Grade 6 Unit 4
Illustrated Glossary

Comparative Religion
Arabic

Semitic language spoken and written in a wide arc of territory, stretching across the Middle East, North Africa, and the Horn of Africa
agnostic

a position stating that the existence of God can't be proven
Ahimsa

In Hinduism, it is the principle of nonviolence against all living things
a position stating that there is no God or gods
Brahma

In Hinduism, the god (deva) of creation
Buddha

Hindu for “enlightened one" founder of Buddhism Siddhartha Gautama
Buddhism developed in India, and is a belief in an endless cycle of reincarnation, or samsara, which is similar to beliefs of Hinduism.
Christianity

This monotheistic religion developed from Judaism and believes Jesus died for our sins, was buried, was resurrected, and thereby offers salvation to all who will receive Him in faith.
demographics

the statistical data of a population such as average age, income, education
dharma

The act of fulfilling one's duty in life.  
Associated with Hinduism and Buddhism
Eightfold Path

Code of behavior for followers of Buddhism
Five Pillars of Islam

Code of behavior for followers of Islam.
Four Noble Truths

Siddhartha's Gautama philosophy of the nature of human suffering and its relation to desire
Golden Rule

a rule of conduct to do to others as you would have them do to you
hajj

the pilgrimage or holy journey to the city of Mecca
Hebrew

Semitic language originating in ancient Palestine and spoken by the Israelites. Modern Hebrew was developed in the 19th and 20th centuries from the ancient written language.
Hinduism

A polytheistic religion that believes salvation is achieved through a spiritual oneness of the soul, atman, with the ultimate reality of the universe, Brahma
term given to lands in present day Israel that is significant to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
Holy Trinity

Formed by the Creator (Father), Redeemer (Son), and Sustainer (Holy Spirit). Christians believe that these three entities are all part of a single higher power.
Imam

In Islam, the leader of prayers and religious scholar
the youngest of the world's major monotheistic religions. Worshippers of this monotheistic religion are known as Muslims, which means "one who submits to the will of Allah"
jihad

effort in God’s service waged by Muslims in defense of the Islamic faith
Judaism

Judaism is the oldest known monotheistic religion that teaches that there is one God who is the creator of all things. It is the basis for more recently developed religions such as Christianity and Islam.
karma

Actions in this life result from the consequences of a previous life’s actions. Associated with Hinduism and Buddhism
According to the Hebrew Bible, an anointed king who will lead the Jews back to the land of Israel and establish justice in the world. According to the Christians, the Messiah was Jesus Christ.
monotheism

the belief in one god or goddess
mosque

a domed Islamic religious building
sacred scripture of Christians, a collection of Christian works written in the common Greek language of the first century, at different times by various writers
Nirvana

in Buddhism, spiritual enlightenment
nonpartisan

not biased especially toward any particular political group
polytheism

the belief in many gods or goddesses
Pope

the bishop of Rome; head of the Roman Catholic Church
Quran

Islamic holy book verbally revealed from Allah (God in Arabic) to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel. Considered a book of guidance for life by Muslims
Jewish scholar charged with conducting religious services, ensuring that Jewish laws are observed, and serving as a spiritual guide for the community.
Ramadan

The ninth month of the Muslim calendar. All Muslims must fast during daylight hours, except the very young or sick
reincarnation

the rebirth of a soul into another body
religion

a person's beliefs concerning the existence and worship of a god or gods, and divine involvement in the universe and human life
sacraments

Christian religious practices such as baptism
sacred

worthy of or regarded with religious worship, and/or respect
the collection of Jewish writings that is the basis of Jewish religious law
The holy book of Judaism. It describes the creation of the world, the history of ancient Israel, the Ten Commandments, and contains the Psalms and the prophetic books
Hindu holy book from the 8th century BCE that contains revealed truths concerning the nature of ultimate reality) and describing the character and form of human salvation
Vedas

a Hindu holy book which is a collection of Aryan hymns that were transmitted orally before being written down in the 6th century BCE