

Diwali: The Festival of Light

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Diwali and identify key themes within the story of Rama and Sita.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions below. Think about how the characters show bravery and kindness.

Diwali is a wonderful festival celebrated by millions of people across the world. It is often called the Festival of Light. The story of Diwali tells us about Prince Rama and his wife, Sita. One day, they were sent away from their home into a deep, dark forest. While they were there, a tricky king took Sita away. Rama was very sad, but he was also brave. With the help of his loyal friends, he went on a long journey to rescue her. When they finally returned home, the people were so happy that they had won the battle against darkness. To guide Rama and Sita home, the people lit thousands of small clay lamps called diyas. They placed them in rows along the streets and on their windowsills. The bright, flickering light chased away the shadows and showed that goodness and light will always win over darkness.

Word bank: Diwali · Festival · Rama · Sita · Lamps · Goodness · Darkness · Celebration

1. Why is Diwali often called the 'Festival of Light'? (2 marks)

2. What happened to Sita during the story? (1 mark)

3. Why did the people light the clay lamps (diyas) when Rama and Sita returned? (2 marks)

4. In the story, what does the light represent in comparison to the darkness? (2 marks)

5. If you were planning a celebration, what would you do to make your home feel bright and welcoming? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a row of bright, flickering diyas (clay lamps) sitting on a windowsill at night. Add some colourful patterns around them to show the celebration.



Extension challenge: Nova the owl wants to know more about the world! Research or imagine why light is a symbol of hope in many different cultures and write two sentences about what you find.