

*Exploring Why*

# Water

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](http://hwb.wales.gov.uk/Resources) and [st-marys-centre.org.uk](http://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 ways of using water. I wonder how many different ways of using water they will see and where they will see them.



Aled and Siân hear the bath being filled for the baby and they poke their heads round the bathroom door.



There with the duck, water pistol and boat, they see the swirling water. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Aled.



Aled and Siân go to the kitchen and they open the door of the fridge.



There with the milk, orange squash and apple juice, they see a bottle of sparkling water. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Siân.





Aled and Siân walk past Mr Roberts in his garden and they stop to smell the flowers.



There with the spade, wheelbarrow and seeds, they see a large green watering can. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Aled.



Aled and Siân continue their walk over the stone bridge and they stop to look around.



There with the dog walkers, joggers, and cyclists, they see people fishing in the river. “I wonder where we should look next?” said Siân.



Aled and Siân continue their walk to the house where their friends Ahmed and Salma live, so they can play together.



There Ahmed and Salma's father washes himself before prayer. "I wonder why water is so important for Muslim prayer?" said Aled.

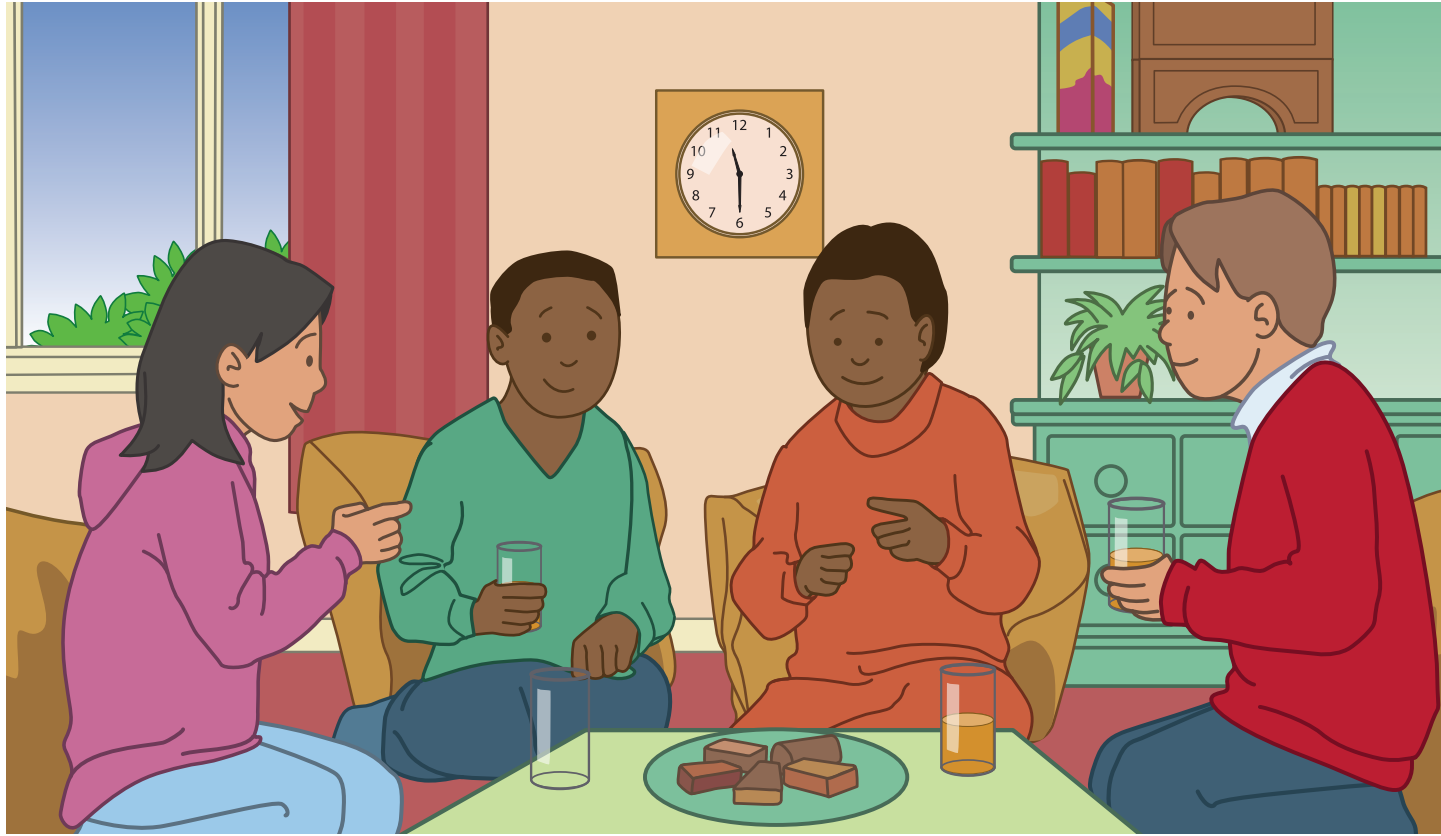


Later on, Ahmed and Salma take Aled and Siân into the mosque next to their house to look around.



