



## Activities

- ▶ Ask the children to work in small groups to brainstorm a list of ideas of wishes that could be made for others.
- ▶ Discuss whether the children believe that making wishes or saying prayers for others makes a difference to them.
- ▶ Make a prayer flag using squares of blue, white, red, yellow or green paper. Draw a picture of the wind-horse in the middle of the flag, with the three jewels on its back, and surround it with wishes for all living things, such as: 'Be happy'; 'Be kind' and so on.
- ▶ Attach the children's flags to a length of string and suspend them across the classroom so that they can flutter in the wind.

## NOTES ON THE PHOTOCOPIABLE PAGES

### Buddhism word cards

PAGES 74-75



These cards show key words that children will encounter when working on the unit:

- ▶ words relating to the Buddha's life and teachings
- ▶ words about Buddhist symbols and practice.

Read through the word cards with the children to familiarise them with the key words of the unit. Ask which words the children have heard before and clarify any they don't understand.

## Activities

- ▶ Cut out the cards and laminate them. Use them as often as possible when talking about ways in which people can belong to a particular religion, group or organisation.
- ▶ Encourage the children to match the word cards to the pictures in the Resource Gallery. Play games of matching words and pictures together.
- ▶ Use the word cards for displays about 'The Buddha and his teaching'.
- ▶ Challenge the children to use a word processor and printer to create a set of their own Buddhist word cards relating to the work in this chapter, or Buddhism in general.

### Prince Siddhattha – The Buddha, Prince Siddhattha and the Four Sights

PAGES 76-77



This story tells about the change in Prince Siddhattha's life from a prince who lived in luxury in the palace to the life of a wandering teacher.

## Activities

- ▶ Talk with the children about their ideal life; where would it be lived and how? Remind them of how Buddhism teaches to guard against materialism. Explain what materialism means and ask the children to consider whether their dreams are materialistic in any way.
- ▶ Read or tell the story about Prince Siddhattha.
- ▶ Discuss the reasons why anyone might give up a life of luxury. Do the children think they could give up their toys or other favourite possessions?
- ▶ Look at the Buddha's teaching of the Noble Eightfold Path (see photocopiable page 79).
- ▶ Brainstorm the children's ideas of the important things in life. Interview other children and adults to compare responses.

### Mudras and symbols in Buddhism

PAGE 78



Buddhism is rich in symbols. This activity sheet includes examples of hand gestures (or mudras) used in images of the Buddha to represent different aspects of the Buddha's life and aspects of his teaching. It also includes the symbol of the lotus and the eight-spoked wheel.

## Activities

- ▶ Ask the children to practise the different hand gestures or mudras, using the examples on the activity sheet as a guide. When they have mastered the gestures, ask one child to mime