



Living Together:

Muslims in a changing world



Age 5-6: Symbols & Celebrations

Series editor: Dr. Rahat Naqvi, Faculty of Education, University of Calgary

Sally Goddard M.A.
Arlene Armstrong

Table of Contents

Introduction to Islam.....

3

Symbols.....

6

Arabic writing

8

Ramadan.....

10

Eid-ul-Fitr

14

Hajj.....

16

Final Activity

20

Introduction to Islam

Islam is a religion.

The people who follow Islam are called Muslims.



Al-Fateh Grand Mosque in Bahrain
Ohran/Shutterstock Images LLC

Muslims worship in mosques. Some mosques are beautifully decorated. Tiles with patterns are often used on the floors and the walls.

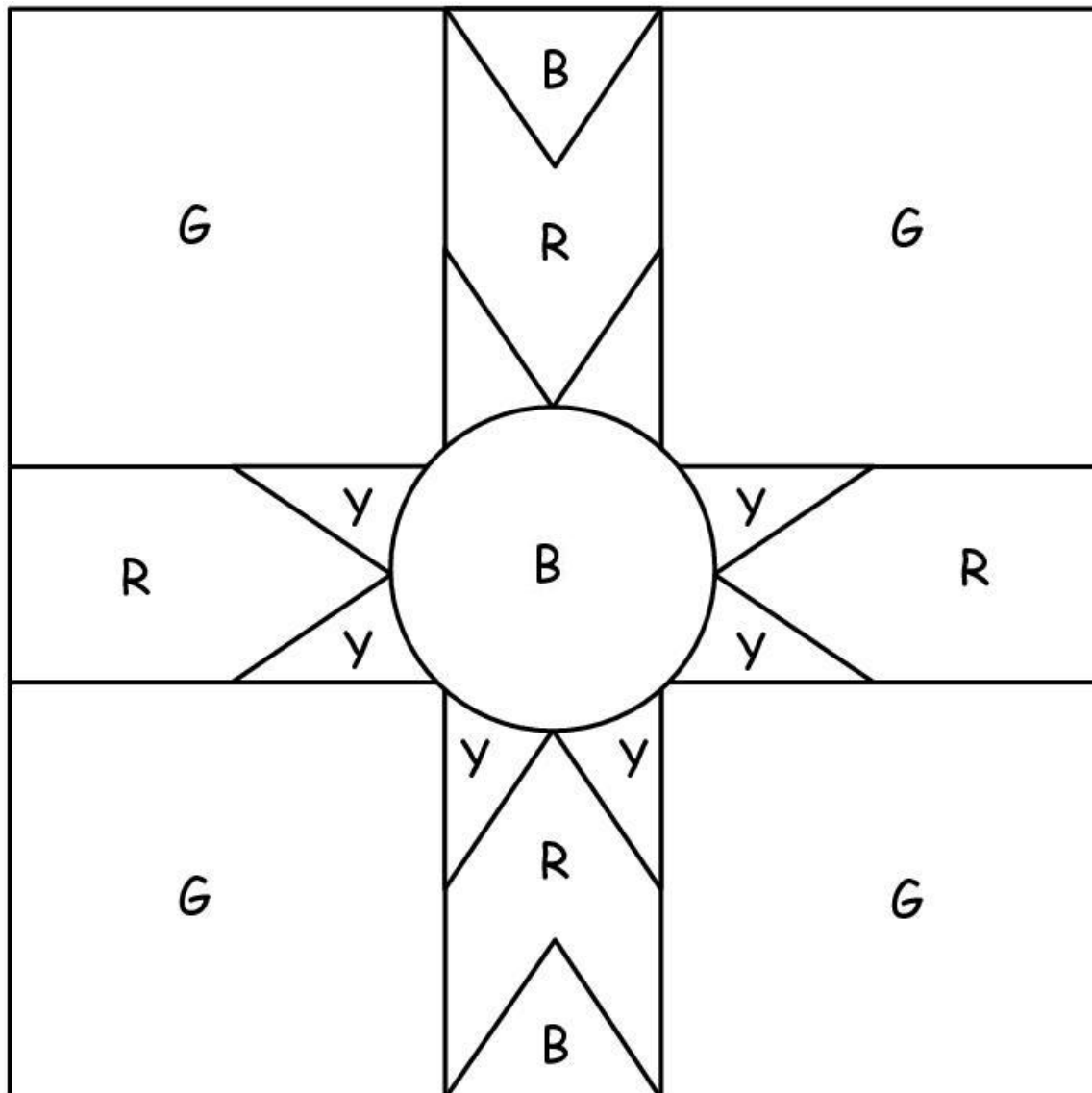


Ebtikar/Shutterstock Images LLC

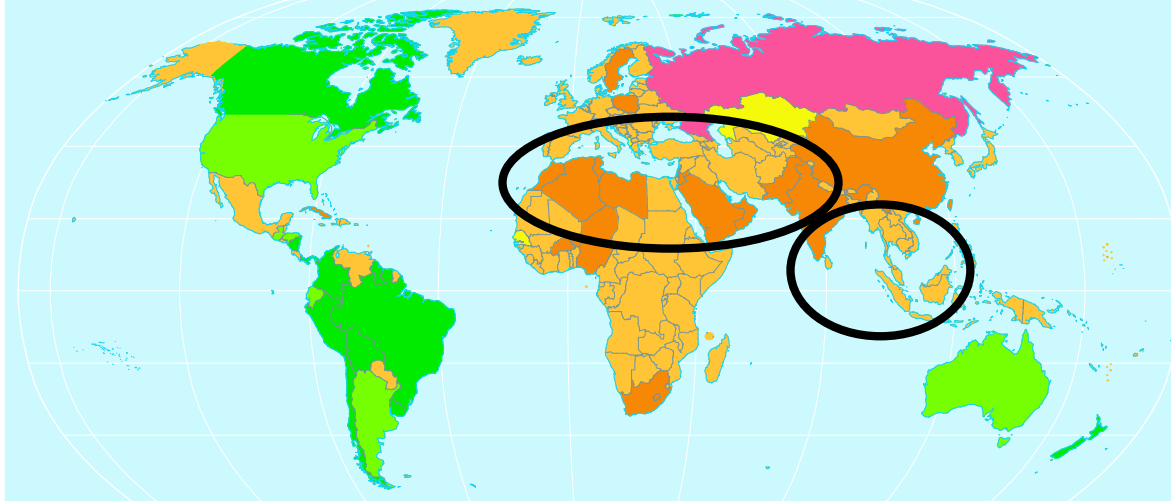
Activity:

Colour the tile using the key.

R = Red G= Green Y= Yellow B= Blue



Regions of the world with mainly Muslim populations.



Mike Tolstoy/Shutterstock Images LLC

Islam began in Arabia. It has spread to many places. Muslims live in many parts of the world.

Symbols

When Islam began in Arabia, it was too hot to travel during the day. People moved at night when it was cooler. The moon lit their way. The stars led the way.

Today, the moon and star are symbols used on flags in some Muslim countries.



