

# **Zoom into Masjid al-Aqsa and Isra Wal Miraj**

**A Mini Unit**

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## Learning Outcomes

By the end of this interactive mini unit your child will:

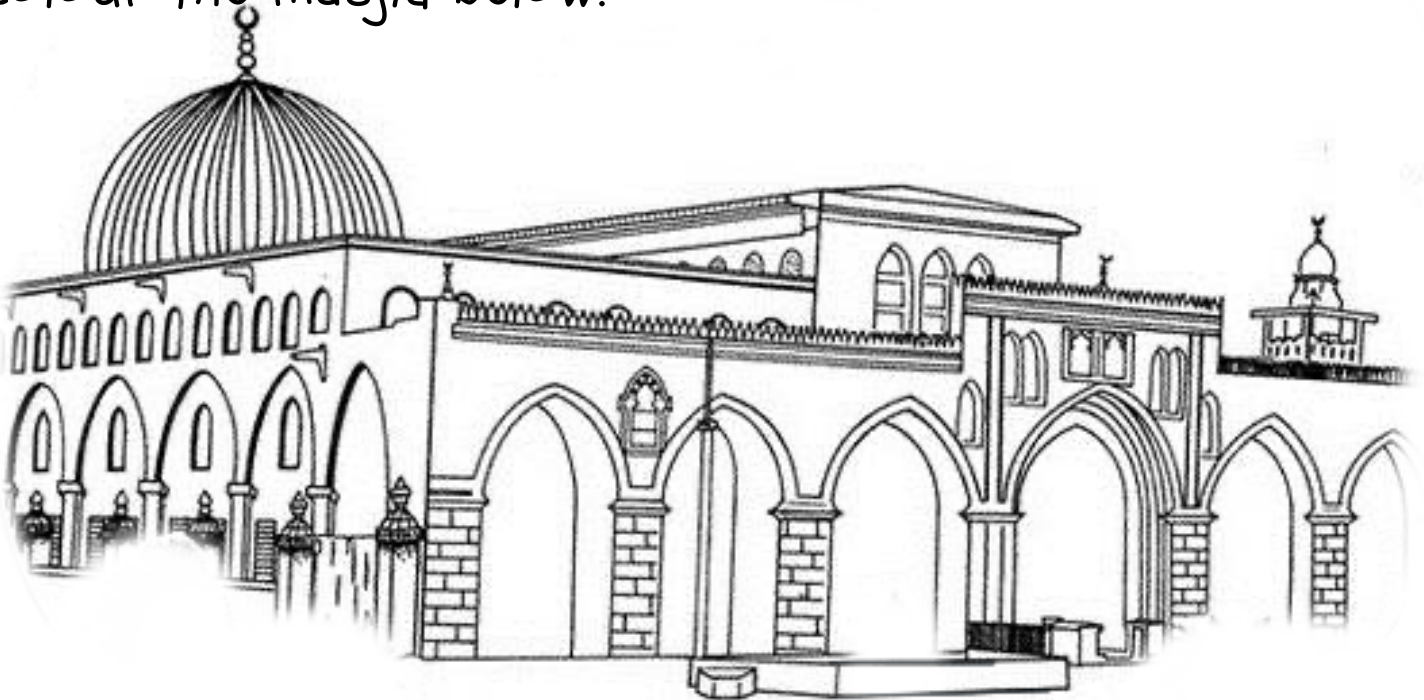
- 1) Know the Islamic history of Masjid al-Aqsa
- 2) Understand the importance of Masjid al Aqsa and the reward for praying there
- 3) Get a deeper understanding of Isra wal Miraj in the light of Quranic verses
- 4) Have fun while learning all of the above through the engaging activities!

## Extensions

- For more information on Masjid Al-Aqsa, you can visit [www.visitmasjidalaqsa.com](http://www.visitmasjidalaqsa.com)
- Details on Isra wal Miraj were taken from the book "When the Moon Split" by Safi-ur-Rehman Mubarakpuri. It is a great authentic resource for Seerah - a great read for older children.

