

Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To understand the significance and traditions of Diwali, the Hindu, Sikh, and Jain festival of light.

Read the front of each card to test your knowledge about Diwali. Flip the card to check if your answer matches the definition provided.

What is the main meaning behind the festival of Diwali?

It is the festival of lights, symbolising the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.

What are 'diyas'?

Diyas are small oil lamps, often made of clay, that are lit to welcome goodness and prosperity into the home.

What is a 'rangoli' pattern?

A colourful design made on the floor near the entrance of a house, using coloured sand, rice, or flower petals to welcome guests and deities.

Which deity is often worshipped during Diwali to bring wealth and prosperity?

The goddess Lakshmi.

In the story often told during Diwali, who returns to his kingdom after fourteen years in exile?

Prince Rama.

Why do people clean and decorate their homes before Diwali?

To prepare the home to welcome the goddess Lakshmi and to signify a fresh, clean start.

What special food items are often shared with friends and family during this time?

Mithai, which are traditional Indian sweets.

How do fireworks play a part in Diwali celebrations?

They are used to celebrate the joyous occasion and to ward off evil spirits.

Which religion celebrates Bandi Chhor Divas at the same time as Diwali?

The Sikh community.

What do the small clay lamps represent in the story of Rama and Sita?

They represent the path of light that guided Rama and Sita back home to Ayodhya.

How long does the festival of Diwali usually last?

The main celebrations typically last for five days.

Who is Nova the owl's friend, Max the monkey, celebrating with this year?

His friends and family, sharing delicious sweets and lighting diyas together.