

Thank you for your purchase.

Get ready for a very powerful, silent, discussion!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Chalk Talk: A Chalk Talk is a silent activity that provides all students the opportunity to reflect on what they know, and then share their thinking and wonderings while connecting to the thoughts of their classmates. Chalk talks are one of my favorite ways to start a unit because this activity allows me to find out what my students are thinking. Don't get fooled by the word "chalk." Pencils, pens, markers, or dry erase markers work best!

Set-up:

1. Print page 3-10 on one-sided paper
2. Spread the papers around your classroom. Any surface where students can write will work. This could be on pieces of butcher paper on top of desks. If you have the whiteboard space, you could tape some of the prompts to the whiteboard for discussion. I have taped the prompts to paper and placed them in the hallway for more room. Anything will work.
3. Optional: Post Chalktalk Rules (Page 2) around the classroom so students can see procedures

Lesson:

- Start by going over the Rules of Chalk Talk (Page 2).
- Optional: Have 2-3 students come to the front of the room and model how to do a chalk talk. The first time I do a chalk talk with my class, I model with a few students "Who is the best superhero?" Students always have an answer, and it is a great way to model linking questions and comments.
- Distribute writing instruments and let students move freely around the room answering questions. The discussion may start out slow but will build the more comments that are made. I allow students 15-20 minutes of writing time
  - If you would like groups to go to one question at a time, I recommend allowing students 30 second to think and then two minutes to write at each rotation. Allow students to return to each poster to see how the discussion evolved after they had moved.
- Debrief: This is a vital part of the lesson. Have students return to seats and go poster to poster discussing responses. This is an excellent time to zone in on specific comments and ask who wrote down the idea. Then verbally ask that person to say more. Think aloud and draw broader conclusions.

Why these questions:

- I like to review fact, opinion, belief as part of the first day of the religion unit to set a framework for what will and will not be allowed during the unit. If you do not want to review these concepts you can do the chalk talk with only pages 3-6

# CHALK TALK RULES

Shhh... There is no talking during a Chalk Talk

INSTEAD:

- Write down what you are thinking or wondering
- Circle interesting facts
- Put check marks next to ideas you agree with
- Write a question or a comment to build off of someone else's ideas
- Draw a line connecting your comment or question with similar ideas



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF RELIGION?





WHY DO WE STUDY OTHER  
RELIGIONS?





HOW DOES RELIGION AFFECT PEOPLE'S  
DAILY CHOICES?





# HOW DOES RELIGION AFFECT THE WORLD?

**(Consider: Government, culture, Conflict/War, Language, Buildings & Geography)**





WHAT IS A FACT?





WHAT IS AN OPINION?







WHAT IS A BELIEF?





WHAT IS A PREJUDICE?  
GIVE APPROPRIATE EXAMPLES



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Mass production	Network	Conduit	Medieval

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