# Islamic History of Masjid Al-Aqsa

- Masjid Al-Aqsa is located in Jerusalem.
- Al-Aqsa means the farthest, as it is far from the other two holy Masajid, al Haram in Makkah and Masjid an Nabwi in Madinah.
- It was the second masjid to be built on Earth after the Ka'abah.
- It is the third holiest masjid for Muslims.
- This was the first Qiblah for Muslims for 14 years, after which it changed to the Ka'abah.
- Did you know Masjid Al-Aqsa is the only place where all the Prophets met Prophet Muhammad SAWS and they prayed together? This is called Isra wal Miraj and we will talk about it in the following pages.
- Do you know what colour is the dome of Masjid Al-Aqsa?
- Colour the masjid below:





# The reward for praying in Masjid Al-Aqsa is equal to 500 prayers

Abu Darda (ra) relates that the Prophet (saw) said:

"A prayer in Makkah (Ka'bah) is worth 1000,000 times (reward), a prayer in my Masjid (Madinah) is worth 1,000 times, and a prayer in Al-Aqsa Sanctuary is worth 500 times more reward than anywhere else" [Bayhaqi]

Cut out the masjid on the following page and paste them here on the correct reward.

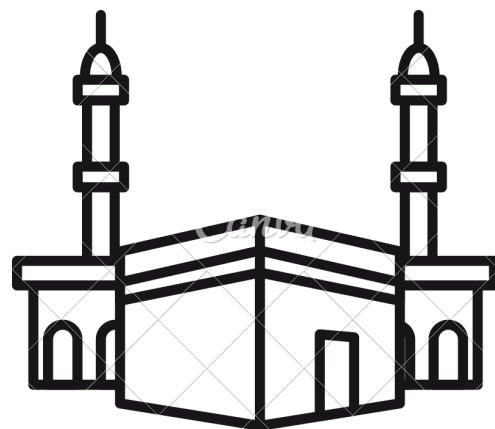
1000,000

1000

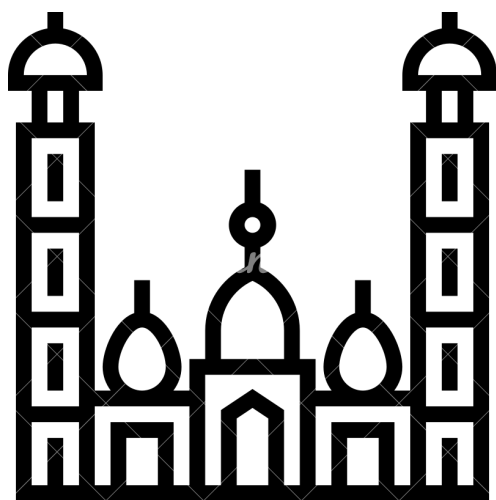
500

Colour the masajids. Cut them out and glue them on the correct reward.

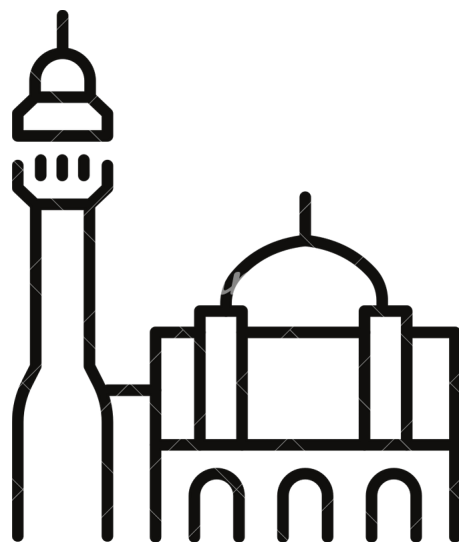
Glue here



Glue here



Glue here



## What is Isra Wal Miraj?

- Isra wal Miraj is a miraculous journey of when Allah made the Prophet SAWS go from Makkah to Jerusalem and then from there to the heavens in one night!
- It took place a year before Hijrah.

