What should I avoid doing? – the Seven Deadly Sins

▪ Pictures of hell often show people in seven different rooms. Each of these rooms contains people who committed one of the seven deadly sins. They will sometimes even be carrying signs with their sins written on them! (see picture).

The Seven Deadly Sins!

▪ **Pride**: Sometimes known as vanity. This was the sin which Lucifer was guilty of: he wanted to be as powerful as God, so God made him King of a brand new Kingdom – Hell!
▪ **Envy**: Sometimes known as jealousy. This sin makes you resent people for qualities or possessions they have, rather than admiring them.
▪ **Avarice**: Sometimes known as greed. Greedy people are more concerned with material wealth, fashion and appearances than with spiritual matters.
▪ **Lust**: This sin involves being far too concerned with "loving others too much" – chasing boys or girls around all the time instead of thinking about the Love of God.
▪ **Anger**: Sometimes known as wrath. This sin involves losing self-control and becoming thoughtlessly cruel. It is seen as the first step towards committing murder.
▪ **Gluttony**: Is the sin of eating or drinking more than you really need. This includes bad habits like smoking and getting drunk.
▪ **Sloth**: Sometimes known as laziness. This sin makes you unwilling to engage in any sort of activity which might make you useful to others – physical or spiritual.

The sins were often associated with different punishments, animals and colours:

Sin	Punishment in Hell	Animal	Color
Pride	Tied to a wheel on a heavy cart, which then rolled around	Horse	Violet
Envy	put into freezing water until your bits snapped off	Dog	Green
Anger	Ripped apart limb from limb while still alive	Bear	Red
Sloth	Thrown into a pit of poisonous, man-eating snakes	Goat	Light Blue
Greed	Lowered slowly into a cauldron of boiling oil	Frog	Yellow
Gluttony	Forced to eat raw rats, toads, and snakes while they are alive	Pig	Orange
Lust	Slowly coated in fire and brimstone	Cow	Blue

Questions / Tasks

1. Re-arrange the deadly sins so that the first letter of each can be spelled out in turn to create a new word. This is a useful way of remembering information!

2. Create a diagram showing how the 7 Deadly sins are connected. Does one lead to another? Is one the result of another? Compare your ideas as a class.

3. Produce a poster entitled "The Hell of the Seven Deadly Sins!". Produce your own gruesome image of hell using the information in the table to help you. Try to make it clear which sin leads to which punishment.

Task: In the Confession Box!

Work in pairs for this activity.

a. "The Sinner": You will be going into the Confession Box to tell the Priest all about your sins. You must imagine that you have committed every single one of the deadly sins. You must write a story about yourself in which you will explain to the priest how you committed each of the seven deadly sins. Try to connect these up in a believable story using your answer to question (2) to help you.
b. "The Priest": You will be warning "The Sinner" of the terrible fate that awaits them in hell if they continue sinning in this way. Use the information in the table above, and the work you did in the previous lesson about hell, to help you write this reponse.

These will then be acted out in front of the class!