Pakistan



Turkey

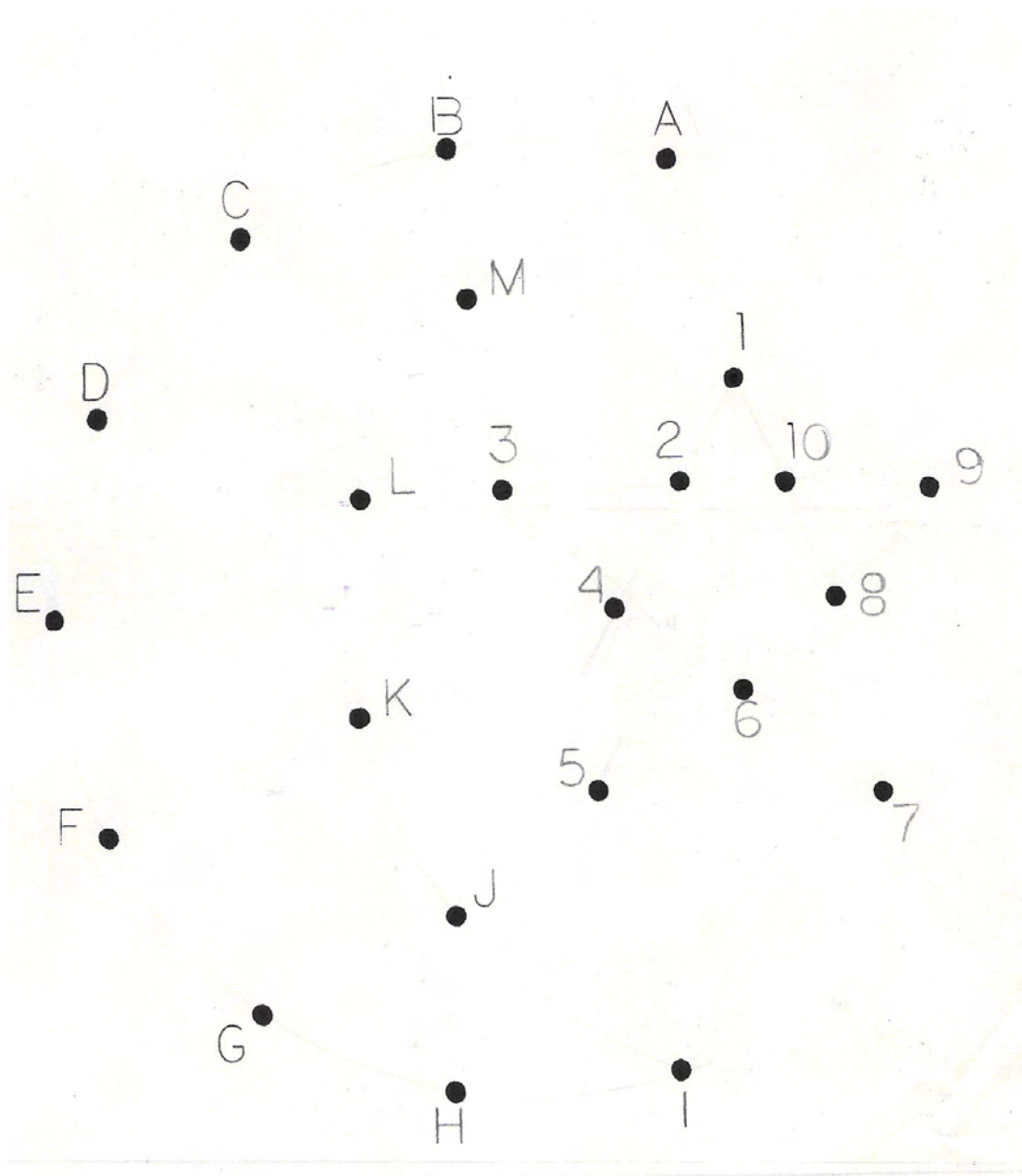


Algeria

All flags: Tatiana53/Shutterstock Images LLC

Activity:

Complete the dot - to -dot.



Arabic writing

Muslim children learn to read and write Arabic.

ك ل ب

This is how you spell dog in Arabic.

كلب

This writing is different. You read from right to left. You are reading this from left to right. The shapes of the letters are different as well.

Activity:

This is what Hello (Salam) looks like in Arabic.

سلام

Write Hello on the lines following the dots.

سلام

Try and write Hello on the lines.

Ramadan

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The Islamic calendar is based on the moon. It is called a lunar calendar. Ramadan begins when the crescent moon is in the night sky. Ramadan lasts between 29 and 30 days.





Activity:

Draw a picture of the night sky. Show the moon and stars.

Throughout Ramadan, Muslims do not eat or drink during the daylight hours. It is called fasting. This helps Muslims remember poor people.

Muslims also try to do good things to help other people during Ramadan. They give money to poor people. They try to be kind to everyone.

Activity:

Make your own jar to collect change. When it is full, give the money to a charity.

