



L.O. I can understand how and why Hindus celebrate Diwali and other festivals.

How do we celebrate?



In pairs, enact celebrations. For example: a goal, a prize, a victory, finding what was lost, an escape.



What is a religious festival?

A religious festival is a time of special importance marked by followers to a religion. Religious festivals are commonly celebrated on recurring cycles in a calendar year or lunar calendar. Hundreds of different religious festivals are held around the world each year.



Diwali: a key annual Hindu celebration

Diwali or Deepavali is the Hindu festival of lights celebrated every year in autumn.

The word Diwali means "rows of lighted lamps."

The festival is important because it celebrates the victory of good over evil, and light over darkness.

It is also held to honour Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity, and Hindus pray to Lakshmi to bring them good luck in the coming year. People also believe that the more lamps they light, the more likely it is that Lakshmi will be tempted to come and visit them and bring wealth with her on her visit.



Good vs. Evil

In many Hindu stories good triumphs over evil.

What other stories (religious or nonreligious) contain similar themes?

Why is it important to show such ideas within religious stories?



Rama and Sita

This story is linked with Diwali because it is believed that on this day Rama returned to his people after 14 years of exile during which he fought and won a battle against the demons and the demon king, Ravana.

It is often called the festival of light because Diwali, like the day Lord Rama returned to Ayodhya, is a new moon, a moonless night. In order to light his path in the pitch black, the residents of Ayodhya lit *diyas* (small oil lamps) lighting up the city in divine splendour.



Watch the
PowerPoint

Diwali

There are lots of events and customs connected to the festival of Diwali. Because Diwali is a time of new beginnings, people often wear new clothes, buy new things for one another and business accounts are settled so that a new year can be started. There is a big street party in some towns, with Diwali lights and celebrations in public.



Task

Retell the story of Rama and Sita in your own words.



Attachments



The 5 K's



Gurwara

Story of Rama and Sita.ppt

PowerPoint.ppt