

Exploring Why

Light

An Aled and Siân Book



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Illustrated by Phillip Vernon



Bear Lands Publishing

About Aled and Siân

Aled and Siân love exploring the places where they live and the places they go to visit. They enjoy playing 'I Spy' to help them get to know these places better. In the *Exploring Why* series Aled and Siân are curious to find out why some of the things around them are important to their Christian, Jewish and Muslim friends.

The series takes seriously the social significance of religion and is based on extensive research into how children learn about themselves, others and the world in which they live.

To support this storybook series, there is a large range of free downloadable resources for children and teachers available at hwb.wales.gov.uk/Resources and st-marys-centre.org.uk

The storybooks and activities are devised for 5- to 7-year-olds, but the downloadable resources make the series relevant for younger and older children too.

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Titles in the *Exploring Why* series are:

Bread
Cross
Light
Menorah
Veil
Water
Symbols of Faith





Aled and Siân are playing 'I spy'. Today they are looking for different kinds of light. I wonder how many different kinds of light they will see and where they will see them.



Aled and Siân open the curtains and the morning light floods in.



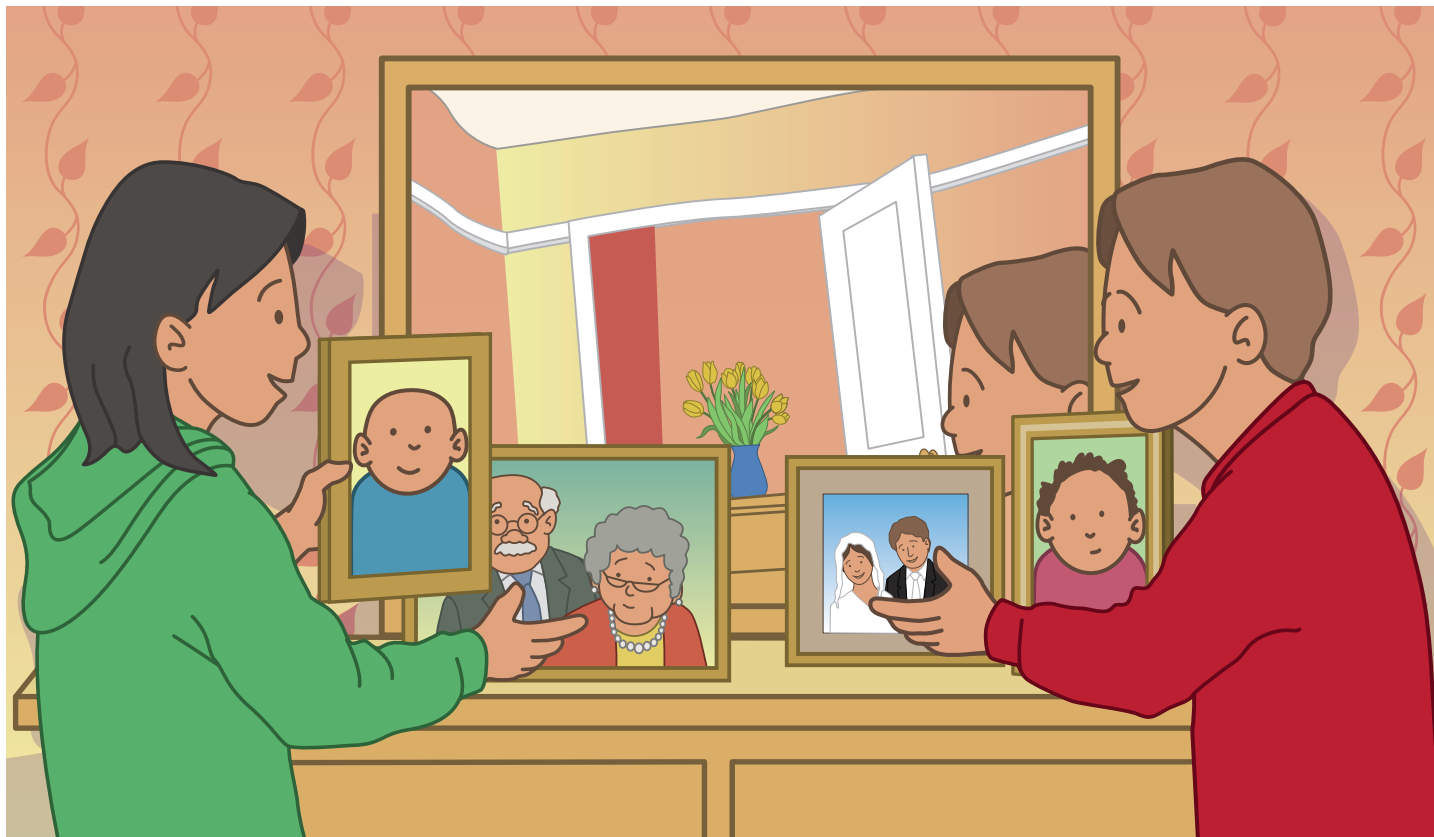
There above the gardens, houses and cars, they see the sun pushing through the clouds. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Aled.