You will need:

- 1 glass jar
- lots of 1 inch squares of tissue paper
- a mixture of white glue and water

Cover the glass jar with a mixture of white glue and water. Stick on the tissue paper squares. Cover the tissue paper squares with white glue and water. Let it dry.



When the sun goes down, Muslims break their fast. In the old days, after eating, the children would go outside and meet their friends. They would carry a brightly coloured lantern. The lantern would be lit by a candle.

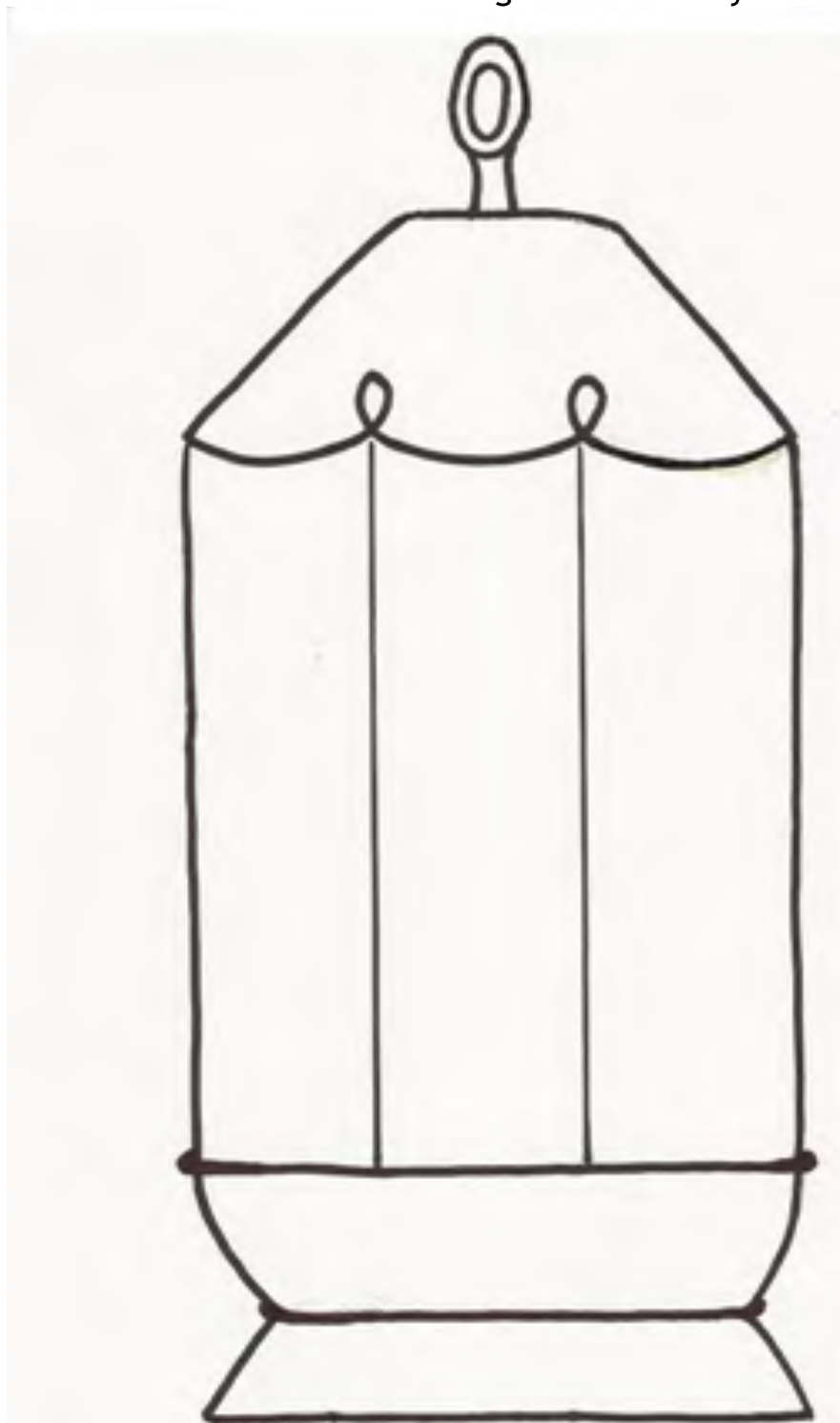
Creativeapril/Shutterstock Images LLC



Paul Cowan/Shutterstock Images LLC

Activity:

Colour the lantern with the brightest colours you have.



