



RE- Humanism

EQ: Why do Humanists say happiness is the goal of life?

What I should already know: Children know that there are many different religious faiths and that they all vary in their beliefs and practices. They know that not everybody believes in God.

Enquiry Questions

What is happiness?

What is the importance of happiness for a Humanist?

How have Humanists inspired others?

How do humanists celebrate happiness?

How does being a humanist affect someone's life?

How can I share my learning about Humansim?

Key Vocabulary

Agnostic: Someone who believes you can never know for sure whether God exists or not.

Atheist: Someone who doesn't believe in a God or gods.

Empathy: to understand and share the feelings of others

Humanist: a follower of the principles of humanism.

Reason: the power of the mind to think, understand and form judgements.

Secularist: someone who believes that religion should not be involved with the ordinary social and political activities of a country

Theist: Someone who believes that there is a creator God.

RE Skills

Pupils will:

Learning about religion and belief

6a Explain some key beliefs and ideas promoted by local Humanists, or by the British Humanist Association, about God and about how to live
6b I can use a wide vocabulary to compare the practices and ways of life some Humanists believe are important and why
6c I can express atheist or agnostic beliefs, ideas or feelings in similar ways o Humanists e.g. on posters or badges, and explain what I am trying to convey

Learning from Religion:

6e I can compare my own ideas about the meaning and purpose of life, or about what is true, with others, including those of a practising Humanist
6f Discuss some of the benefits and problems of holding strong values and commitments in life, including those of a Humanist nature.



Humanism is an approach to life which encourages ethical and fulfilling living on the basis of reason and humanity, and rejects superstition and religion. The most immediate impact of living as a Humanist is that we believe this life is all there is - so what we do and the choices we make really count.

— Stephen Fry —

AZ QUOTES

What is it all for?

Humanists believe this is the only life we have as there is no scientific evidence for life after death.

They believe there is **no ultimate meaning in life**, rather humans decide their own meaning and purpose and this will differ from one person to the next.

Humans should try to live a full and **HAPPY** life and help others do the same.

A humanist may find purpose in spending time with their family, acquiring knowledge, or trying to make the world a better place for future generations.

The Happy Human Logo



How do you know what is true?

At the heart of humanism is the belief that **REASON, and EVIDENCE** are very important. They therefore believe that **SCIENCE** should be used to know what is true and what is false.

They do not believe in God, as Humanists are **atheist**, believing there is no scientific evidence or proof that God exists. All truth is discovered by looking at the scientific evidence.

Humanism is a **secular** philosophy because it seeks to answer important questions about the world and the purpose of human life without any reference to God or the supernatural.

Humanism is a world-view that only uses science, evidence, reason and empathy to make sense of the world and to inform how they should act and care for others.

How do you tell right from wrong?

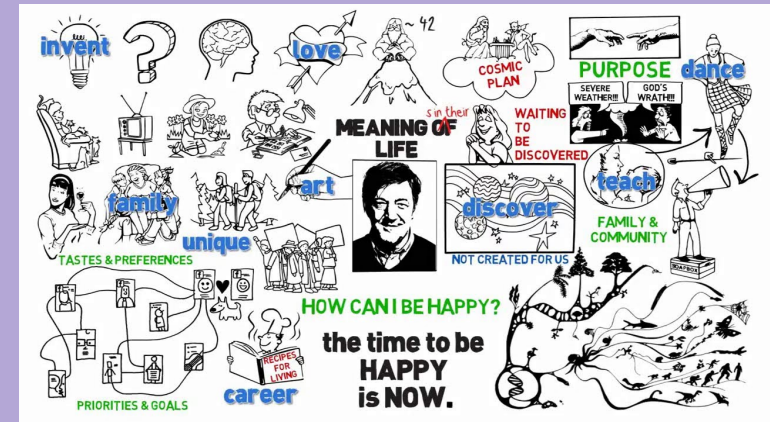
Humanists do not believe in God or other supernatural beings and so do not believe that our knowledge of right and wrong comes from religious rules such as those found in scripture (e.g. the Bible).

They believe in the **GOLDEN RULE** which is to treat others as you yourself want to be treated. They think that you should always consider how your actions will affect other people and you should think about how you would feel in someone else's shoes or situation. Imagining how others feel is called **EMPATHY**.

Humanists believe that we should use our human nature to work out how to live, and that we should use **REASON** and **EMPATHY** when deciding on the what is right and wrong.

Humanists therefore try to live a full and happy life and help others do the same and believe we should use our own human nature as a guide to good living.

Humanists **DO NOT** have an absolute morality as they do not have a strict set of rules (like the 10 commandments) that they must always follow.



Links to other curriculum areas: British Values – Tolerance of other faiths. English - Speaking & Listening /presentation