- Allah talks about it in the Quran:

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِّنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَى الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

Exalted is He who took His Servant by night from al-Masjid al-Haram to al-Masjid al-Aqsa, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him of Our signs. Indeed, He is the Hearing, the Seeing. (17:1)

- The ayah above tells us that the area surrounding Masjid Al-Aqsa are **blessed**. Do you know the Arabic word for blessed? Write it below.



- Find the word Al-Aqsa in the above ayah and colour it **Red**.

## Isra -The Night Journey

- Angel Jibreel brought an animal, smaller than a horse with wings named Buraq and they all travelled on it from Makkah to Jerusalem. This part of the journey is called Isra, the night journey.
- Today, it takes about 6 hours to go from Makkah to Jerusalem on a plane. The Prophet SAWS went on the Buraq which was much faster than an airplane!
- The Prophet SAWS met all the previous prophets at Masjid Al-Aqsa and he led them in prayer.

Draw an arrow from the Ka'abah to Masjid Al-Aqsa.



# Miraj - The Ascension

- After praying at Masjid Al-Aqsa, the Buraq took Angel Jibreel and Prophet SAWS to the heavens. This part of the journey is called Al-Miraj.
- Allah mentions about this in the Quran:

And he certainly saw that (angel descend) a second time (13)

At the Lote tree of the most extreme limit in the seventh heaven (14)

Near which is the Garden of Eternal Residence (15)

While the Lote tree was overwhelmed with heavenly splendours! (16)

The Prophet's sight never wandered, nor did it overreach (17)

He certainly saw some of his Lord's greatest signs (18)

Surah Najm (53:13-18)

وَلَقَدْ رَآهُ نَزْلَةً أُخْرَىٰ  
عِنْدَ سِدْرَةِ الْمُنْتَهَىٰ  
عِنْدَهَا جَنَّةُ الْمَأْوَىٰ  
إِذْ يَغْشَى السِّدْرَةَ مَا يَغْشَىٰ  
مَا زَاغَ الْبَصَرُ وَمَا طَغَىٰ  
لَقَدْ رَأَىٰ مِنْ آيَاتِ رَبِّهِ الْكُبْرَىٰ

- Did you know there are **7 heavens**? Different Prophets live on each one and the Prophet Muhammad SAWS met them during Miraj.
- He met Prophet Adam (AS) on the first Heaven, Prophet Isa (AS) and Yahya (AS) on the second Heaven, and Prophet Yusuf (AS) on the third Heaven.
- On the fourth Heaven, he met Prophet Idrees (AS), on the fifth Heaven he met Prophet Haroon (AS) and on the sixth Heaven he met Prophet Musa (AS).



- On the seventh Heaven he met Prophet Ibrahim (AS), after which he went up to see the tree of Jannah called Sidra tul Muntaha.

Allah talks about this tree in the Quran. Find it in the ayahs on the previous page and colour it **Green**.



