

# Eid al-Fitr



## What Is Ramadan?

Ramadan is an Islamic festival that is celebrated by Muslims. The festival begins at different times for Muslims depending on when the new moon is first sighted. It lasts from dawn until sunset for 29 or 30 days. Ramadan is a very important time for Muslims and is celebrated all over the world. During Ramadan, Muslims pray and fast.

## Why Do Muslims Fast?

Each day during the month of Ramadan, Muslims all over the world do not eat or drink from dawn until sunset. At the end of the day (after sunset), Muslim families will often all eat together and celebrate their day of fasting. Fasting is meant to teach Muslims to be self-disciplined. The prophet Muhammad was one of the first Muslims to fast - other Muslims follow his example.

## How Do Muslims Mark the End of Ramadan?

The end of Ramadan is a big celebration called 'Eid al-Fitr': The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for helping them to be strong enough to fast. Eid al-Fitr officially begins when the new moon is first seen in the sky.

## How Is Eid al-Fitr Celebrated?

On the first morning of Eid al-Fitr, many Muslims meet for special prayers and have breakfast. They put on their best clothes for what will be their first meal in daylight for a month. At their meal, Muslims will often give gifts and cards to each other. Celebrations continue for up to three days and usually include: gatherings to view the new moon; decorating homes inside and out; family visits; eating special foods; neighbourhood parties and wearing special, new clothes. People wish each other 'Eid Mubarak' (Blessed Eid) or 'Eid Said' (Happy Eid).



## Did You Know...?

An estimated 2.1 billion Muslims all over the world will celebrate Eid al-Fitr to mark the end of Ramadan.



# Questions

1. What is Ramadan?

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2. What does the verb 'to fast' mean? Tick one.

- to stay up until sunset
- to all eat together
- to not eat or drink
- to put on their best clothes

3. What does 'Eid al-Fitr' mean?

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4. What do many Muslim families do after sunset during Ramadan?

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5. Who do Muslims thank at the end of Ramadan?

- friends
- family
- Allah
- neighbours

6. List **three** activities that Muslims may take part in during their Eid al-Fitr celebrations.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

7. How many people are estimated to take part in Eid al-Fitr celebrations this year?

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8. Can you think why Ramadan fasting is more challenging to complete when it falls during the summer months?

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# Answers

1. What is Ramadan?

**Ramadan is an Islamic festival that is celebrated by Muslims.**

2. What does the verb 'to fast' mean? Tick one.

- to stay up until sunset
- to all eat together
- to not eat or drink**
- to put on their best clothes

3. What does 'Eid al-Fitr' mean?

**The end of Ramadan is a big celebration called 'Eid al-Fitr': The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast.**

4. What do many Muslim families do after sunset during Ramadan?

**At the end of the day (after sunset), Muslim families will often all eat together and celebrate their day of fasting.**

5. Who do Muslims thank at the end of Ramadan?

- friends
- family
- Allah**
- neighbours

6. List **three** activities that Muslims may take part in during their Eid al-Fitr celebrations.

**Pupils must list three activities from: meet for special prayers and have breakfast; give gifts and cards to each other; gather to view the new moon; decorate their homes inside and out; visit family; eat special foods; hold neighbourhood parties and wear new/special clothes.**

7. How many people are estimated to take part in Eid al-Fitr celebrations this year?

**An estimated 2.1 billion Muslims all over the World will celebrate Eid al-Fitr to mark the end of Ramadan.**

8. Can you think why Ramadan fasting is more challenging to complete when it falls during the summer months?

**Ramadan fasting is more challenging during the summer months because the sun rises earlier and sets later. This means the daylight hours time period that Muslim people must fast for each day is much longer.**

# Eid al-Fitr

## What Is Ramadan?

Ramadan is in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The festival begins at different times for Muslims depending on when the new moon is first sighted. It lasts from dawn until sunset for 29 or 30 days. Ramadan is a very important time for Muslims and is celebrated all over the world. During Ramadan, Muslims ask for forgiveness, pray regularly and practise self-control. It is a time of fasting for Muslims as fasting is one of the five duties (or pillars) that Muslims obey. The Islamic name for this fasting is 'sawm'.



