

Diwali: The Festival of Light with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the key themes and story elements of Diwali, the Hindu festival of light.

Read the story summary below and then answer the questions to show what you have learned about this special celebration.

Ellie the elephant has been reading about Diwali, the festival of light. It is a time when families celebrate the victory of good over evil. In the story, Prince Rama and his wife Sita return home after a long time away. The people were so happy to see them that they lit hundreds of small clay oil lamps, called divas, to show them the way home in the dark. Today, people celebrate by sharing sweets, wearing new clothes, and making colourful patterns on the floor called Rangoli. Answer Key: 1. A, 2. True, 3. Light, 4. B, 5. True, 6. Diva, 7. C, 8. False, 9. Rangoli, 10. True.

Word bank: Diwali · Rama · Sita · diva · light · victory · celebration · Rangoli

1. 1. What is the name of the festival that celebrates the victory of good over evil? A) Christmas B) Diwali* C) Easter D) Birthday (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Diwali is known as the festival of light. (1 mark)

3. 3. What do people use to light up their homes to show the way home? (1 word) (1 mark)

4. 4. Who were the Prince and Princess who returned home? A) Max and Zara B) Rama and Sita* C) Pip and Nova D) Kit and Bea (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: People often wear new clothes to celebrate Diwali. (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the name of the small clay oil lamp? (1 word) (1 mark)

7. 7. What are the colourful patterns made on the floor called? A) Paintings B) Drawings C) Rangoli* D) Maps (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Diwali is a time when people feel sad. (1 mark)

9. 9. What kind of treat do people often share with friends during Diwali? (1 word) (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Lighting lamps is a way to celebrate hope. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a beautiful, bright diva lamp and decorate it with colourful patterns like a Rangoli design.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are throwing a Diwali party. Write a list of three things you would need to buy, and if each item costs £1, how much would you spend in total?