

Medium Term Plan: Religious Education

Year 4 Hinduism

Year 4 Key Question (to be used all year): How should we live our lives?

Focus Question (for this investigation): What might a Hindu learn from celebrating Diwali?

Concepts:

Transcendence

Belief

Worship

Tradition

Morality

Commitment

Identity

Key Vocabulary: Hindu, Hinduism, good, evil, Rama, Sita, Lakshman, Ravanna, Hanuman, King

Prior learning: Children have explored how and why family is an important aspect of life as a Hindu.

Core Knowledge: In depth study

- Discuss how the theme of good overcoming evil is often a theme in stories and films. Come up with a list of examples. Talk about whether or not this is the case in the real world or if it is simply an ideal in stories.
- List examples of where we might see 'goodness' in the world. Collect images that could be used as a symbol of goodness.
- Find examples of people who have overcome difficulties and could be described as sources of light, hope and goodness for others
- Read a children's version or comic book of the story of Rama and Sita (the Ramayana). Write a plot summary of the story and discuss how it develops and explores the theme of good overcoming evil.
- Explore the central characters of the plot – Rama, Sita, Lakshman, Ravanna, Hanuman, King Dasharatha – what might Hindus learn from each of these characters? Which characters might be good role models for Hindus and why?
- Learn about the deity Vishnu (the protector and preserver). Investigate Hindu beliefs about avatars – living forms of Vishnu who come to earth 1 times of trouble to defeat evil and restore dharma (pupils should have learned about dharma – religious duty – in Y3, but this will probably need to be revisited). How does Rama fulfil the role of avatar?
- Look at a range of images of how light is used in Diwali celebrations. Explain why light is such an important part of the festivities.
- Investigate how Hindus in the UK celebrate Diwali: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRpNNF4fB4g>
- Talk about the importance of light in their own lives – when are they most in need of light and why? What does light symbolise?

Key Questions: -

Why is light so important to humans?

Does good always overcome evil? Where do we see goodness in the world?

What makes a good story? Why do so many stories tell of a battle between good and evil?

Is life sometimes like a battle between good and evil?

Wider Influences: worth being familiar with

- Create a class display about Diwali – focusing on the theme of light overcoming darkness, just as good overcomes evil. Make links between the religious traditions and celebrations of Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita
- Discuss stories that have influenced them – what guidance/support/wisdom have they gained from stories?
- Create a collage of images of symbols of goodness. Discuss where they might see goodness in the world today.
- Share ideas and examples about things that give them hope in the world today. Discuss why having hope is so important. What sources of hope do they have in difficult times?

Enduring Understanding:

- To explore teachings about good and evil in the story of Rama and Sita and describe what moral guidance Hindus might gain from the story.
- To use subject specific language to describe how and why Hindus celebrate Diwali and explain the importance of light in the Diwali celebrations, and its symbolism.

