

Exploring Our World

Celebrations



Extended Version

Exploring Our World

Celebrations

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Bear Lands Publishing

About Aled and Siân

Aled and Siân love doing exciting things and exploring the world around them. In the *Exploring Our World* series Aled and Siân share some of their experiences with their Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim friends. Aled and Siân also enjoy listening to their friends' stories, and learn about how these relate to their own. This helps the friends get to know one another better.

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 3- to 5-year-olds and 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 Our World* series are:

3- to -5-year-olds
Celebrations
Myself and Others
Times and Seasons

5- to -7-year-olds
Journeys
Special People
Signs and Symbols





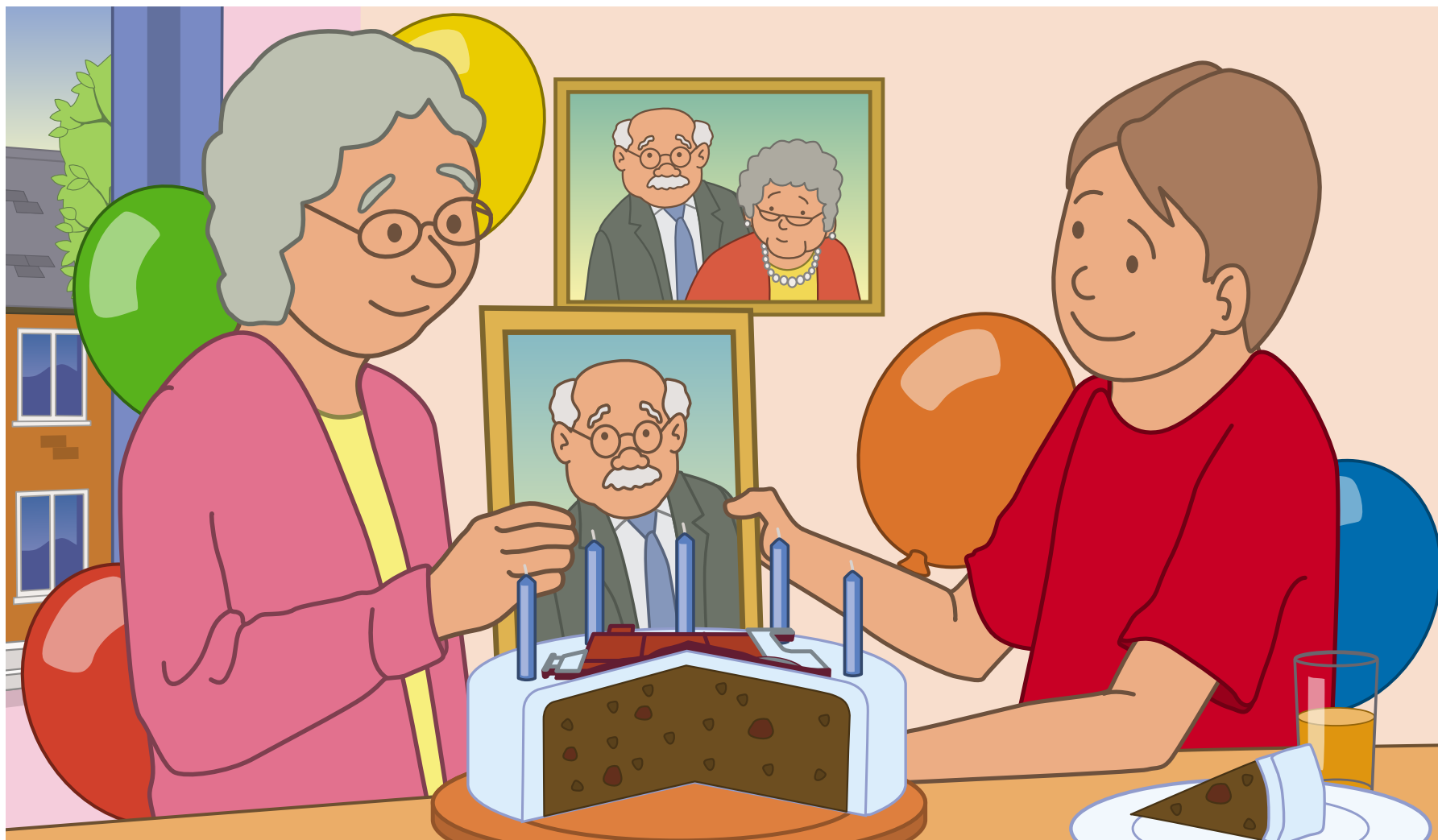
Aled and Siân like to celebrate their birthdays together. Today they are going to Aled's birthday party.



