

## Exploring Why



## Tania ap Siôn and Leslie J Francis Illustrated by Phillip Vernon



## **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 veils. I wonder how many veils they will see and where they will see them.



Aled and Siân walk through the busy street and they stop to gaze at the juggler with five flying fire sticks.



There among the suits and the jeans they see a woman in a veil with two small children. "I wonder why the veil is so important?" said Aled.



Aled and Siân continue their walk to the park and they stop to gaze at the ducks on the lake and the people.



There among the people they see a woman in a veil jogging across the bridge. "I wonder why the veil is so important?" said Siân.



Aled and Siân continue their walk to the bus station and they stop to count the buses.



There among the passengers they spot a woman in a veil waiting for the number 8 bus. "I wonder why the veil is so important?" said Aled.



Aled and Siân continue their walk past the market stalls and they stop to gaze at the tasty fruit and vegetables.



There among the colourful foods they see a woman in a veil buying oranges. "I wonder why the veil is so important?" said Siân.



Aled and Siân continue their walk to the house where their friends Ahmed and Salma live.



There with Ahmed and Salma is their mother, who is putting on a veil before leaving the house. "I wonder why the veil is so important?" said Aled.



Ahmed and Salma take Aled and Siân to the mosque next to their house to look around.



There among the arches and pillars outside they see a woman in a veil on her way home. "I wonder why the veil is so important?" said Siân.



Ahmed and Salma take Aled and Siân inside the mosque and they begin to tell them why the veil is so important to their family.



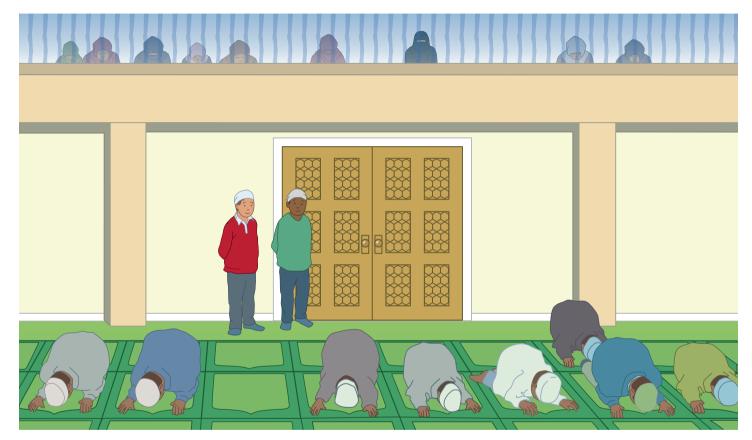
Ahmed and Salma show Aled and Siân some children reading a book in Arabic. "We read the Qur'an to find out how Allah wants us to live," said Ahmed.



Ahmed and Salma find a Qur'an high up on a shelf and they begin to tell them about how Muslims should dress.



They find surah 24 and they hear how both women and men should dress modestly when not at home with their family.



Ahmed and Salma take Aled and Siân to watch men praying in the prayer hall and women praying on the balcony above.



Both the women and the men are dressed modestly, covering their heads and bodies in different ways.



Ahmed and Salma tell Aled and Siân that Muslims understand dressing modestly differently and their clothes come from around the world.



Aled and Siân think about all the clothes people wear and why they wear them.



Aled and Siân look up at the Bismillah on the wall, "In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful," it reads. "Now we know why the veil is so important!" said Aled and Siân together. Aled and Siân are playing 'I Spy' and today they are looking for 'Veils'. They find veils in all kinds of places around where they live. When Aled and Siân visit their friends, Ahmed and Salma, they start asking an important question – "I wonder why the veil is so important?" With the help of Ahmed and Salma, Aled and Siân begin to find some answers.

