

Unit title: **Stories and what they tell us:**

The Donkey and the Tiger Skin

Context

- The story is from the Sikh tradition
- It tells about Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth and final human Guru or teacher in Sikhism
- Sikhs wear 5 symbols to show their identity as Sikhs: these are the uncut hair, the comb, the steel bangle, the white shorts worn as undergarments and a short dagger
- In the story, Guru Gobind Singh teaches Sikhs that in their behaviour, they should live up to the outer symbols of dress and be proud to be Sikhs

Key underlying ideas/concepts

- **Symbols of dress/badges:** outer symbols of belonging to a group
- **Living up to the symbols of dress in your behaviour**

Links to Early Learning Goals

- Personal, social and emotional development: self esteem & sense of community
- Knowledge and understanding of the world: cultures and beliefs

Main elements of the unit

- Children's **personal** experiences of special clothes/badges

Suggestions for practical activities

Discuss what it means to wear special clothes/badges

- how the children feel, how they are expected to behave

- **The Donkey and the Tiger Skin** - Use the story sack

Tell the story of The Donkey and the Tiger Skin

- Make masks of donkeys and tigers for all the children to role play the change from donkey to tiger and back again
- Use puppets to retell the story
- Talk about how the donkey felt, as a donkey and as a tiger

- **Special clothes/badges – special feelings**

Use a range of clothes/badges and match the outer symbols to inner feelings

- Using clothes/hats/badges from the dressing up box and some of the children's special clothes, talk about the feelings/expected behaviour when wearing these items
- Invite a parent/local person who wears symbols of their religion to talk to the children about their clothes and their feelings when wearing them

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Key questions to ask

- What special clothes/badges do I wear?
- What special clothes do others wear?
- What can we tell about a person from the clothes/badges they wear?
- How do I feel when I'm wearing special clothes/badges?

Story sack

- Story: The Donkey and the Tiger Skin: Stories to Remember: Sikh (RMEP)
- A picture of Guru Gobind Singh
- Some of the 5 symbols of Sikhism: eg kara (steel bangle)
- Toy donkey and or tiger