# Westminster Abbey

Learning





# Marriage licence of HRH Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton, 2011

Under 11 activity – Christianity in 10 objects



What do you think this document might be?

How many different parts can you see?

Can you read any of the writing?

Why do you think that different colours have been used in some places?

Prince William and Catherine Middleton were married at Westminster Abbey on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

The photo above is of their marriage licence. A marriage licence is a special document or certificate to give permission for two people to get married.



#### Talk with others

A wedding is an important special event in someone's life. What important special events or milestones have happened in your life? It could be a birthday, a religious celebration, a day you learnt something new (i.e. being able to ride your bike). What makes these special events? How do you feel on these days?

## Activity: Design a certificate

Create a special certificate to celebrate an important event in your life.

You could include:

- A description of the special event
- The date the event took place
- The names of anybody who was present at the special event

The royal wedding licence is decorated with a border of flowers. Flowers have been used in weddings for hundreds of years. They are a symbol of joy and celebration.

What could you decorate your certificate with to represent your special event? Maybe draw an object that is special to you or your important event.

### **Extension**

Since King Henry I and Princess Matilda of Scotland got married in 1100, Westminster Abbey has been the host of 16 royal weddings. How different do you think the first royal wedding might have been to Prince William and Catherine Middleton's wedding in 2011?

Can you imagine being the guest at one of the 16 royal weddings? Take a look at our <u>"R is for Royal Weddings"</u> <u>activity</u>, part of the A to Z of Westminster Abbey, to try out activities about being a royal wedding guest.

Share your experience on Facebook or Twitter using #WAbbeyFun