Even today, children still have lanterns.

Eid-ul-Fitr

Eid-ul-Fitr begins at the end of Ramadan. Eid means feast.

Eid day is a holiday for all Muslims. People wear their best clothes. They go to the mosque.



Eid-ul-Fitr fireworks celebration in Qatar, 2005
Paul Cowan/Shutterstock Images LLC

Families and friends eat together. Children get money from older family members. People send cards wishing a happy Eid.



Aispi/Shutterstock Images LLC

Activity:

Think of a festival or a celebration that you remember. Write or draw a picture about the celebration or festival. Use your five senses.

Title: My festival or celebration is _____.

Sense	Picture/writing
I saw	
I heard	
I smelled	
I tasted	
I felt	

Hajj

The last month of the Islamic year is also a time of celebration for Muslims. Many Muslims travel to Mecca in Saudi Arabia. Mecca is the centre of Islam.



Arlene Jean Gee/Shutterstock Images LLC

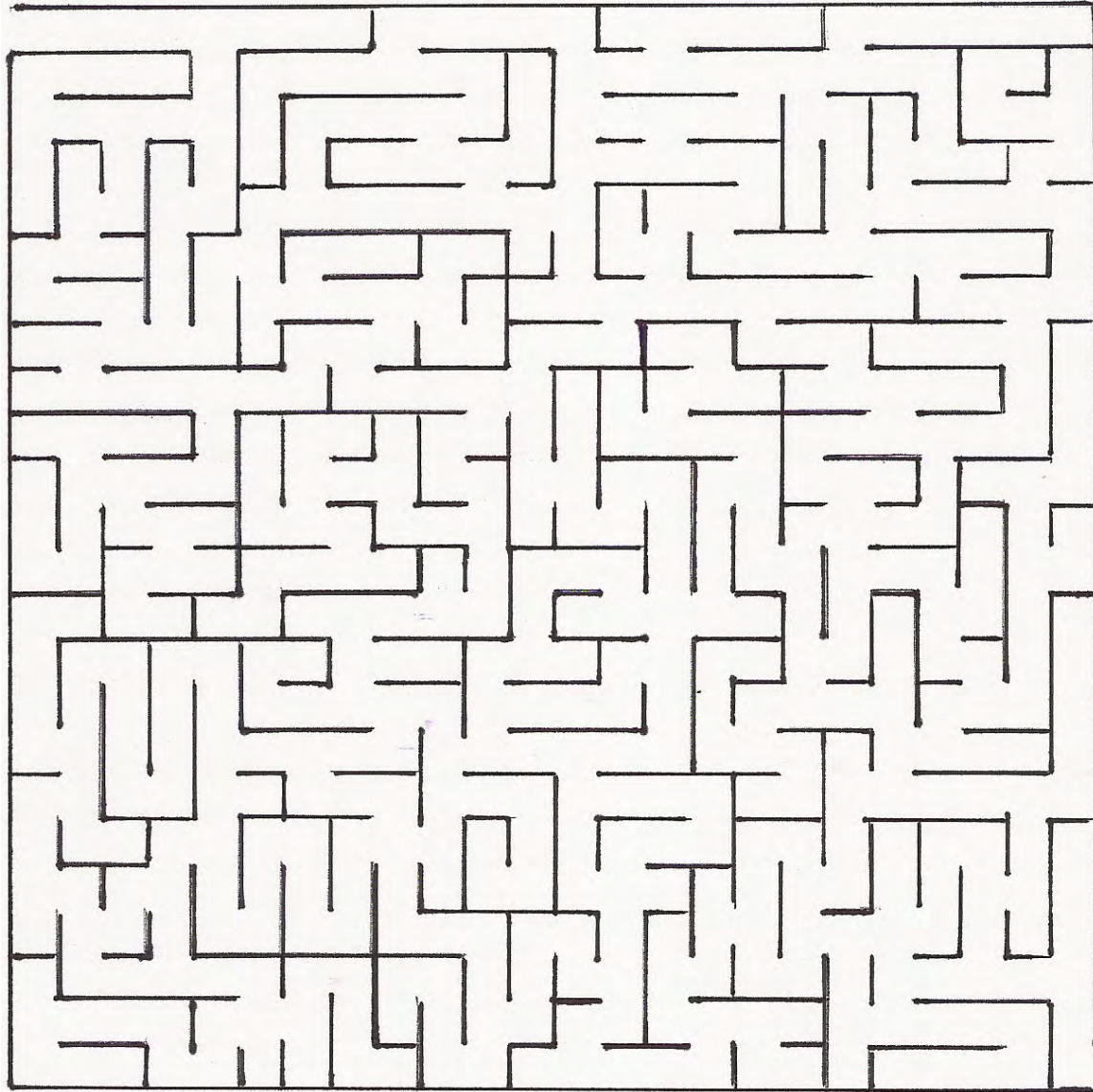
Muslims try to travel to Mecca at least once in their lives. They wear simple white clothes on their journey.

