



Precious Books

- *Which books are special to the children?*
- *How can we tell that religious books are precious?*
- *What stories or passages in religious books influence the reader and how?*

Lesson ideas

- Talk together about which books are special to the children and why.
- Explain that the Bible is a very special book for Christians; many read it every day because they believe God can communicate through the words. It is still the world's best selling book and has been translated into more than 2000 languages.
- Visit the website www.request.org.uk (click 'Infants' then 'Bible') for clear text and illustrations.
- What would the children save up and wait a long time for?
- Read the story of Mary Jones and her Bible. A copy may be found [here](#) courtesy of the Bible Society in Northern Ireland.
- What does the Bible mean to a Christian? Find out [here](#).

Information

- The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek word biblia meaning 'books' and it is in fact a collection of 66 books, written by many people over a long time. Each of the 66 books is divided into chapters and each chapter is divided again into verses.
- The Bible is divided into two parts - the Old Testament is shared with the Jewish faith and the New Testament tells about the life of Jesus and the first churches.
- The BBC 'Watch - Christianity' video and accompanying big books also cover the stories of the Good Samaritan and the Lost Sheep.

Things to do:

- Find a modern translation of the Bible and look at the 'Contents' page near the front of the book.
- Find out how many 'books' make up the Old Testament and how many 'books' make up the New Testament.
- Find the first book in the Bible. What is it called?
- Watch the BBC video 'Pathways of Belief - The Bible' episode.

Contact us for:

- Copies of 'The Lion Storyteller Bible' and 'Stories Jesus Told'.
- The book 'Guess How Much I Love You', illustrating the message of the Bible.
- Extension work on the parables of 'The Good Samaritan', 'The Prodigal Son' and 'The Lost Sheep'.
- Copies 'The Lost Sheep' big book by Penny Frank.
- Details of free books for use in RE.