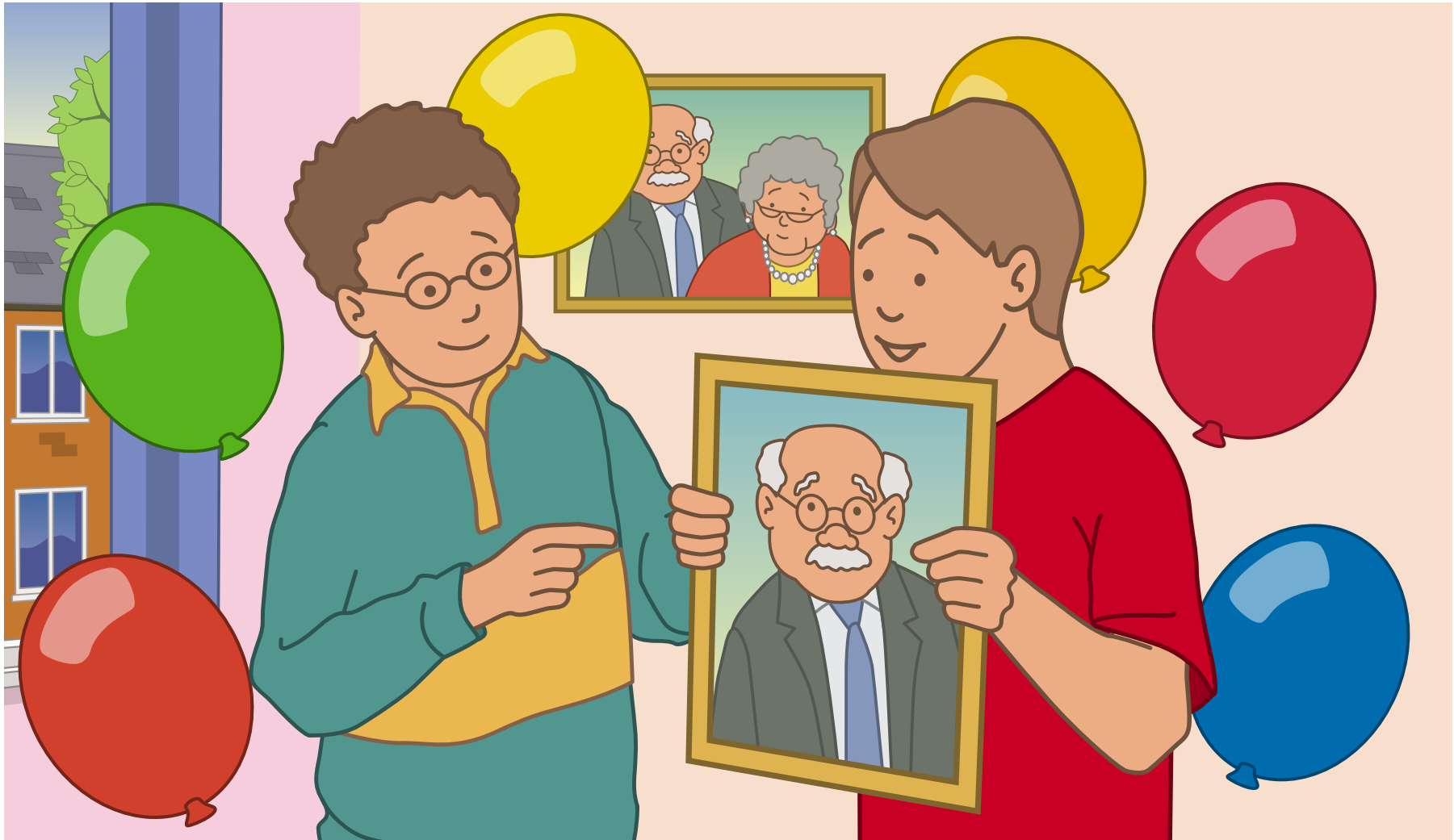
Their family and friends from the local area come along as well. They bring cards and presents.