There beside the rack filled with sandals, boots and shoes, they see the long line of taps in the washroom. “I wonder why water is so important for Muslim prayer?” said Siân.





Ahmed and Salma take Aled and Siân back home and they begin to tell them why water is so important for Muslim prayer.



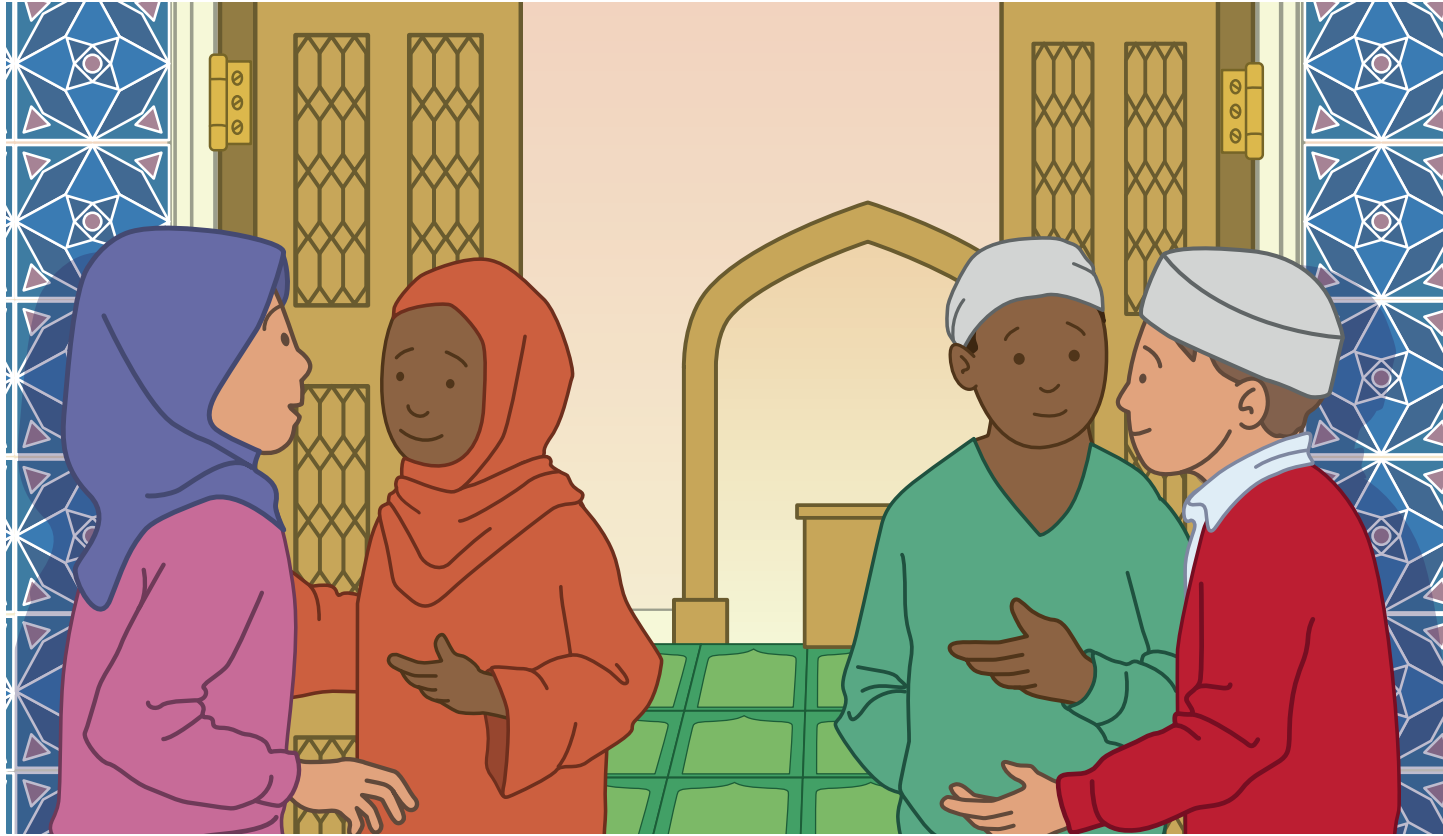
Ahmed and Salma find their Qur'an to show what it says about prayer. There in surah 5 Allah asks Muslims to wash in a special way before they pray.



