

Saint Nicholas

Think



- What are these?
- How do they link to a saint?
- How has our representation of this saint changed over the centuries?

Respond



Research the 'real' Saint Nicholas. Create a list of adjectives to describe what you think his personality might have been like. Perhaps you could include some similes.

Discuss



Saint Nicholas followed Jesus' teaching to "sell what you own and give your money to the poor". Is this an easy thing to do? Is it helpful or not?



Discover



Fact: In October 2017, after 20 years of excavations, archaeologists in Turkey announced that they had found a tomb which they believed could be the final resting place of Saint Nicholas, who lived in the 4th century.

Question: Who was Saint Nicholas? Why is he regarded as a saint? What legends surround his life? How did his image become the image of Santa Claus that we associate with Christmas today?

Solve



Many stories tell of Saint Nicholas making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, 1545km over land from Demre, where he lived much of his life. If he could walk 22 miles a day, how many days would it take him to walk to Jerusalem? How many weeks?

Challenge: If he travelled by sea, the journey time would be cut by 40%. How many days would it take by sea?

Reimagine



Saint Nicholas is often portrayed wearing a red coat with white fur trim but this hasn't always been the case. Design a new outfit for Saint Nicholas. Will you come up with something modern or traditional, flamboyant or practical?

Saint Nicholas Answers

How many days would it take him to walk to Jerusalem?	How many days would it take by sea?
Children could use division, chunking or repeated addition: $1540 \div 22 = 70$ It would take 70 days travelling.	40% of 10 weeks = 4 weeks 10 weeks - 4 weeks = 6 weeks It would take 6 weeks (or 42 days) to travel by sea.
How many weeks would it take him to walk to Jerusalem?	
$70 \div 7 = 10 = 10$ weeks	