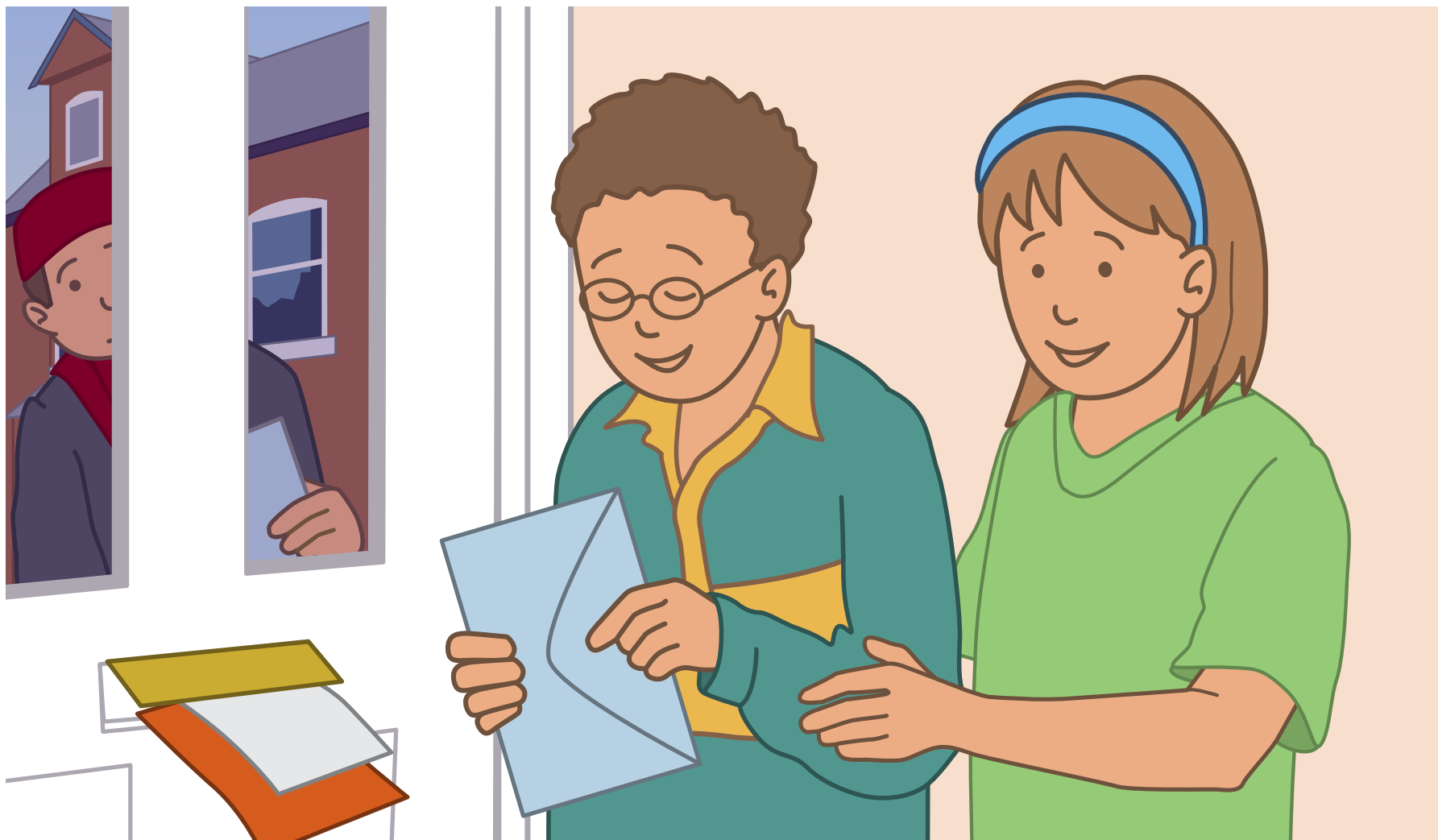
Their family and friends sing, "Happy birthday, dear Aled. Happy birthday to you!" Aled blows out the candles on his cake.



Their Auntie Bethan tells how Aled was given his name. He was called Aled after his grandfather.



Aled is excited to learn how he got his name. He wants to know how his friends got their names too.



Peter and Mary like to celebrate their birthdays together. Today they are going to Peter's birthday party.



Their family and friends from the local church come along as well. They bring cards and presents.



Their Aunty Sally tells how Peter was given his name. The vicar spoke his name 'Peter' aloud in the church.



The vicar poured water on Peter's head. She wrapped Peter in a long white robe.



