

# What Is a Ceremony?



# Aim



To describe what a ceremony is.

## Success Criteria

- I can tell you why ceremonies are important.
- I can name some religious and non-religious ceremonies.
- I can describe a ceremony I have been to.

# What Is a Ceremony?



With a partner, think about these questions:

What is a ceremony?

Have you ever been to one?

What was it for?

What happened?

Who did you go with?

What did you wear?



# What Is a Ceremony?



A ceremony is an important and serious event. They can be held for lots of different reasons.



Ceremonies are held on special occasions and usually celebrate or remember something important.

They also help make significant things official.



Usually ceremonies involve special actions and words.

People going to a ceremony often dress smartly.



# Meet Amy



This is Amy. She is only seven years old but already she has been to many ceremonies. Click on the ceremonies to find out more:

a swimming club  
presentation ceremony

a wedding

a graduation ceremony



a naming ceremony

a pet burial

my Beaver  
investiture ceremony

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# Meet Amy



## A Swimming Club Presentation Ceremony

I love swimming and this year I have started swimming in competitions. At the end of the year, the swimming club held a party. Before the party started, there was a ceremony where the chairperson of the club awarded medals and trophies to some people. I received a medal for being the most improved swimmer of the year. I went to the front to take the medal and everyone clapped. I wore my swimming club hoodie and tracksuit bottoms to this event.



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# Meet Amy



## A Wedding

My cousin's wedding was in a hotel. We sat in rows and the bride walked up the aisle in a white dress. The bride and groom were married by an official with a big folder at the front. Lots of photographs were taken afterwards. We had a big meal where some people gave speeches and then a party. We wore our best clothes to the wedding and people in the bridal party dressed up even more.





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# Meet Amy



## A Graduation Ceremony

My mum was awarded her degree at a ceremony at university. We sat in a big hall like a theatre on the campus. When Mum's name was called, she went up and received her special certificate. She wore a special gown and hat. Everyone clapped. After the ceremony, we went outside and took some photos.





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# Meet Amy



## A Naming Ceremony

I remember my baby brother's naming ceremony. Family and friends gathered in our garden. We listened to music and readings and my brother's name was announced. After the ceremony, we had a buffet. We dressed up in some of our best clothes for this event.



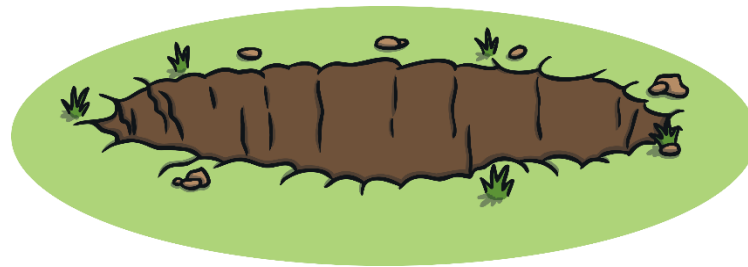
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# Meet Amy



## A Pet Burial

When our hamster, Nibbler, died, we decided to have a special ceremony where we buried him in the garden. We each said goodbye and some nice things about Nibbler and we planted a baby tree at the spot where we buried him. We just wore our normal clothes to this ceremony.



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# Meet Amy



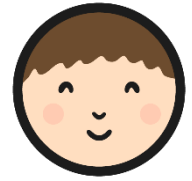
## My Beaver Investiture Ceremony

When I officially joined my Beaver Colony, everyone stood in a circle, smartly dressed in their Beaver Scout uniforms. I made the scout sign with my right hand and the others joined me as I said my Beaver Promise out loud. My leader shook my left hand and gave me some badges, a woggle and my group scarf.





# Ceremonies



Can you describe what a ceremony is?  
Use your **Ceremonies Activity Sheets** to describe a ceremony you have been to.

**Ceremonies**

To describe what a ceremony is.

