



Unit 4.4 How do Hindu families practise their faith? What are the deeper meanings of Hindu festivals?

Links to Prior knowledge:

- F2 - Know which places are special and why.
- F2 - Know which stories are special and why.



Key Knowledge

- Name the main Hindu deities and symbols.
- Know that Hindus have more than one holy book.
- Describe and understand links between Hindu stories and celebrations.
- Show that they understand what happens at Hindu worship in the home or the mandir.
- The significance of the Puja tray.
- Explain similarities and differences between two Hindu festivals (Diwali and Holi).

Key Skills

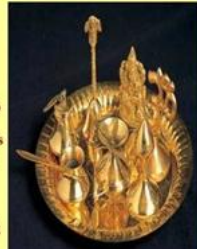
- Express some deeper meanings of the festivals they study, giving reasons why particular rituals are important to Hindus.

mandir



The Puja Tray

On the puja tray there is
A pot of water for ritual cleansing.
A bell to call the family to worship.
A tiny pot of red gum paste to mark the forehead. This mark means that a woman's soul (her husband) is with her.
An Aarti lamp for the Aarti ceremony.
An incense burner or jos stick holder.

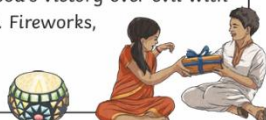


Special Festivals

Holi is the 'festival of colours' and marks the beginning of spring with bonfires and lots of singing and dancing. Old rubbish is burnt to mark a fresh start and colour is thrown on people.



Diwali is the 'festival of lights' and is celebrated in late autumn. Diwali celebrates good's victory over evil with lots of lights around homes. Fireworks, presents and new clothes are used to celebrate.



Rama and Sita



Key Vocabulary

Hindu	Someone who follows Hindu Dharma.
Deities	A god or goddess
Brahman	Hindus recognise one God, Brahman. The gods of Hindu Dharma are different aspects of Brahman.
Vishnu	Hindu God who protects the universe.
Brahma	Hindu god of creation.
Aum	The most sacred symbol in Hinduism.
murtis	Special statues or images of Hindu Gods and Goddesses.
mandir	A special place of worship for Hindus.
dharma	To do the right thing with good behaviour.
Shrine	A holy place to pray.
Smriti	Hindu holy scriptures which contain legends, myths and history.
Shruti	Hindu holy scriptures which contain the four Vedas.
Vedas	Ancient Hindu text.

Key Questions

- What does Aum represent?
- Why is Diwali known as the 'festival of lights'?
- Where is a special place of worship for Hindus?
- Name one ritual that a Hindu follows when they worship.
- Can you name a Hindu God?
- What does dharma mean?
- Tell me two similarities between Holi and Diwali.