

Diwali: The Festival of Lights Fact-File

Learning objective: To understand the significance and traditions of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, and its importance to the community.

Use this fact-file to record what you have learned about Diwali. Research each section to explain the meaning behind the celebrations. Think about why this festival is important to Hindu families and how it brings communities together.

Word bank: Diyas · Rangoli · Lakshmi · Light over darkness · New beginnings · Tradition · Celebration · Devotion

1. The Meaning of Diwali: Explain what Diwali celebrates and why it is often called the 'Festival of Lights'. (2 marks)

2. Diwali Traditions: Describe two different ways that families prepare for or celebrate Diwali in their homes. (2 marks)

3. Rangoli Patterns: Explain the purpose of creating Rangoli patterns and what they represent during the festival. (2 marks)

4. The Importance of Light: Why is the lighting of diyas (oil lamps) considered the most important part of the celebration? (2 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: If you were celebrating Diwali, which part of the tradition would you find most interesting and why? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are explaining Diwali to our friend Zara the zebra. Write a short paragraph describing how the bright colours and patterns of the festival would inspire her art.