

Religious Education Assessment: The Festival of Diwali

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of the origins, traditions, and significance of Diwali within Hindu, Sikh, and Jain traditions.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Diwali to provide clear and thoughtful answers. Ensure your writing is neat.

Diwali, often known as the Festival of Lights, is a major celebration observed by millions of people across the world. While the stories behind the festival vary, they all share a common theme: the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. Families clean their homes, decorate their floors with colourful patterns, and light small oil lamps to welcome prosperity and joy.

Word bank: Diyas · Rangoli · Laxmi · Rama · Sita · Light · Darkness · New beginnings · Good · Evil

1. Identify two ways in which families might prepare their homes for the festival of Diwali. (2 marks)

2. What is the symbolic meaning of lighting 'diyas' (oil lamps) during Diwali? (2 marks)

3. Explain why Diwali is often described as a festival of 'new beginnings'. (3 marks)

4. Nova the Owl is learning about the story of Rama and Sita. Briefly describe the role of light in their journey back to Ayodhya. (3 marks)

5. Compare how different people might celebrate Diwali. Mention at least two different traditions or activities. (4 marks)

6. Describe the importance of the Rangoli patterns created during the festival. Why do you think art is such an important part of religious celebration? (6 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Imagine you are explaining the significance of Diwali to a friend. Write a short paragraph explaining why this festival is important to the people who celebrate it and what lessons it teaches about 'good' and 'evil'. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a traditional Rangoli pattern inside the box below. Use geometric shapes and symmetrical patterns to show how these designs brighten a home.



Extension challenge: Total: /25