



## S.K.S. SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE (LONDON) – BAL YUVAK MANDAL

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### Knowledge

This is a guide for group leaders. The questions in bold are going to be asked by the host to everyone, everything else is to be used to help you guide the discussion.

#### **What does the word knowledge mean to you?**

*According to the Oxford English dictionary knowledge is defined as the facts, information, and skills acquired by a person through experience or education; the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject.*

Ask the group what things they consider to be knowledge? Do things like knowing how to walk and talk count as knowledge? What being able to do maths or paint pictures?

#### **How do you acquire it?**

Where does it come from? What things do they do that give them knowledge? What things do others do that give them knowledge? Where do they go to, to get knowledge?

When they gain knowledge how do they decide if it is right and if it is true? For example If you buy a flat pack cupboard and it comes with instructions you automatically assume they are right and give you knowledge on how to put the cupboard together. What if there are two sets of instructions in the box how would you decide which one was the right one? When two people tell you how to do your puja, how do you decide which one to believe?

#### **What is the value of knowledge?**

Explain to the group that having knowledge is considered to be a good thing by most people: 'knowledge is power', but what do they get by having knowledge? Who do they consider to be knowledgeable and what do they think of these people? Is gaining Knowledge important? Why is it important?

From the previous discussions it should be evident that you acquire knowledge through various means and that there can be lots of information coming to you and it can be difficult to determine which is true and which isn't. For now make sure the group understands that it is important to seek knowledge, in the following few weeks there will be presentations and discussions on how we can make sure that the knowledge we receive is right and more importantly it is true.