

The words this person might use are:

The reason this person does this is because:

This person is feeling:



Afterwards this person might:

The words this person might use are:

The reason this person does this is because:

This person is feeling:



Afterwards this person might:







### **Answers – How the decisions were made at the time**

When the people involved in this project were making their decisions their discussions focussed on the fact that:

- *Both Muslims and Christians believe in Allah or God*
- *Both are people of prayer*
- *Both believe the world was created and is sustained by God or Allah.*

**The young people decided to focus on the central text for prayer of each faith: the Al-Fatiha and the Lord's Prayer.**

Both prayers have been written with a stick dipped in ink overlaid with wax resist and washes of transparent colour.

The colours are descriptive and symbolic in turn.

Cool and hot colours have been used - tones from the natural created world as given by God/Allah.

The Al-Fatiha is overlaid with a grid formation hinting at the patterning associated with Islamic art. Its colours are reminiscent of a tranquil garden.

The Lord's Prayer is embedded in blazing colour, reminiscent of the tongues of flame associated with Pentecost.

For both scrolls it was decided to follow the Islamic traditions concerning no human depiction as the focus was on that which is shared: what do we say.

## The Lord's Prayer (Christian)

The Lord's Prayer is the model of prayer that Jesus taught: it is found in the Bible in both Luke and Matthew's Gospels

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen

**Today it is usually prayed in the language of the people praying (i.e. in French in France and Polish in Poland).**

*"If somebody said 'Give me a summary of Christian faith on the back of an envelope', then best thing to do would be to write Our Lord's Prayer."*

**Rowan Williams Archbishop of Canterbury**

**"Teach us how to pray", the disciples said to Jesus (Luke 11:1).**  
He answered by teaching them the prayer we call the Our Father or the Lord's Prayer.

**The Lord's Prayer is a basic Christian prayer. As a model of prayer, every Christian learns it by heart. It appears everywhere in the church's life: in its liturgy and sacraments, in public and private prayer. It is a prayer Christians treasure.**

## Al-Fatiha: 'The Opening'

### In Arabic alphabet:

1. بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
2. الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
3. الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
4. مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ
5. إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ
6. اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ
7. الصِّرَاطَ الَّذِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِ

### English transliteration:

1. Bismillāhi r-rahmāni r-rahīm
2. Al-hamdu li-llāhi rabbi l-ālamīn
3. Ar-rahmāni r-rahīm
4. Māliki yawmi d-dīn
5. Iyyāka nabudu wa iyyāka nastaīn
6. Ihdinās ṣirāṭ al-mustaqīm
7. Ṣirāṭ al-laīna anamta alayhim ġayril maġdūbi alayhim walā ḍ-ḍāllīn

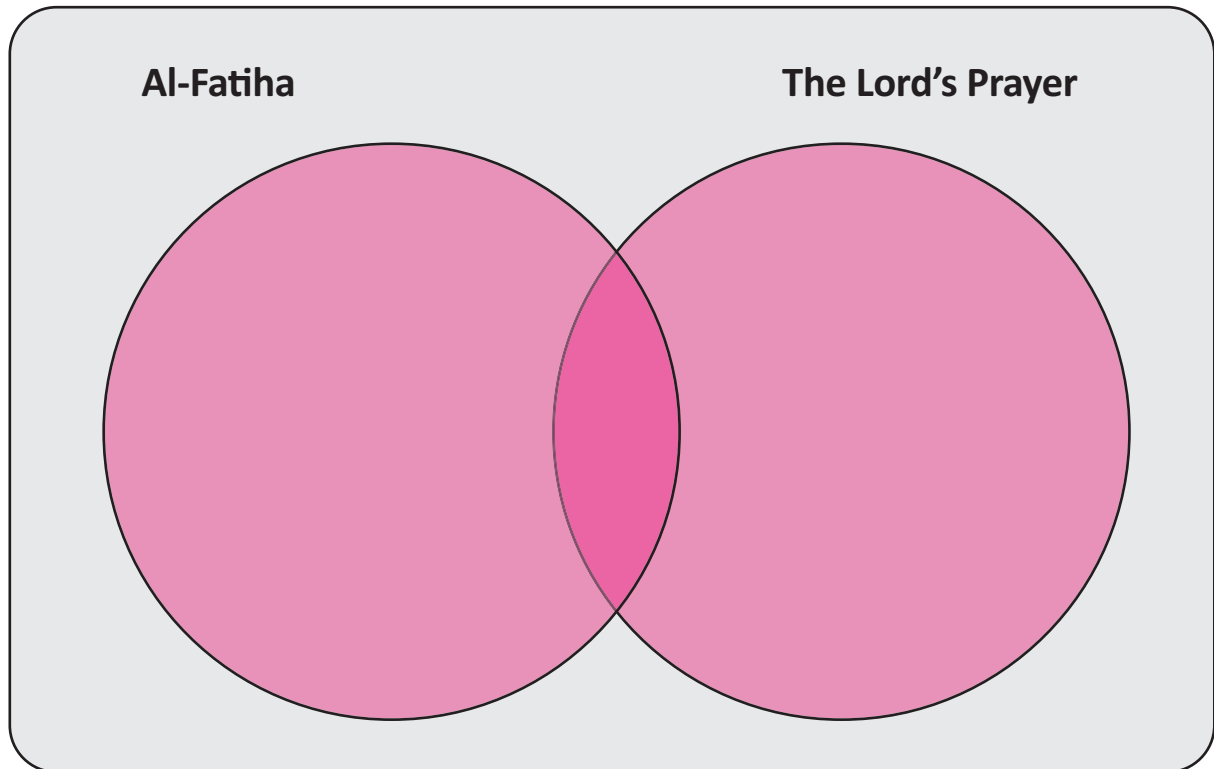
### English translation:

1. In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.
2. Praise be to God, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the world;
3. Most Gracious, Most Merciful;
4. Master of the Day of Judgment.
5. Thee do we worship, and Thine aid we seek.
6. Show us the straight way,
7. The way of those on whom Thou hast bestowed Thy Grace, those whose (portion) is not wrath, and who go not astray.

- translation by Abdullah Yusuf Ali

Sura Al-Fatiha (Arabic: فاتحة, "The Opening"), is the first chapter of the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an. Its seven verses are a prayer for God's guidance and stress the lordship and mercy of God. This chapter has a special role in traditional daily prayers, being recited at the start of each unit of prayer (rak'ah). The Al-Fatiha should always be recited in Arabic. The Al-Fatiha is supposed to be said at least 17 times a day by practicing Muslims.





### Possible themes to think about:

1. **God** – descriptions, titles names, qualities
2. **Life after death** - is it mentioned – in what way?
3. **Actions** - what is it asking God to do? What is it asking humans to do?
4. **Forgiveness**
5. **Language** - what language is it prayed in?
6. **Purpose** - what is the prayer used for?
7. **Where is the prayer from?**

- Activities:**
1. Look carefully at the texts and decide what they have in common (include that in the central overlap).
  2. What is distinct and unique - place that in the other parts of the diagram.
  3. Based on what is shared - try to write a short prayer that you think both Muslims and Christians could pray.

**Extension Activity:** Think of two more themes to comment on that are found in either both or one of the prayers.