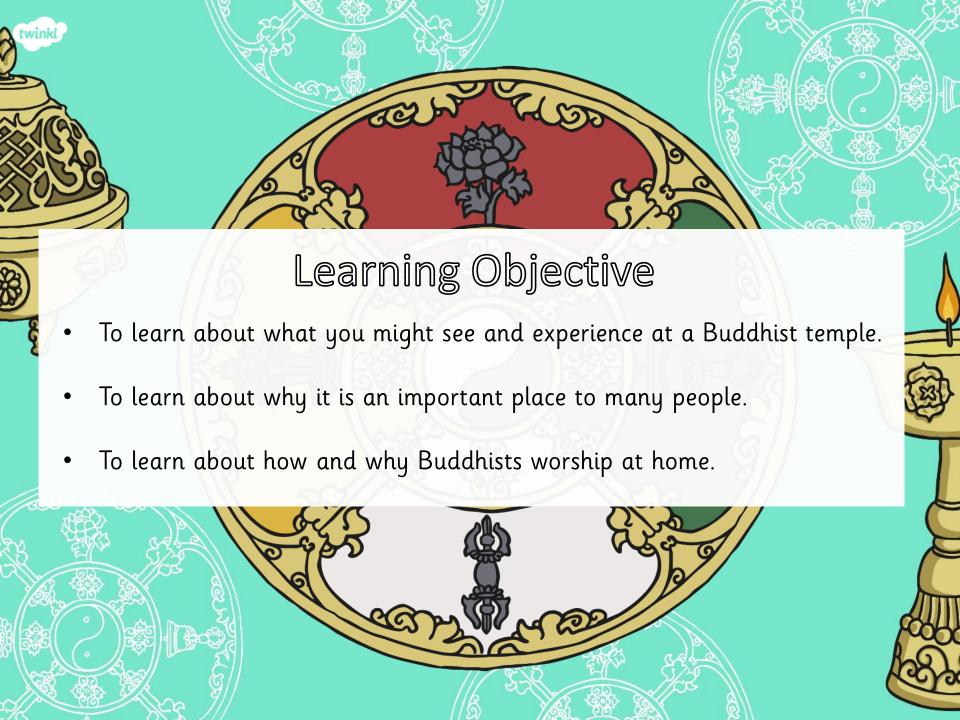


What is it like inside a Buddhist Temple?



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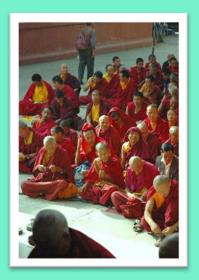


Success Criteria I can list the things that are the same and different about Buddhist temples around the world. I can name and describe special objects that can be found inside. I understand why the temple is an important place by describing what happens during worship. I can list rules for how to behave inside a Buddhist temple. I can talk about how and why Buddhists also worship at home.



Buddha

All Buddhist temples contain an image or statue of Buddha.



Lectern

From here, the head monk may give a talk to the worshippers.



Important
Features of
a Buddhist
Temple



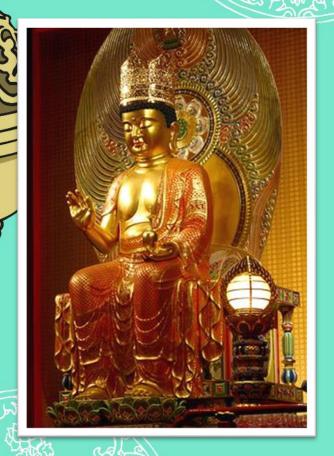
Wheel of Life

This is the Buddhist symbol. You might see this if you are ever visiting a Buddhist temple.

Courtyard or Meditation Area

A temple may have a silent area for meditation.

Why do people go to a Buddhist Temple?





People go to the temple to worship the image of Buddha. Worshippers usually sit on the floor barefoot.

Worshippers give offerings to Buddha such as flowers or candles. Worship is led by monks and is mostly meditation and chanting.

Why do people go to a Buddhist Temple?



Incense (a nice smelling fragrance) is used during worship to remind everyone that Buddha is all around them.



Many Buddhists believe that worshipping together with other Buddhists helps them to understand their religion better and to feel part of a faith family. Being in the temple also helps Buddhists to get better at meditation which is a way of being calm and still.

Why do people go to a Buddhist Temple?



Buddhists also attend temple for special occasions such as weddings and religious festival days.

Buddhist Worship at Home



Buddhists can worship both at the temple and at home.

In a Buddhist home, there will be one room or area used as a shrine with a statue of Buddha, incense and candles.

Having a shrine in the home is an opportunity for a Buddhist to worship daily.



Showing Respect

- No talking in the shrine room.
- Wear appropriate clothing and no shoes to be worn inside.
- Special books should be kept off the floor.
- Sit with your legs crossed on the floor, do not straighten out your legs (this is a sign of disrespect, so is lying down).
- Bow to the statue of Buddha.
- Make offerings.