Aled and Siân climb the steps to the attic and they find their mother packing clothes for the charity shop.



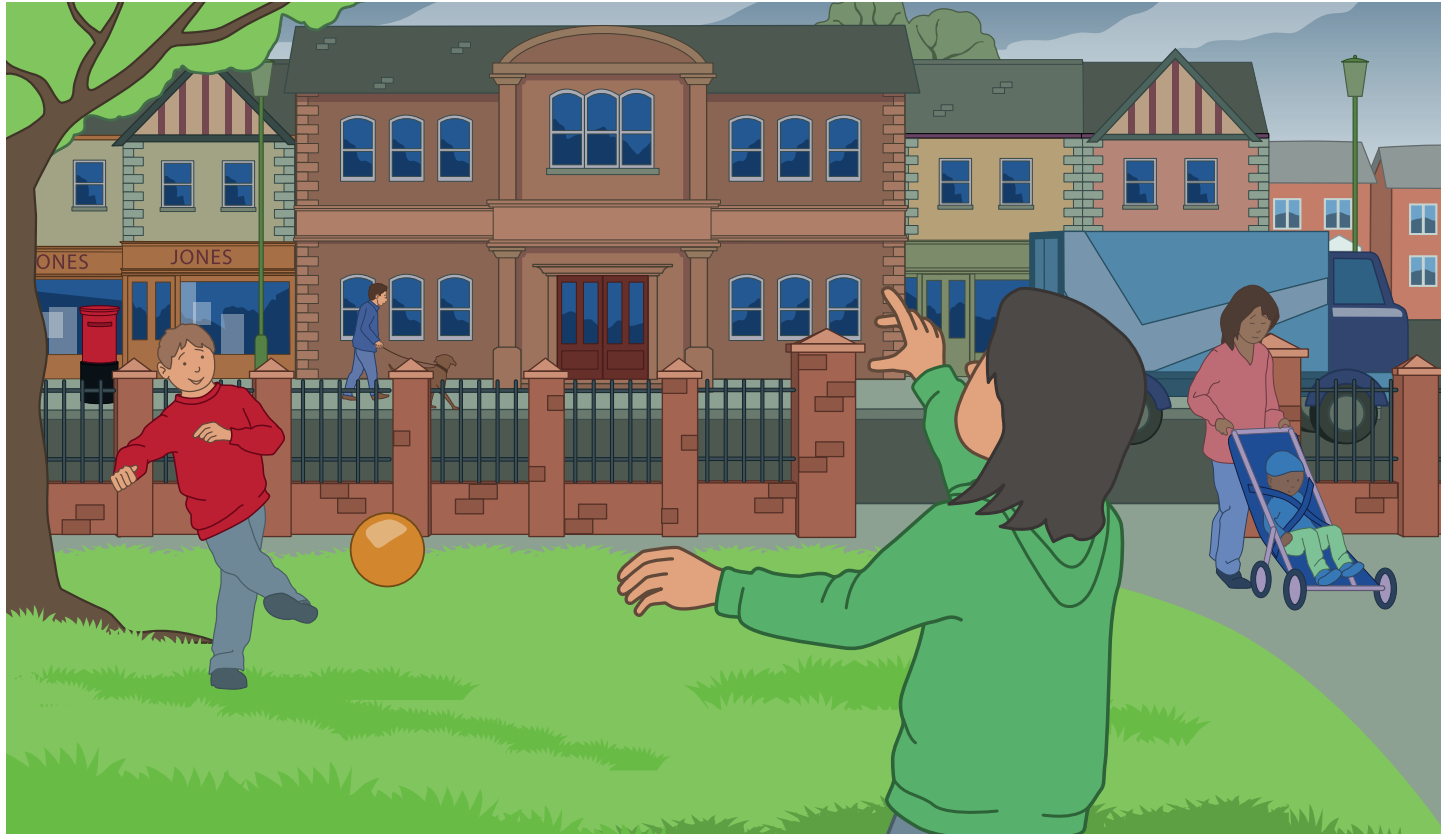
There among the cobwebs, spiders and forgotten things, they see the bare light bulb. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Siân.



Aled and Siân explore the bedrooms and they look through their boxes full of toys.



There among the games, puzzles and teddies, they find a small blue torch. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Aled.



Aled and Siân play football in the park and they hear a rumble of thunder.



There above their heads and the squawking seagulls, they see the bright flash of lightning. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Siân.



Aled and Siân run to the house where their friends Nathan and Rachel live, so they can escape the rain.