## Why Do Muslims Fast?

Fasting is meant to teach Muslims to be focused, to be self-disciplined and to be generous. It also reminds them of the suffering of the poor, who may not get to eat well. The prophet Muhammad was one of the first Muslims to fast - other Muslims follow his example.

Each day during the month of Ramadan, Muslims all over the world do not eat or drink from dawn until sunset. At the end of the day (after sunset), Muslim families will often all eat together and celebrate their day of fasting.

## How Do Muslims Mark the End of Ramadan?

The end of Ramadan is a big celebration called 'Eid al-Fitr': The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for their strength. Eid al-Fitr officially begins when the new moon is first seen in the sky. This is thought to be one of the reasons why a crescent moon symbol is important within Islam.



## Did You Know...?

An estimated 2.1 billion Muslims across the globe will celebrate Eid al-Fitr to mark the end of the month-long fasting period of Ramadan.

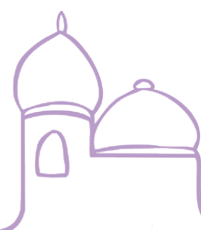




### How Is Eid al-Fitr Celebrated?

On the first morning of the celebration, many Muslims meet for special prayers and have breakfast. They put on their best clothes for what will be their first meal in daylight for a month.

While there, some Muslims will exchange gifts and greetings cards. Celebrations continue for one, two or maybe even three days and usually include; gatherings to view the new moon; decorating homes inside and out; family visits; eating special foods; neighbourhood parties and wearing special, new clothes. People wish each other 'Eid Mubarak' (Blessed Eid) or 'Eid Said' (Happy Eid).



# Questions

1. Explain in your own words what Ramadan is.

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2. Who was one of the first Muslims to fast? Tick one.

- neighbours
- Muhammad
- sawm
- Ramadan

3. What does 'Eid al-Fitr' mean?

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4. Why do you think that the crescent moon is a symbol of the Islamic faith?

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5. List **three** activities that Muslims may take part in during their Eid al-Fitr celebrations.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the estimated number of Muslims worldwide? Tick one.

- 1.2 billion
- 2.1 billion
- 12 billion
- 122 billion

7. Can you think why Ramadan fasting is more challenging to complete when it falls during the summer months?

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8. Describe a time in your life when you have been self-disciplined or generous.

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# Answers

1. Explain in your own words what Ramadan is.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Ramadan is a time of fasting for Islamic people as fasting is one of the five duties / pillars that Muslims follow. It is in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and lasts from dawn until sunset for 29 or 30 days.**

2. Who was one of the first Muslims to fast? Tick one.

- neighbours
- Muhammad**
- sawm
- Ramadan

3. What does 'Eid al-Fitr' mean?

**The end of Ramadan is a big celebration called 'Eid al Fitr'. This means The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast.**

4. Why do you think that the crescent moon is a symbol of the Islamic faith?

**Eid al-Fitr officially begins when the first sight of the new moon is seen in the sky. This is thought to be one of the reasons why a crescent moon symbol is important within Islam.**

5. List **three** activities that Muslims may take part in during their Eid al-Fitr celebrations.

**Pupils must list three activities from: meet for special prayers and have breakfast; give gifts and cards to each other; gather to view the new moon; decorate their homes inside and out; visit family; eat special foods; hold neighbourhood parties; wear new/special clothes.**

6. What is the estimated number of Muslims worldwide? Tick one.

- 1.2 billion
- 2.1 billion**
- 12 billion
- 122 billion

7. Can you think why Ramadan fasting is more challenging to complete when it falls during the summer months?

**Ramadan fasting is more challenging during the summer months because the sun rises earlier and sets later. This means that Muslims must fast for much longer each day as there are more daylight hours.**

8. Describe a time in your life when you have been self-disciplined or generous.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I was generous when I raised money for charity by baking cakes and selling them at the school disco.**



# Eid al-Fitr

## What Is Ramadan?

Ramadan is in the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar. The festival begins at different times for Muslims depending on when the new moon is first sighted. It lasts from dawn until sunset for 29 or 30 days. Ramadan is a very important time for Muslims and is celebrated all over the world. During Ramadan, Muslims request forgiveness, pray for direction and try to cleanse themselves through self-discipline and great acts of faith.



