

Key Vocabulary

beginning	The start of something new.
celebrate	To take part in an enjoyable activities for a special occasion.
ending	The end or final part of something.
reflect	To think carefully about.
Vaisakhi	The Sikh Harvest celebration.
founding	The beginning or start of something.
Sikh	People who follow the religion of Sikhi.
Panj Pyare	The first members of Sikhi. Also known as the Beloved Five.
justice	Fairness.
gurdwara	A Sikh place of worship.

Beginnings and Endings

Beginnings can often be a time of excitement and happiness and a time to **celebrate**. **Endings** are often a time to remember and **reflect** and can sometimes be sad.



Vaisakhi began as a harvest festival and the **founding** of the religion.



Vaisakhi

During **Vaisakhi**, **Sikhs** remember the story of the **Panj Pyare** and how they gave up their everyday lives to follow Sikhi. The Panj Pyare represent the following: kindness, justice, organisation, courage and majesty.



Naam Karan

Naam Karan is a **Sikh** baby naming ceremony. The baby is welcomed into the **Sikh** faith. Naam Karan takes place in a **gurdwara**. The **Sikh** holy book (the Guru Granth Sahib Ji) is opened at random. The first letter of the first word on that page is chosen to be the first letter of the baby's name. Once the name has been chosen, everybody cheers. For their second name, girls are called Kaur (princess) and boys are called Singh (lion).

Key Vocabulary

baptism	A ceremony welcoming a person into the Christian church.
symbolises	When something stands for something else.
sins	Christians believe that sins are wrong actions, that are not what God would want a person to do.
Christian	People who follow the religion of Christianity.
resurrection	When Jesus came back to life after death.
crucifixion	When Jesus was put to death on a cross.
Bar/Bat Mitzvah	A Jewish celebration for the beginning of adulthood.

Jesus' Baptism

John the Baptist **baptised** Jesus in the River Jordan. When Jesus came up from under the water, the sun came out and a dove flew down. Jesus heard God's voice say, "This is my son. I love him and I am pleased with him." Water is used in **baptism** and **symbolises** a person's sins being washed away and the **beginning** of their journey of faith as a **Christian**.

Christians are often **baptised** as a baby, when they are given their name, but they can also be **baptised** as an older child or an adult. Gifts are often given at **baptisms**.



Easter

Christians celebrate Easter to remember the story in the Bible of Jesus' **crucifixion** and **resurrection**. **Christians** believe that Jesus died so that everyone's **sins** could be forgiven.



At Easter time, **Christians** go to church, send cards and give Easter eggs. Easter eggs **symbolise** the new life, as a **Christian**, that God promises to those that believe in him.

Celebrating Easter

Endings

An **ending** can also be a **beginning**. The end of Jesus' life was the **beginning** of hope and new life for **Christians**. Other **beginning** and **ending** ceremonies are **celebrated** by different religions, such as **Bar/Bat Mitzvah** and weddings.