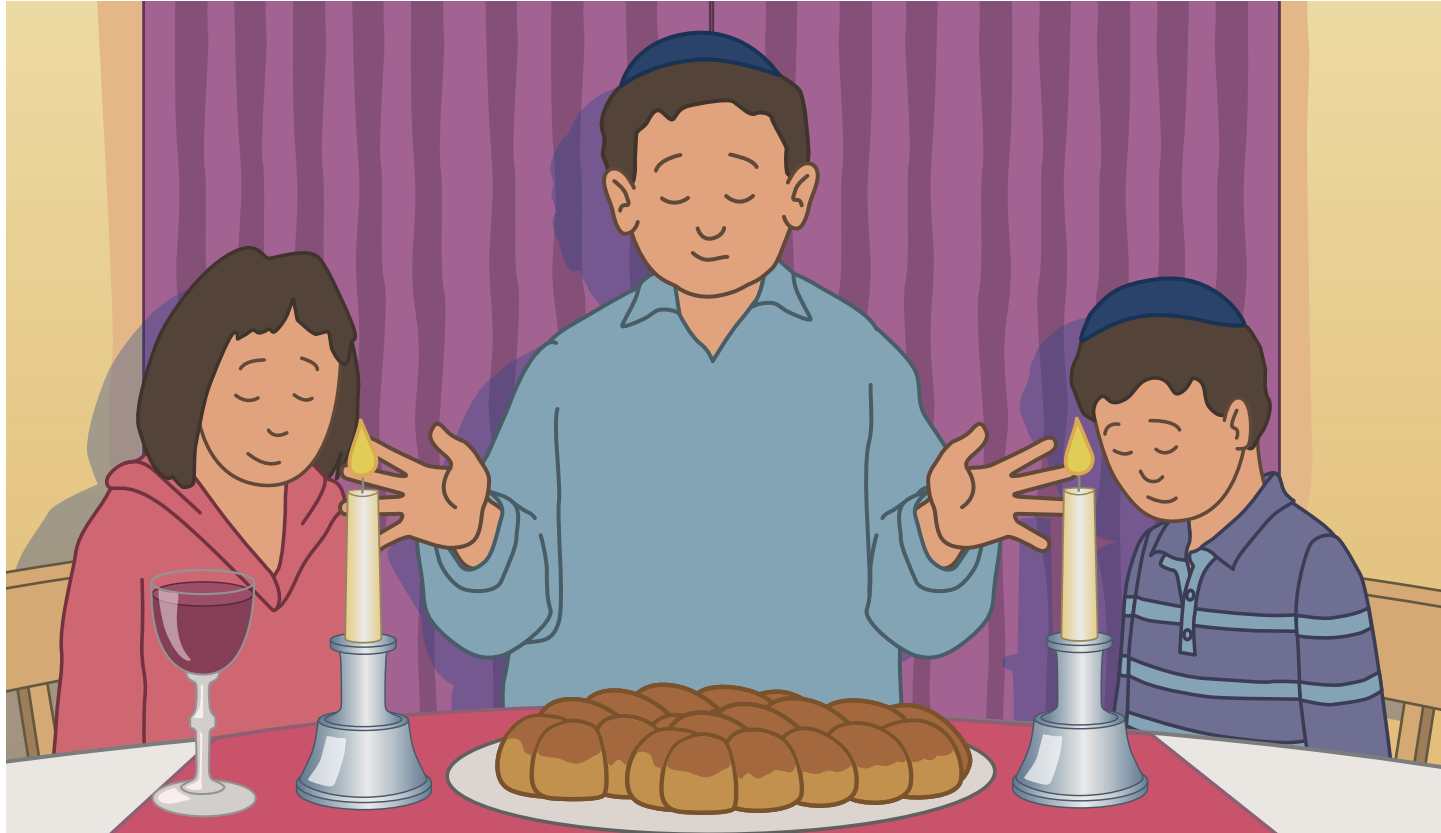
There Nathan and Rachel's mother sets out the two candles for Shabbat, the day of rest. "I wonder why light is so important for Shabbat?" said Aled.



As the night approaches, Nathan and Rachel's mother lights the candles and Shabbat, the day of rest, is welcomed in.



There on the table next to a cup of wine and bread, they watch the candle flames flickering. “I wonder why light is so important for Shabbat?” said Siân.



As the family and friends feast on special foods, Nathan and Rachel begin to explain why light is so important for Shabbat.



Nathan and Rachel tell Aled and Siân about the story of creation in the Torah. There God created light first of all.



Then God created sky, earth and sea which were filled with many living creatures, plants and people.



For six days God created and everything that God made was good. On the seventh day God rested and made that day holy.



Then God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, and the fourth commandment is to keep Shabbat, the seventh day, holy.



“For six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall rest,” the Torah says.



During Shabbat Nathan and Rachel stop, remember, and give thanks to God for creation and their time together as a family.



Aled and Siân join in the songs, stories and chatter after the meal has ended. “Tomorrow at dusk,” said Nathan and Rachel, “we also light a special candle to say goodbye to Shabbat!”



Before Aled and Siân go to sleep they watch the moon and the stars light up the night. “Now we know why light is so important for Shabbat!” said Aled and Siân together.

Aled and Siân are playing 'I Spy' and today they are looking for 'Light'. They find light in all kinds of places around where they live. When Aled and Siân visit their friends, Nathan and Rachel, they start asking an important question – "I wonder why light is so important for Shabbat?" With the help of Nathan and Rachel, Aled and Siân begin to find some answers.

