

# Vesak

Carole Crimeen  
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## Suggested Teaching and Learning

**Text Type:** Non-Fiction

**Genre:** Recount

**Suggested Reading Recovery Level:** 5

**Word Count:** 77

### ACARA F-1 References

**Learning Areas:** English; Humanities and Social Sciences

**General Capabilities:** Literacy; Intercultural Understanding

**Cross Curriculum Priorities:** Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia

### Understanding Texts

- Build background knowledge with a rich book introduction. Tell students that Vesak is a celebration of Buddha's birthday; lotus flowers are special and that people give gifts to the monks. Look through the text and find images of monks, lotus flowers and Buddha. \*UnT4, UnT5
- After reading, talk about some of the things that people do during the Vesak celebration. Make a list to display. \*UnT4, UnT5
- Explain to students how the lotus flowers provided stepping stones for Buddha to walk on. \*UnT4, UnT5
- Vesak celebrates Buddha's birthday. Talk with students about how they celebrate their birthday. \*UnT4

**Vocabulary:** birthday, flower, flowers, lotus, monks, special, temple, wash

**High Frequency Words:** are, for, is, on, put, some, think, this, to, we, will

### Phonic Knowledge and Word Recognition + Phonological Awareness

- Make a word string using the word will for example till, fill, mill and still. Hear the rhyme and notice the pattern. \*PhA2
- Locate flowers. Notice the initial fl blend in flower and flowers. Write other words that start with the fl blend such as flow, fly, flip and fling.

\*National Literacy Learning Progressions

# Vesak



# Buddha's Birthday

It is Buddha's Birthday.

Some people

call this Vesak.

SAMPLE





Vesak is a time to  
think about Buddha.

SAMPLE





This is a **temple**.

We are praying  
at the temple.

SAMPLE





# Glossary



lotus flower



monks



temple

## **Knowledge Books and Software**

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# Vesak

**Vesak** is an informational text that describes this religious holiday devoted to commemorating Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death. Prayer at the temple, giving (alms) to monks and the significance of the lotus flower are all highlighted in this text, which acts as an introduction to the religious holiday.

## The Authors

Carole and Suzanne are sisters and educators.

Carole has over 30 years teaching experience. The last 15 years have been spent specialising in early literacy acquisition, training teachers and designing and delivering early reading and writing interventions. Carole has a Master of Education and a Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Suzanne has 15 years teaching experience 13 of which have been spent teaching ESL students. She has a Master of Education (IT in Education) and a Bachelor of Vocational Education and Training.

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