

The Golden Temple

L.O To know that the Golden Temple is a place of worship for Sikh pilgrims



Success Criteria

- To identify the main features of Sikh pilgrimage
- To reflect on pilgrims thoughts, feelings.

Where is the Golden Temple

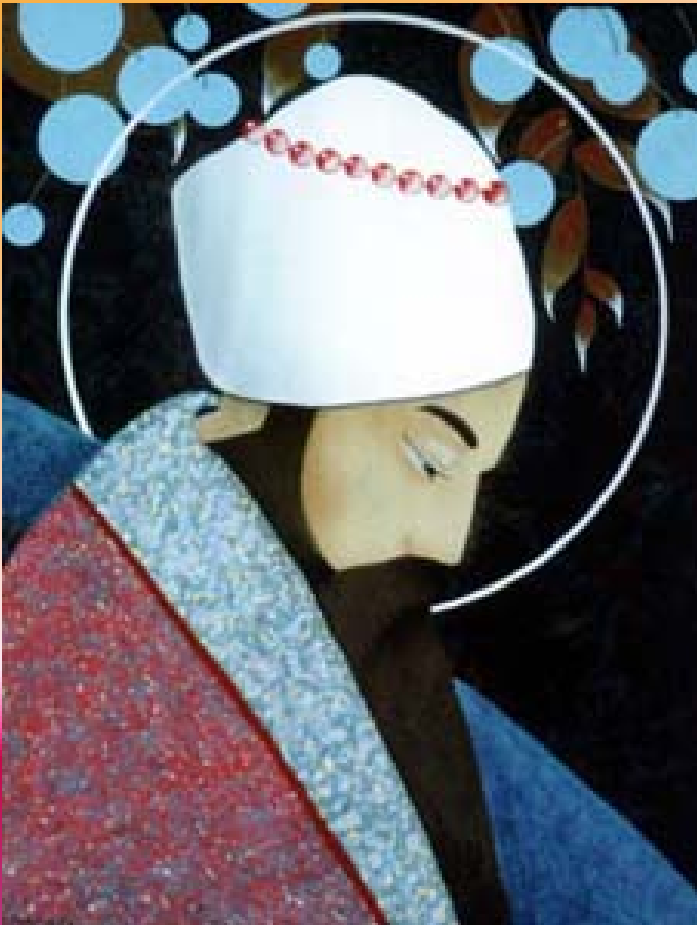
- The temple stands in Amritsar, the holy city of the Sikhs



Why do Pilgrims go there?

- The golden temple also known as Harmandir Sahib ("God's Temple") was completed in 1604.
- It is the most famous Sikh temple in the world. It is a very sacred place.
- It symbolizes the magnificence and strength of Sikhs all over the world.
- Sikhs pay their respect and worship for the Guru Granth Sahib (holy book)
- Pilgrims also bathe in in the Amrit Saras Kund (Pool of Immortality) for spiritual purification

Guru Ram Das



In 1574 Guru Ram Das made his home by the side of the Amrit Saras Kund, which is regarded as blessed with miraculous powers of healing.

What happens in the temple?

- The canopy is the focal point in the temple. The Guru Granth Sahib is placed below it.



- The temple serves as place for everyone.
- When entering you must take off your shoes and cover your head.
- Everyone sits on the floor, which shows that we are all equal in the eyes of God.
- It offers food and shelter. It has a strong community spirit.
- There are no religious pictures, statues or candles. People imagine God.
- The Langar (a meal) is available inside. Sweets (Parshad) are offered after prayer.
- Any Sikh can hold a service. There are no priests.

Activity

- Write a postcard from your trip to the Golden Temple. What would you want to mention? What is so different and special about it?
- Imagine you're a tour guide. Produce a small brochure about the temple. What are the main points to mention?