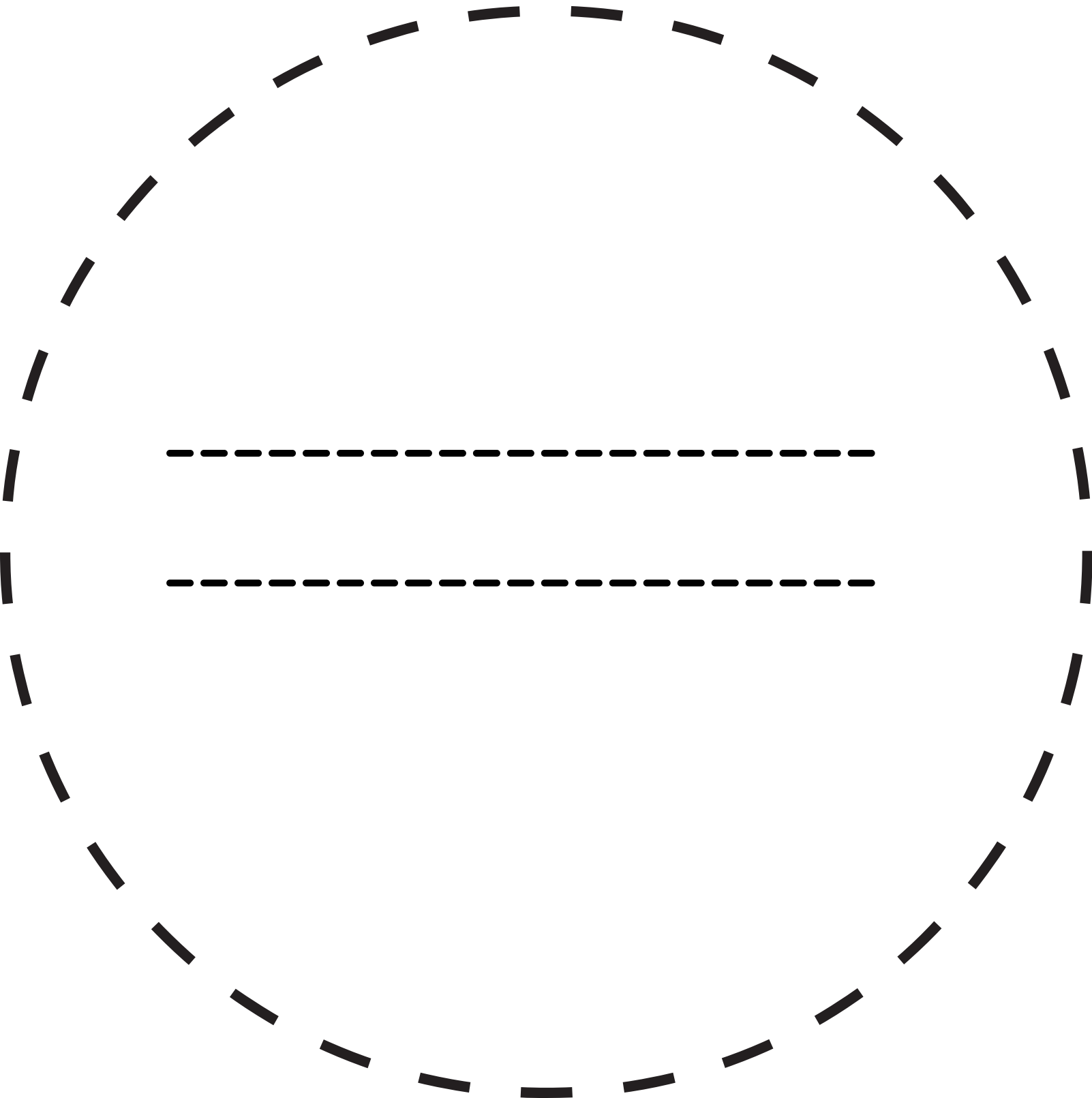
Do you know the size of the leaves of  
Sidra tul Muntaha?

They were as big as elephant ears! And the fruits of  
this tree were the size of small jugs (pitchers).

Isn't that so cool?

- After this, the Prophet SAWS was brought in front of Allah.
- Prophet SAWS could not see Allah but he stood very close to Him.
- Allah gave the gift of Salah to Prophet SAWS and his ummah.

- 1) Cut out the circle below and make slits on the dotted lines in the middle.
- 2) Cut out the "Prophets strips" and "Heavens strips" on the next page. Insert both strips into the dotted lines so one Prophet and one Heaven shows on the front.
- 3) Pull each strip through and match the Prophet with the correct Heaven.



## Heavens strip

1st Heaven

2nd Heaven

3rd Heaven

4th Heaven

5th Heaven

6th Heaven

7th Heaven

Tree of Jannah

## Prophets strip

Prophet Adam (AS)

Prophet Isa (AS) and  
Yahya (AS)

Prophet Yusuf (AS)

Prophet Idrees (AS)

Prophet Haroon (AS)

Prophet Musa (AS)

Prophet Ibrahim (AS)

Sidra tul Muntaha