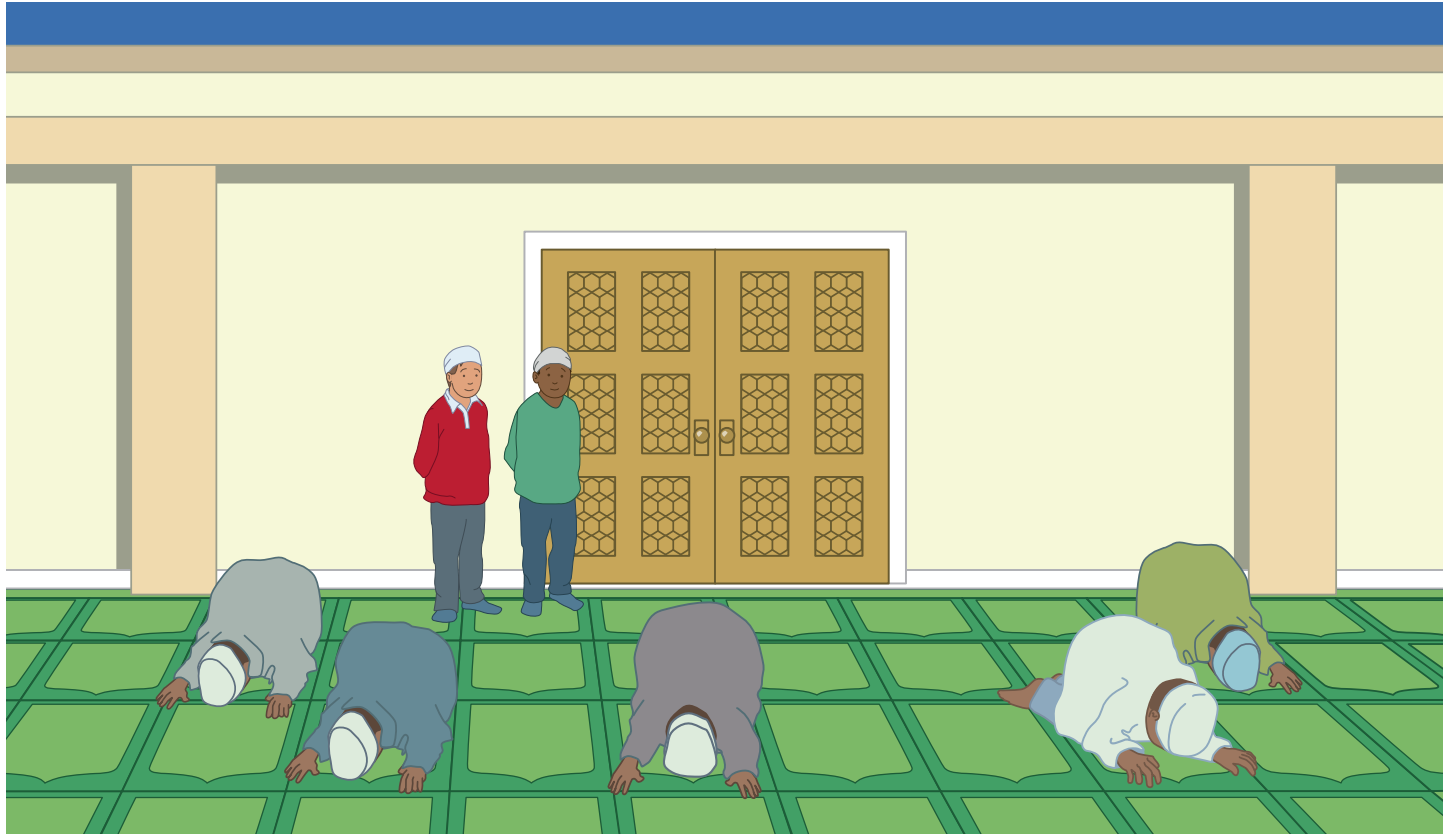
Washing makes them clean on the outside and inside and this makes them ready to praise Allah in prayer.



Ahmed and Salma say the Bismillah, “In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.” Then they wash their hands, mouth, noses, faces, arms, heads and feet.



Ahmed and Salma take Aled and Siân back to the mosque to see how Muslims pray.



Bowing and kneeling they praise Allah's greatness, give thanks for Allah's gifts and ask for Allah's blessings.



Ahmed and Salma say that Allah gives them many good things like water. Water gives life and is a very special gift from Allah.



The prayers finish with the words ‘Salaam Alaykum’, which means ‘Peace be upon you’. “Soon,” said Ahmed and Salma, “we too will be old enough to wash and pray five times a day!”





As Aled and Siân walk back home, they try to catch the raindrops in their hands. “Now we know why water is so important for Muslim prayer!” said Aled and Siân together.

Aled and Siân are playing 'I Spy' and today they are looking for 'Water'. They find water 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 water is so important for Muslim prayer?” With the help of Ahmed and Salma, Aled and Siân begin to find some answers.

