

## Buddhist Web

### Stories of the Buddha:

From the British Museum: The story of the Buddha told through photographs of carvings [http://www.ancientindia.co.uk/buddha/stor\\_bacy/sto\\_set.html](http://www.ancientindia.co.uk/buddha/stor_bacy/sto_set.html) there is also a tricky “match the symbol” challenge at [http://www.ancientindia.co.uk/buddha/challenge/cha\\_main.html](http://www.ancientindia.co.uk/buddha/challenge/cha_main.html)

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/storybuddha.htm> the story of the Buddha in printable pages – each with a short amount of text and a line drawing – a detailed 93 pages which could be turned into a class book.

The delightful Jataka stories can be found at <http://www.thebuddhistsociety.org/resources/index.html> and also at <http://www.buddhanet.net/budtales.htm> and in booklet form at <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/ebooks.htm>

Staffordshire learning net storyboard collection  
<http://www.sln.org.uk/storyboard/l1.htm>

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/lifebuddha/index.htm> is the life of the Buddha for secondary students – but could be used with the top ok KS2.

### Basic introductions to Buddhism for adults:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/people/features/world\\_religions/buddhism.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/people/features/world_religions/buddhism.shtml) the BBC site – always worth a look for basic background also [www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/beliefs/index.shtml) which looks at beliefs, worship, holy days etc

[http://www.thailandlife.com/a\\_buddhism.html](http://www.thailandlife.com/a_buddhism.html) a site from Thailand where a teenager talks about his experience of Buddhism, including being a novice monk. Includes materials on festivals and temples, all with photographs of Thailand and personal photographs of family events. Appropriate reading level for KS2 – **definitely worth a look**. Another good site on Thai Buddhism with plenty of photographs is <http://www.thaibuddhist.com/> this includes an ordination ceremony, Buddha images (including some of the largest in the world), festivals and life in a monastery.

A Buddhist glossary <http://www.edepot.com/budglossary.html>

A simple introduction to Buddhism written by a lay person <http://www.geocities.com/Tokyo/5215/Dharma.html> this could be a useful place to start. Includes the four noble truths and the eightfold path.

The Buddhist Society has a simple and straightforward website with all the basics you would expect at <http://www.thebuddhistsociety.org/resources/index.html>

A really helpful outline of *Buddhist worship* can be found at [www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/observances.htm](http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/observances.htm) there are also several guides to Buddhism on this site written at different levels - the “basic Buddhism” is at just the right level for your needs <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/basic-guide.htm> . If you want to go a bit

further, browse the topics in the e-book library <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/teachings.htm>

For an outline of Buddhist festivals and rites of passage try <http://www.buddhanet.net/ceremony.htm>

All you need to know about Buddhist monks and nuns at <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhistworld/monastics.htm> including a set of photographs of all the different styles of robes.

<http://www.dalailama.com> the Dali Lama's website

### **Images and symbols of the Buddha:**

<http://www.edepot.com/budmudra.html> a useful set of illustrations of the different mudras (hand gestures) you will see on Buddhist statues.

<http://www.edepot.com/budart.html> good photographs of Buddha rupas (statues)

As always, look at Strathclyde University's site for good photographs and drawings of artefacts [www.allre.org.uk/shells/strath\\_bafacts.html](http://www.allre.org.uk/shells/strath_bafacts.html) and <http://www.strath.ac.uk/Departments/SocialStudies/RE/Database/Graphics/Images/Buddhism/Budd.html>

<http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/history/symbols.htm> the main Symbols of Buddhism – photographs and helpful explanatory text.

### **Tours of Viharas and worship sites:**

<http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/re/virtual/buddhisttrail/index.shtml> Thorough tour of Amaravati Buddhist Monastery, Great Gaddesden, near Hemel Hempstead

<http://www.lgfl.net/lgfl/leas/hackney/accounts/staff/religionslt/web/places/buddh/index> details of Buddhist viharas in Hackney, but not an actual tour

Information and photographs of the main Buddhist pilgrimage sites at <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhistworld/pilgrimage.htm> These will also support detailed work on the Buddha/s life.

Hear Buddhist chanting at <http://www.buddhanet.net/audio-chant.htm> This site also has audio instructions on meditation techniques (for you to listen to – don't use with pupils) <http://www.buddhanet.net/audio-meditation.htm> and there are temple sounds (gongs, singing bowls) <http://www.buddhanet.net/audio-library.htm> A web page also has Buddhist songs for children in English (just audio, and words - no printed music) [http://www.buddhanet.net/buddhist\\_songs/budsongs.htm](http://www.buddhanet.net/buddhist_songs/budsongs.htm) which you might be able to sing along to!

The Cambridge Buddhist Centre is at <http://www.cambridgebuddhistcentre.com/index.php>

### Sites designed for children:

<http://www.dharmaforkids.com/> This excellent *interactive resource for schools* includes sections on 'Temples & Shrines', 'Karma and the Four Noble truths', samsara, 'The Six Perfections' and meditation. It includes interviews with monks and nuns, an explanation of 'The Five Precepts' and the symbolism of robes, along with material on 'Festivals and Pujas'. See 'Children's Puja Photostory' for a resource for younger children. You are sure to find materials you can use on this site.

[www.gakkaionline.net/kids/](http://www.gakkaionline.net/kids/) This site gives an insight into the experience of growing up as a Buddhist in the western world from the lives of practising Buddhist children. Some of the stories and accounts children share on this site will help those learning about Buddhism appreciate some of the issues believing children face in their daily lives. The site also contains *many Buddhist tales and stories* which can be used to highlight key concepts and ideas about Buddhism

A straightforward summary of Buddhism from the pupil pages of a Kent Junior School <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/religion/buddhism.htm>

### Teaching Programmes designed by Buddhist Organisations

You may be interested to see that the **Buddhanet site** has actually put together its own recommended syllabus for teaching Buddhism at the primary phase at <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/index.htm> supported by on-line materials. Several of these are mentioned above, and there are also guided meditations for children and, yes, you must listen to and learn some simple Buddhist worship songs! <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/budsongs.htm> It could be especially worth your while to download their textbooks for KS1 and KS2, the collections of Jataka Tales and the colouring pages – all of these can be found at <http://www.buddhanet.net/e-learning/buddhism/ebooks.htm> with a host of other interesting materials.

The **Clear Vision Trust** is a Buddhist charity that produces some very good resources for schools. Particularly worth looking at are two DVD packs and accompanying support material for schools:

- KS1 – “The monkey King and other tales”
- “Buddhism for key stage two”

The Trust can be contacted at 16/20 Turner Street, Manchester M4 10Z. Contact them for a catalogue on 0161 839 9579 or [clearvision@c-vision.demon.co.uk](mailto:clearvision@c-vision.demon.co.uk) Or visit their website at <http://www.clear-vision.org> In addition to the teaching packs they also have on-line materials for students. The primary materials consist entirely of stories – but the secondary material will be useful information for primary teachers. You can also order Buddhist artefacts through this site.