

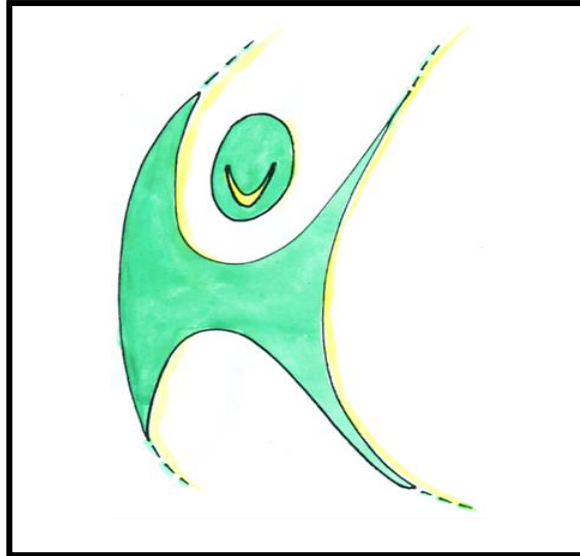
Year 6 - RE - Summer 2 - HUMANISM: Why do Humanists say happiness is the goal of life?

Sticky Knowledge:

Humanism is a non-religious worldview.

Humanists believe:

- Every human has only one life to live.
- That what is right and wrong should be based on reason and respect for others.
- Happiness is a key purpose of this one life and that the time to be happy is now.
- That happiness is found in treating others as you would like to be treated.
- Do not believe in God or an afterlife.
- Look to science instead of religion as the best way to discover and understand the world.
- In the importance of providing meaningful non-religious ceremonies like weddings and funerals.



What should we be able to do?

Explain why some people choose to belong to a Humanist group, including a reference to people who may have inspired them to do so.

Show how some Humanists express their secular beliefs in different ways, e.g. in slogans, bus advertising, and suggest why.

Explain some key beliefs and ideas promoted by local Humanists, or by the British Humanist Association, about God and about how to live.

Understand why Humanists choose non-religious ceremonies and some of the features of these.

What words should we understand and be able to use?

Atheist	Atheists include those who reject a belief in the existence of God or gods and those who simply choose to live without a god. Most atheists do not accept that humans have a spirit or soul; they reject the idea of an afterlife, and other beliefs arising from god-based religions e.g. heaven, creation.	Humanist	Humanists seek to live good lives without religious or superstitious beliefs. They reject the idea of any supernatural agency e.g. God or angels. Humanists base their moral principles on reason, on shared human values and respect for others. Humanism is a full philosophy, "life stance" or worldview. Humanists may also be atheist, agnostic or secular.
Agnostic	Agnostic means "don't know". An agnostic can be someone who has an open mind about religious belief, especially the existence of God. An agnostic can also be someone who says nothing can possibly be known about God or supernatural phenomena, and that it is wrong to claim otherwise. Agnostics live their lives without any reference to God or god	Secularist	Secularists believe laws and public institutions (e.g. schools) should be neutral when it comes to different religions and beliefs. They want to stop anyone being disadvantaged OR privileged because of their religion or lack of it. They believe laws should not be determined by religious leaders or texts. Many secularists are humanists, but some are religious.