

Learning About Hinduism with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand key beliefs and traditions of Hinduism.

Read the text carefully. Use the word bank to help you understand the words. Answer the questions in the boxes provided.

Ellie the elephant loves learning about different religions. Today, she is exploring Hinduism. Hinduism is one of the world's oldest religions. It began many years ago in India. Most Hindus visit a special building called a Mandir to pray and celebrate.

Inside a Mandir, people often perform a ritual called Puja. This can involve lighting lamps, offering flowers, or saying prayers. Many Hindus believe in 'Dharma'. This means trying to live a good life by being kind, honest, and helpful to others.

Hinduism is famous for its beautiful festivals. The most popular one is Diwali, the festival of lights. During Diwali, families decorate their homes with colourful patterns called rangoli. They also light small clay lamps to show that light wins over darkness. Ellie thinks it is wonderful how Hindus use light to share happiness and hope. She loves learning about how people celebrate their faith in such kind ways.

Word bank: Hinduism: A religion from India. · Mandir: A Hindu place of worship. · Dharma: Doing the right thing. · Puja: A prayer ritual. · Diwali: The festival of lights.

1. Where do most Hindus go to pray and celebrate? (2 marks)

2. What is the name of the festival of lights mentioned in the text? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think families light lamps during Diwali? (2 marks)

4. What does the word 'Dharma' tell us about how a person should act? (2 marks)

5. Which part of the Hindu faith do you find most interesting? Explain why. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a bright, glowing clay lamp like the ones used during Diwali.



Extension challenge: Find out what a 'rangoli' pattern looks like. Use coloured pencils to design your own symmetrical rangoli pattern on a piece of paper.