

Early Years Foundation Stage

Unit title: Celebrating Special Times

What happens at Divali?

Context	Key underlying ideas/concepts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divali is a Hindu new year festival • Divali is celebrated in the Autumn Term • At Divali Hindus remember the story of Rama and Sita • Divali is a festival of light and Hindus light small clay diva lamps 	<p>Good and Bad: characters in stories</p> <p>Light: as a symbol of goodness and happiness</p>
Links to Early Learning Goals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of the world: cultures and beliefs • Creative development 	
Main elements of the unit	Suggestions for practical activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good and bad characters 	<p>Focus on good/bad characters in stories known to the children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use stories and pictures to explore good and bad characters in stories eg Jack and the Beanstalk • Explore the reasons why some characters are bad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Story of Rama and Sita Use Story Sack 	<p>Tell the story of Rama and Sita, using a Big Book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role play/use puppets to retell the story • Draw/colour pictures/make masks of the demon Ravanna and Prince Rama/Hanuman, the Monkey King, the good and bad characters • Discuss why Rama/Hanuman the Monkey King were good characters and why Ravanna was a bad character • Retell parts of the story using masks or puppets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Hindus celebrate Divali 	<p>Focus on objects and activities of the Divali festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make and decorate dough divas • Learn a greeting: Namaste • Dress up in Indian clothes • Dance to some Indian music • Taste some Indian sweets • Make garlands • Make Divali cards showing divas and with Divali greetings

Unit title: Celebrating Special Times

What happens at Divali?

Key questions to ask

- What stories about good and bad people do I/we know?
- In the story of Rama and Sita, who was good and who was bad?
- How do lighted candles make me feel?
- Why are the lighted divas so special?
- Can we learn a Divali greeting?

Story sack

- Story/Big Book of Rama and Sita
- Pictures/finger puppets/murtis of Rama and Sita
- Diva/divas
- Divali cards