Nathan and Rachel like to celebrate their birthdays together. Today they are going to Rachel's birthday party.



Their family and friends from the local synagogue come along as well. They bring cards and presents.



Their Aunty Esther tells how Rachel was given her name. Her father spoke her name 'Rachel' aloud in the synagogue.



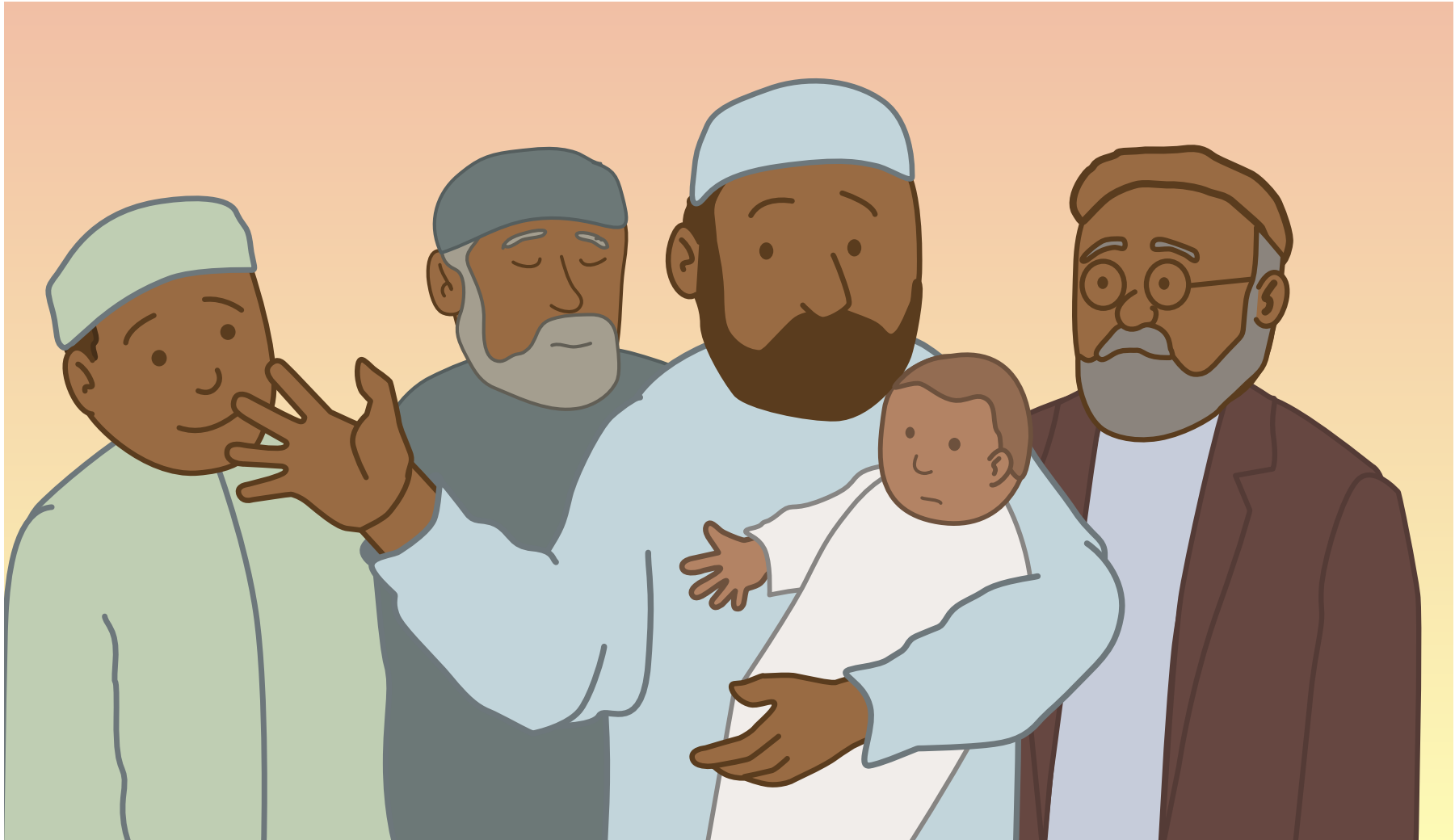
The rabbi read from the Torah. She spoke God's blessing on Rachel.



Ahmed and Salma like to celebrate their birthdays together. Today they are going to Salma's birthday party.



Their family and friends from the local mosque come along as well. They bring cards and presents.



