

About the Religious Literacy Initiative

Boston Children's Museum (BCM)'s Religious Literacy initiative is rooted in the core belief that all children have the right to see their identities, lives, and experiences reflected in the many ways BCM functions.

The overarching goal of our initiative is for children, families, caregivers, staff, and practitioners of **all belief backgrounds** — religious, spiritual, non-religious/secular, or questioning — to feel supported in engaging with topics that affect children's identity development and well-being.

Our Focus Areas Include

1. Visitor-Facing Programming
2. BCM Staff Learning & Development
3. Community Engagement & Relationships
4. Knowledge Exchange
5. Research & Evaluation

Religious Literacy Pillars

Pluralism

Recognizing religious identity as complex, cultural, and connected to lived experiences

Openness

An approach that creates space for curiosity, rather than promoting religious certainties

Intentionality

An inclusive practice reflected through our Engagement Principles

Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

BCM believes that an embodied understanding (thought, language, and action) of Religious Literacy enables us to examine the ways in which religion can uphold systems of oppression and be a source of division. This initiative is founded on the premise that within any group there is diversity; considering similarities and having dialogue about differences can help to reduce stereotypes, discrimination, and harmful behavior.