

Year 3

RE

Autumn 1

Would celebrating Diwali at home and in the community bring a feeling of belonging to a Hindu child?

The story of Rama and Sita



Key Vocabulary	Definition
<i>belonging</i>	A member of (a particular group or organization).
<i>diva lamps</i>	Traditional diva lamps are small clay pots filled with ghee or oil, containing a cotton wick.
<i>diwali</i>	The five-day festival celebrates the victory of light over darkness.
<i>hindu</i>	A follower of Hinduism.
<i>identity</i>	The fact of being who or what a person or thing is.
<i>prosperity</i>	Feeling rich, and full with life, having all the happiness they need in life.
<i>puja</i>	Hindu worship is called Puja. They can perform puja at home or in a Hindu temple. Many Hindus have shrines in their homes where they perform Puja.
<i>puja tray</i>	During worship, Hindus use many items, which are kept on a Puja tray. The items include a bell, a pot of water, a diva lamp, an incense burner, a pot of kum kum powder, and a spoon. Puja involves offering light, incense, flowers and food to the deities (the gods).
<i>rangoli patterns</i>	A Rangoli is a colourful design made on the floor using coloured rice powder. It is often used by Hindus throughout Diwali.
<i>shrine</i>	A shrine is a holy space for worshipping. It often includes a picture of what is being worshipped.

Rangoli patterns



Rangoli patterns are often designed to be symmetrical. They combine straight lines, curved lined and images like flowers and other things from nature. The symmetry of the designs is a symbol of prosperity, growth and luck. They are made of colourful rice powder and used by Hindus through Diwali.



During Diwali, people wear their finest clothes light the inside and outside of their homes with saaki (earthen lamp), Diyas and Rangoli, perform worship ceremonies of Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity and wealth, light fireworks, and partake in family feasts, where mithai (sweets) and gifts are shared. Diwali takes place annually and lasts for five days, marking the start of the Hindu New Year. The exact dates change each year and are determined by the position of the moon – but it usually falls between October and November. The main celebrations occur on the third day of Diwali, the darkest day of the month, coinciding with the Hindu lunisolar calendar.

Divya lamp

Many Hindus light a diva as an act of daily worship.



Puja tray



A tray full of items that may be used during Puja