

Diwali Fact-File: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Diwali and identify the key traditions and beliefs associated with the festival.

Use your research and class discussions to complete this fact-file. Fill in each section to explain how Diwali is celebrated and why it is an important festival for many people.

Word bank: Diyas · Rangoli · Prosperity · Victory · Light · Darkness · Hinduism · Sikhism · Family

1. What is Diwali and which religious groups celebrate it? (2 marks)

2. What is the main meaning of the 'Festival of Lights' (what does the light represent)? (3 marks)

3. Describe two ways that families prepare their homes for the celebrations. (4 marks)

4. What are Diyas and how are they used during the festival? (2 marks)

5. Explain the tradition of Rangoli patterns. What are they made from and why are they created? (3 marks)

6. How do people celebrate with their friends and family during Diwali? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you find a story or a legend associated with Diwali? Write a short summary of the story and explain the lesson it teaches us.