1. What is a ceremony? What happens in a ceremony?  
A ceremony is an \_\_\_\_\_ and serious event. Often, people dress \_\_\_\_\_ for a ceremony. Usually, ceremonies involve special actions or \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Why are ceremonies important?  
Ceremonies are important because they bring people together to help them \_\_\_\_\_ or remember something important. They often mark special \_\_\_\_\_ in someone's life.

**Word Bank**  
events important words celebrate smartly

3. Think of a ceremony you have been to. Draw and label a picture of it.

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**Ceremonies**

To describe what a ceremony is.

1. What is a ceremony? What happens in a ceremony?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why are ceremonies important?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Word Bank**  
celebrate important serious special occasion official dress  
smartly remember family friends certificate

3. Think of a ceremony you have been to.  
Draw a picture and then write a sentence to explain what happened.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Ceremonies**

To describe what a ceremony is.

1. What is a ceremony? What happens in a ceremony?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why are ceremonies important?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Think of a ceremony you have been to.  
Draw a picture and then write 2-3 sentences to explain what happened.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# Religious and Non-Religious Ceremonies



Names of ceremonies will appear on the screen. You need to decide whether that ceremony is a religious ceremony or a non-religious ceremony.

Click the name of the ceremony to place it in the correct space on the Venn diagram.

Will any ceremonies be placed in the middle?

These could be either religious or non-religious ceremonies.