Their Aunty Fatima tells how Salma was given her name. Her father spoke her name 'Salma' aloud in their home.



Her father shaved Salma's head. He weighed her hair and gave money to charity.



Rajeev and Meena like to celebrate their birthdays together. Today they are going to Rajeev's birthday party.



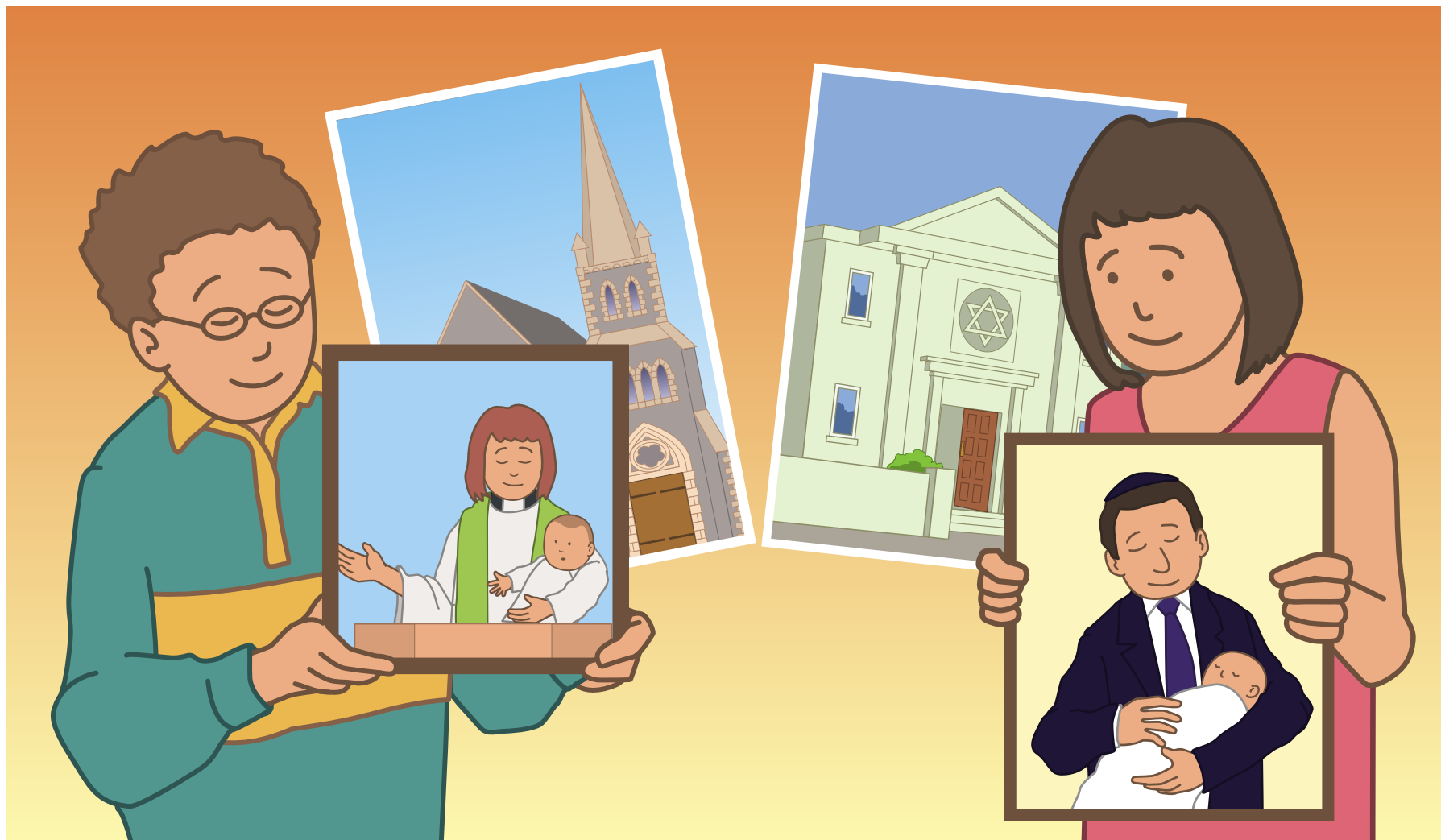
Their family and friends from the local temple come along as well. They bring cards and presents.



Their Aunt Sita tells how Rajeev was given his name. The priest spoke his name 'Rajeev' aloud in the temple.