It is a time of fasting for the Islamic people as fasting is one of the five pillars or duties of Islam. The Islamic name for this fasting is 'sawm'.

## Why Do Muslims Fast?

Fasting is intended to help teach Muslims to focus their attention on God, to be self-disciplined and to be generous. It also reminds them of the suffering of the poor, who may rarely get to eat well. The prophet Muhammad set the example of fasting.



Each day during the month of Ramadan, Muslims all over the world abstain from eating and drinking from dawn until sunset. At the end of the day (after sunset), Muslim families will often eat together and celebrate their day of fasting.

## How Do Muslims Mark the End of Ramadan?

The end of Ramadan is a big celebration called 'Eid al-Fitr': The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for the strength given to them throughout Ramadan. Eid al-Fitr officially begins when the new moon is first seen in the sky. Traditionally, Eid al-Fitr would commence at the first sight of a sliver of a crescent moon.



### How Is Eid al-Fitr Celebrated?

On the first morning of the celebration, many Muslims gather in local mosques or open-air locations for special prayers and they have breakfast. Muslims put on their finest clothes for what will be their first daylight meal in a month. While there, some Muslims will exchange gifts and greeting cards. Celebrations continue for one, two or maybe even three days.

People wish each other 'Eid Mubarak' (Blessed Eid) or 'Eid Said' (Happy Eid). Celebrations vary from country to country but usually include: gatherings to view the new moon; decorating homes inside and out; family visits; eating special foods; neighbourhood parties and wearing special, new clothes.



### Did You Know...?

An estimated 2.1 billion Muslims across the globe will celebrate Eid al-Fitr to mark the end of the month-long fasting period of Ramadan.



# Questions

1. Explain in your own words what Ramadan is.

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2. How do Muslims show 'self-discipline' during Ramadan?

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3. What does 'Eid al-Fitr' mean? Why is it celebrated?

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4. Who was one of the first Muslims to fast? Tick one.

- neighbours
- Muhammad
- sawm
- Ramadan

5. What might people wish each other on Eid? Tick **two**.

- Eid Mubarak
- Happy Mubarak
- Enjoy Eid
- Eid Said

6. Explain why Ramadan fasting is more challenging to complete when it falls during the summer months.

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7. Think of an example of a situation where you have exercised self-discipline.

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8. Why do you think that the crescent moon is a symbol of the Islamic faith?

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# Answers

1. Explain in your own words what Ramadan is.

**Ramadan is in the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar. Falling between June, July and August on the Gregorian calendar and lasting from dawn until sunset for 29 or 30 days. Ramadan is a very important time for Muslims and is celebrated all over the world.**

2. How do Muslims show 'self-discipline' during Ramadan?

**Each day during the month of Ramadan, Muslims all over the world do not eat or drink from dawn until sunset. This 'fasting' takes great self-discipline.**

3. What does 'Eid al-Fitr' mean? Why is it celebrated?

**Eid al-Fitr is literally translated to 'The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast'. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for the strength that they were given throughout Ramadan.**

4. Who was one of the first Muslims to fast? Tick one.

- neighbours  
 **Muhammad**  
 sawm  
 Ramadan

5. What might people wish each other on Eid? Tick **two**.

- Eid Mubarak**  
 Happy Mubarak  
 Enjoy Eid  
 **Eid Said**

6. Explain why Ramadan fasting is more challenging to complete when it falls during the summer months.

**Ramadan fasting is more challenging during the summer months because the sun rises earlier and sets later. This means that Muslim people must fast for much longer each day as there are more daylight hours.**



7. Think of an example of a situation where you have exercised self-discipline.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I was generous when I raised money for charity by baking cakes and selling them at the school disco.**

8. Why do you think that the crescent moon is a symbol of the Islamic faith?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: The crescent moon could be a symbol of the Islamic faith because Eid al-Fitr officially begins when a crescent moon is first sighted in the sky.**