Diwali: The Festival of Lights with Pip and Zara

Learning objective: To understand the significance and key traditions of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.

Read the facts about Diwali and answer the questions below. Pip the bookworm and Zara the zebra are here to help you learn!

Diwali is a major festival celebrated by millions of people, especially Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains. Known as the 'Festival of Lights', it celebrates the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. During this time, people decorate their homes with 'diyas' (clay lamps) and create colourful 'rangoli' patterns on the floor using coloured sand or flower petals. Families exchange gifts, share delicious sweets, and enjoy fireworks. It is a time for togetherness and joy.

Word bank: Diwali · Lamps · Rangoli · Light · Good · Evil · Family

1. 1. What is another name for Diwali? A) The Festival of Colour B) The Festival of Lights* C) The Festival of Food D) The Festival of Winter (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Diwali celebrates the victory of good over evil. (1 mark)

3. 3. What are the small clay lamps used during Diwali called? (1 word) (1 mark)

4. 4. Zara the zebra loves patterns! What do we call the colourful patterns made on the floor? (1 word) (1 mark)

5. 5. Which of these is NOT a common Diwali tradition? A) Sharing sweets B) Lighting lamps C) Decorating with rangoli D) Building a snowman* (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Diwali is only celebrated by one religion. (1 mark)

7. 7. If you bought 3 small clay lamps for £2 each, how much would you spend in total? (Write the total in £) (1 mark)

8. 8. What is the main message of Diwali? A) Being quiet B) Victory of light over darkness* C) Planting trees D) Learning to swim (1 mark)

9. 9. Fill in the blank: Families often share delicious _____ during the festival. (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Fireworks are sometimes used to celebrate Diwali. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a beautiful 'rangoli' pattern on the floor. Use bright, geometric shapes like triangles, circles, and squares, just like Zara would!

Extension challenge: Imagine you are hosting a Diwali party. Write a list of three things you would do to make your home feel welcoming and bright for your friends and family.