Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Join Ellie the Elephant as we shine a light on the beautiful traditions of Diwali!

- **Diwali is a major festival celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains across the world to signify new beginnings and the triumph of good.**
- **Families create colourful patterns on the floor near their entrances using coloured sand or flower petals, known as Rangoli, to welcome guests and prosperity.**
- **It is traditional to clean homes thoroughly and decorate them with bright fairy lights and oil lamps to invite joy into the household.**
- **Many people enjoy sharing delicious sweets and savoury snacks with friends and family, often exchanging gifts as a gesture of kindness.**
- **The festival typically lasts for five days, with the third day being the main day of celebrations involving prayers and bright displays of light.**

Did you know? Did you know? The word 'Diwali' comes from the Sanskrit word 'Deepavali', which means 'row of lamps'. During the festival, families light small clay lamps called diyas to symbolise the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance.

Key vocabulary: Diyas · Rangoli · Lakshmi · Deepavali · Celebration · Tradition