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| Suitable for Key Stage 2: Upper | | |
| **Life and Death** | | |
| **Learning Objectives:** | **Curriculum Links:** | **Resources:** |
| * To explore Christian views of life and death. | **RE**: Describe and compare different ideas about the meanings of life and death.  **PSHE**: Core theme 3: living in the wider world.  Citizenship: The roles played by public institutions and voluntary groups in society, and the ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities, including opportunities to participate in school-based activities | * R1 life * R2 death * R3 epitaphs |
| **Teacher’s Notes** | | |
| **Before your visit** | | |
| * Students need an understanding of Christian views on life and death including different symbols they might find in the church for example dove, angel, book or scroll, cross, ISH, wreaths, oak leaves, flowers, stained glass etc. * Depending upon the time of year that the church is visited it may also be helpful for students to understand liturgical colours. | | |
| **During your visit** | | |
| **Introduction *(15 mins)*:**  Introduction to the church building.  Discuss – Where are we? What is the building used for? Who is likely to use the building? How does the building make you feel? What can you see in the building?  Remind students of the work they have been doing on life and death and the symbols that they have been looking at – can they see any of these symbols in the church? | | |
| **Main activity *(30 mins)***  Split the class in half – one half walks around the church inside and out looking at examples of ‘life’ how Christians celebrate life or view life. The other half of the group to walk around the inside of the church looking at examples of ‘death’ and how Christians view death - R1 and R2 can be used to record these observations.  Bring the group back together and pair up so that one member who has been looking at life and one that has been looking at death and discuss their findings. Group discuss the interesting things they have found what do they say about Christian views on how life should be lived and their views on what happens at death and after death. What do the students think about how to lead their lives and how to view death? Are their views different from Christian views?  Take the class to the tombs and / or graveyard and show them the epitaphs. Take some time to look around them and note the symbols and epitaphs on the graves / tombs. Which one’s do they like or dislike? Why? Can they find any that sum up life and death? How do the graves and the graveyard make them feel? Do different areas of the church make them feel differently? | | |
| **Plenary: *(15 mins)***  Using resource(R3) students create an epitaph which portrays their views on life and death. NB: This isn’t their own epitaph but one that would represent how people should live their life or how they should view death. | | |
| **After your visit** | | |
| * Pupils share their epitaphs with the class and peer assess each other’s work. Ask them to work out what views the epitaph portrays about life and death. * Do they agree or disagree with this view, and why? Explore religious text that portrays life and death. * Explore different religious views on life and death are these views similar or different to that of Christians? | | |
| |  | | --- | | **Examples of life and death in a church** | |  | | | |