

Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by retrieving information, making inferences, and expressing personal opinions about a narrative text.

Read the passage carefully with an adult or teacher. Then, answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Diwali is a special festival celebrated by many families. It is known as the Festival of Lights. Our friend Ellie the elephant loves learning about how people celebrate this day. Families clean their homes to make them sparkle and look beautiful. They draw colourful patterns on the floor called rangoli. These patterns are made with coloured sand or flower petals.

When the sun sets, the real magic begins. People light small clay lamps called diyas. They place them in rows along windowsills and doorsteps. The warm glow of the lamps makes the whole street look bright and cheerful. Families also wear their best clothes and share delicious treats with their friends and neighbours. They give each other gifts to show they care. It is a time for happiness, kindness, and thinking about how light overcomes darkness. Ellie thinks it is wonderful that families come together to share such a happy tradition. Whether they are eating sweet treats or lighting the tiny lamps, everyone feels a sense of joy and peace during this special time.

Word bank: festival · diya · celebrate · tradition · rangoli · bright

1. What are the small clay lamps called that people light for Diwali? (2 marks)

2. What do families use to make the colourful rangoli patterns? (2 marks)

3. Why do you think families clean their homes before the festival starts? (2 marks)

4. How do you think people feel when they see all the bright lamps on their street? (2 marks)

5. If you were celebrating Diwali, which part of the festival would you enjoy the most? Explain why. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a diya lamp glowing brightly. You could add some colourful rangoli patterns on the floor around it.



Extension challenge: Write a list of three things you like to do to celebrate with your own family or friends.