

## Special places

Show some images of places of worship (e.g. church, mosque, temple) and explain that many religions have a place of worship or a special building.

Explain that humanists are non-religious. They do not have places of worship. However, many buildings and places are special to humanists.

Introduce the students to some of the things that humanists (like many people) value:

- Happiness
- Good health
- Education
- Community
- Democracy (everybody sharing in decisions about what happens in society)

Ask the students what places they think humanists might think of as special places.

Show images of public facilities:

- Libraries, museums
- Schools, colleges
- Hospitals
- Sports facilities, public parks
- Law courts, council and parliamentary buildings

Ask the students how these places have made life better for human beings.



Explain the following:

- Many humanists value places that support human beings to learn, to stay healthy, to meet people, to enjoy hobbies and interests, and to create a fair society. Sometimes these buildings can be beautiful works of art, but they do not have to be. What is important about them is the role they play in improving people's quality of life.
- Many humanists believe that these buildings can help to illustrate some of the ways human beings have worked together to build a better world.
- It is not just humanists who value these places. Many people with other beliefs do too.
- Some humanists will enjoy visiting religious places of worship too. However, they will normally be interested in them as works of art or places of historical interest rather than for religious reasons.