# Religious and Non-Religious Ceremonies



christening

bar mitzvah/  
bat mitzvah

wedding

funeral

naming  
ceremon

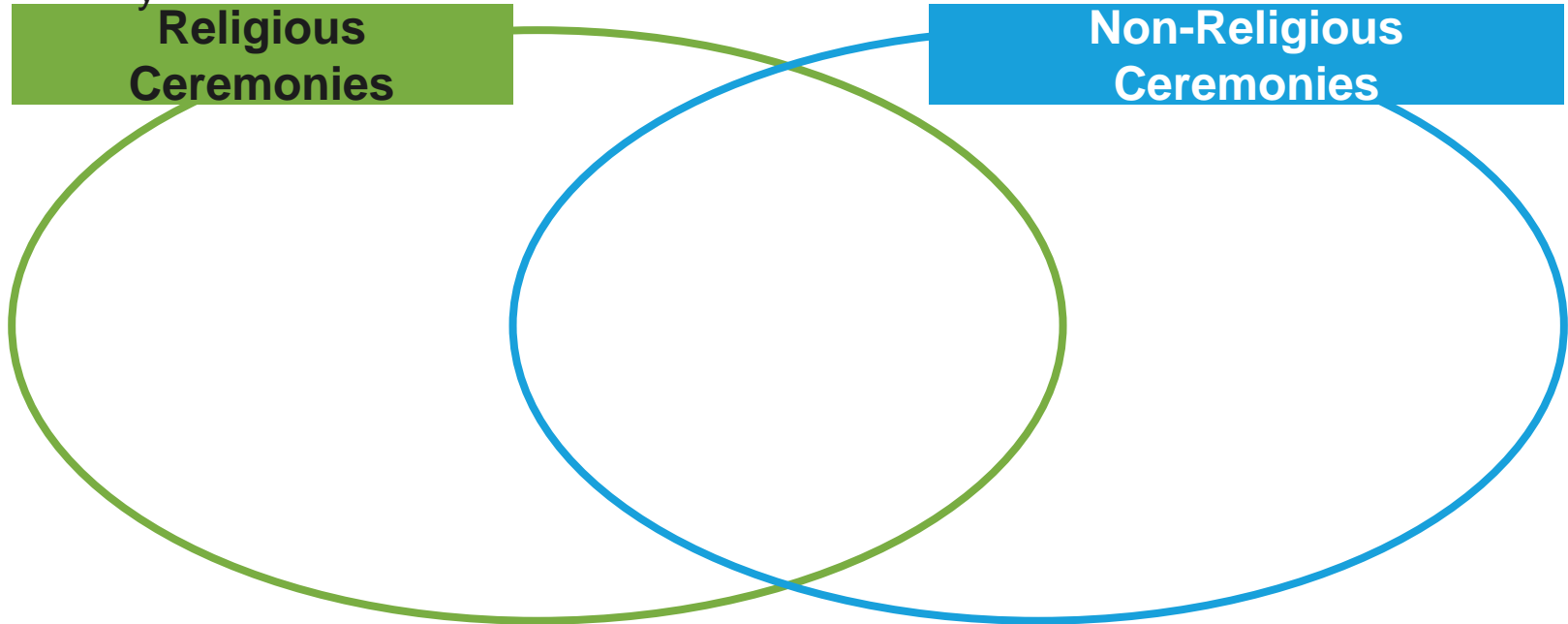
graduation

opening ceremony  
of the Olympics

cutting the ribbon  
to open a new  
leisure centre

**Religious  
Ceremonies**

**Non-Religious  
Ceremonies**

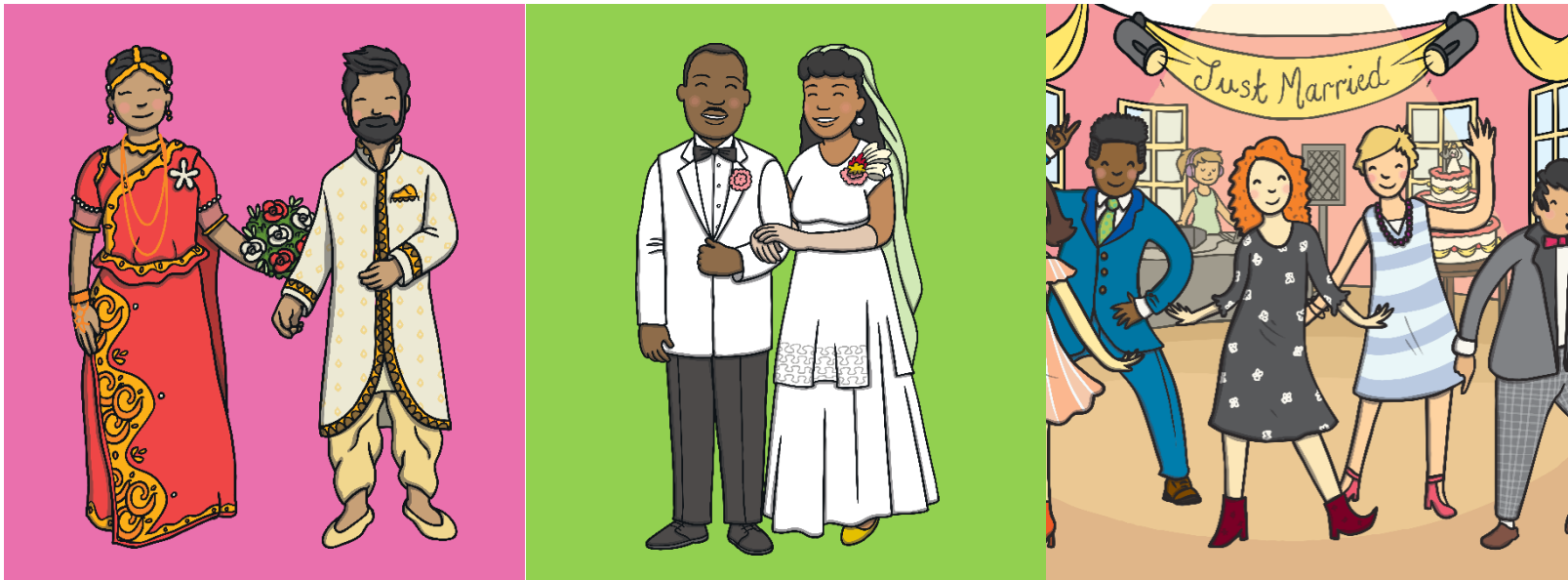




# Religious and Non-Religious Ceremonies



Lots of religions have special ceremonies for different events. Some ceremonies are similar in different religions (such as weddings), but some ceremonies are unique or special to one particular religion.



Over the next few lessons, we'll be learning about some ceremonies from different religions.

# Aim



To describe what a ceremony is.

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