

Design a Multi-Faith Room for a new hospital in New Milton

Brief:

Gordon Brown's first decision as Prime Minister was to build a new multi-million pound hospital in New Milton. There isn't enough space to have a mandir, mosque, synagogue, gurdwara, temple and church, so he has asked Arnewood students to design a 'Sacred Space' that can be used by Muslims, Christians, Hindus, Jews, Buddhists and Sikhs.

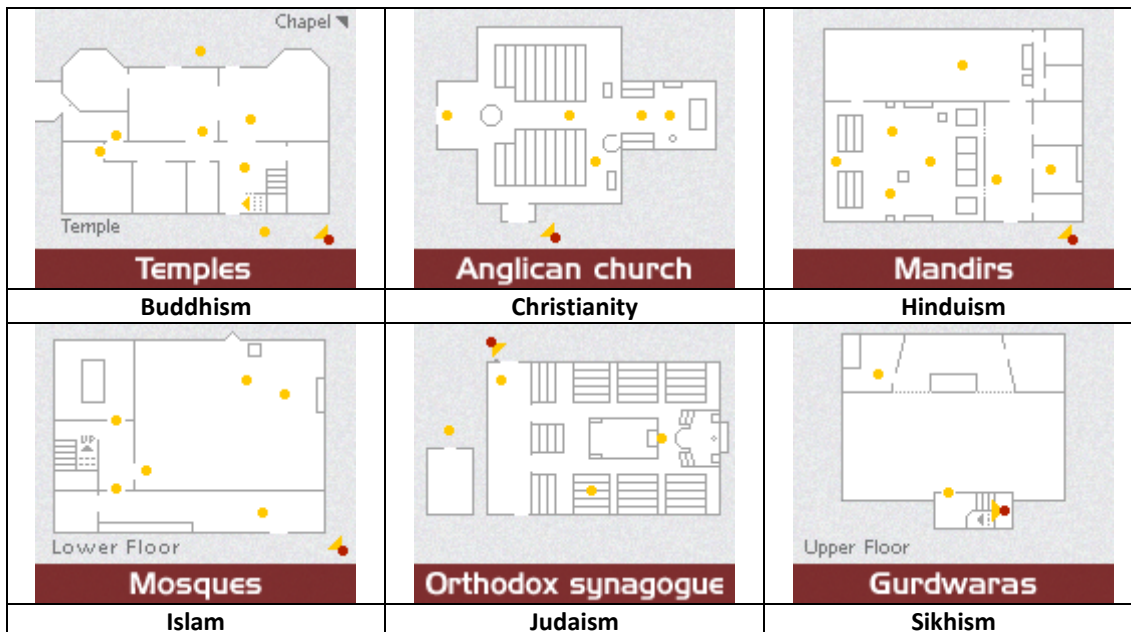
What you need to do:

First, you need to give a brief description of the place of worship for each religion, saying what they do there. For example:

Buddhism

Buddhist worship at home or at a temple. There will be a statue of Buddha, candles, and an incense burner. Worshippers may sit on the floor barefoot facing an image of Buddha and chanting. People chant to show their love for the Buddha. They make offerings of flowers, candles, incense and pure water at a shrine. People thank Buddha for his teachings. When Buddhist worship alone they usually meditate and read from the Buddhist holy books.

Next, you need to design the layout of the place of worship. For example, will there be seats? How will they be arranged? What else will there be?



Now, you have to evaluate your place of worship from the point of view of each religion, listing the positive and negative points. For example, if you are a Muslim, you will appreciate having a place to pray, as you would need to pray five times a day. However, you would not be happy with any statues or images of God – these are not things you would ever find in a Muslim home or in a mosque.

When we have finished this task, I hope we will be able to use the computers for a couple of lessons to design this place of worship using Google Sketchup.