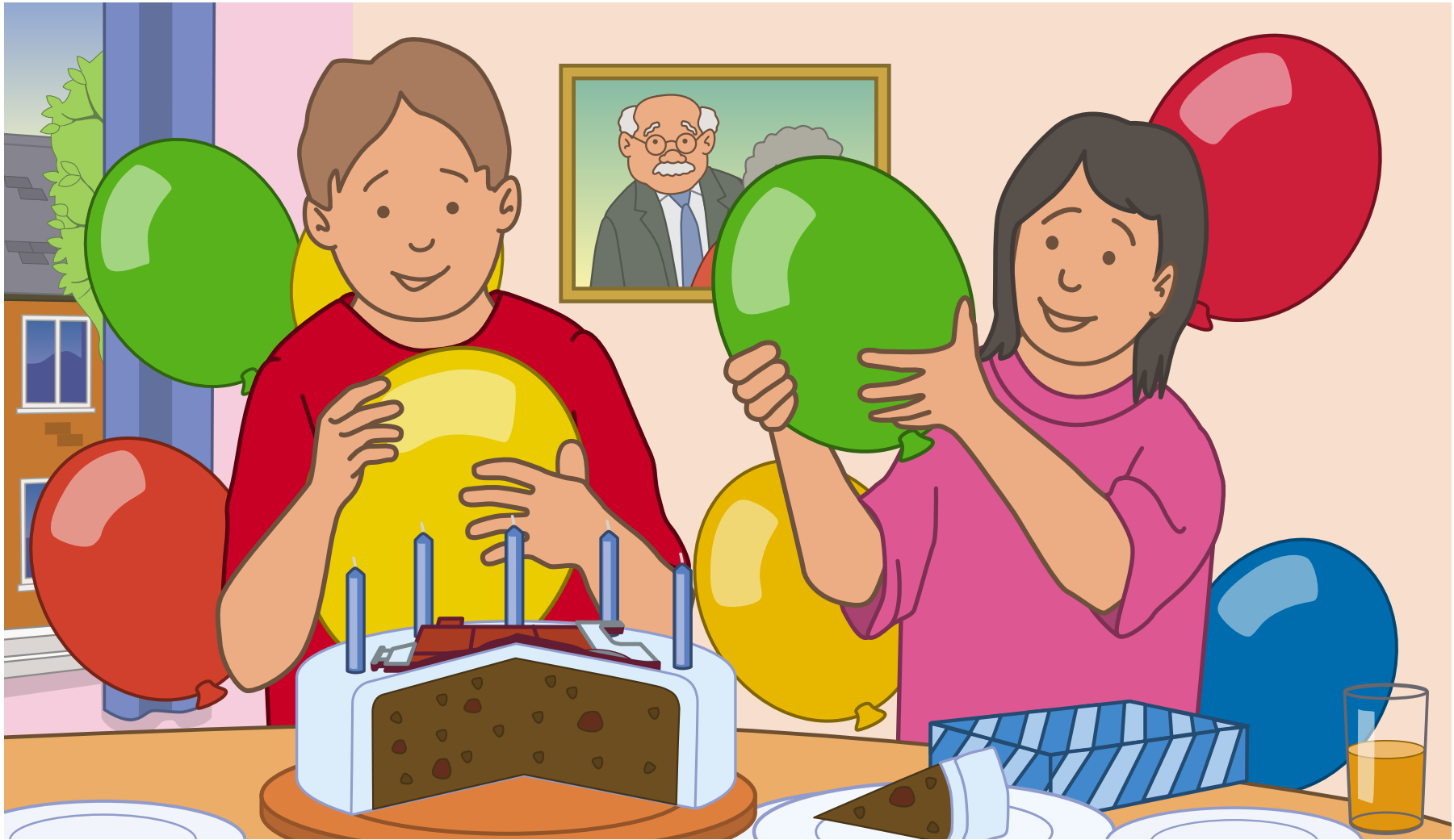
The priest sprinkled water on Rajeev. He put sweet amrit on his tongue.



Aled is excited to learn how his friends got their names. There are so many different celebrations!



Christian families, Jewish families, Muslim families, and Hindu families all have their own special celebrations and customs.



Aled and Siân like to celebrate birthdays with their friends. They would like to know how you got your name too.

Today Aled and Siân are celebrating Aled's birthday. Aled learns about how he got his name. Aled and Siân's friends share stories about their names. They are excited to hear about Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim celebrations.



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