In the past, Muslims traveled to Mecca on camels and on foot. Their journey was difficult. Nowadays, Muslims fly to Jeddah to begin their journey. Their journey is called a pilgrimage. It is a special journey.

Activity:

Here is a special journey for you to take. Try and find your way through the maze.

Start



Finish

Activity:

Have you ever been on a special journey? Describe the journey by answering the questions with either words or pictures or both.

Where did you go?	
What did you do?	
Who did you see?	
What did you buy?	
What was the best part of your trip?	

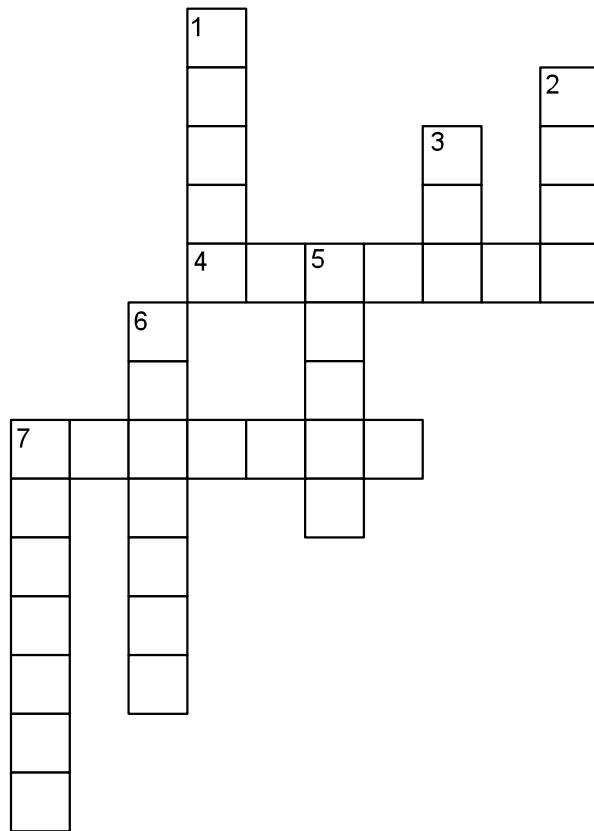
Eid-ul-Adha

This Eid celebrates the Hajj pilgrimage. Muslims say special prayers. They feast with family and friends. They give meat to the poor. The poor do not have meat in many countries. It is too expensive.



QatarEid Decorations Paul Cowan/Shutterstock Images LLC

Final Activity



Across

4. This lasts between 29 and 30 days.
7. Muslims worship in _____.

Down

1. Type of calendar.
2. The _____ lit the way.
3. A time of happiness.
5. Given to children after Ramadan.
6. No eating or drinking.
7. People who follow Islam are called _____.