Exploring Hinduism with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To identify key beliefs, deities, and practices within the Hindu faith, in line with the Year 5 RE curriculum.

Join Ellie the Elephant on a journey to learn about one of the world's oldest religions. Read each question carefully and select or write the best answer.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False (It is a Mandir), 4.Diwali, 5.B, 6.A, 7.Aum, 8.True, 9.Karma, 10.B. (Note: These reflect core concepts of Hinduism suitable for Year 5 level.)

Word bank: Brahman · Dharma · Diwali · Mandir · Aum · Ganesha · Karma

1. 1. What is the name of the festival of lights celebrated by Hindus? A) Eid B) Vaisakhi C) Diwali* D) Christmas (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Hinduism is considered one of the oldest religions in the world. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: A Hindu place of worship is called a Church. (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the name of the deity often depicted with an elephant's head who is known as the remover of obstacles? (1 mark)

5. 5. Which word refers to the Hindu belief that every action has an equal reaction? A) Dharma B) Karma* C) Moksha D) Puja (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the term for 'duty' or 'living in a way that upholds the cosmic order'? A) Dharma* B) Yoga C) Tilak D) Mantra (1 mark)

7. 7. Which sacred symbol represents the sound of the universe in Hinduism? (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Hindus believe that Brahman is the supreme spirit present in everything. (1 mark)

9. 9. A 'Mandir' is the Hindu word for what? A) A holy book B) A prayer ritual C) A temple* D) A festival (1 mark)

10. 10. Which river is considered the most sacred river in Hinduism? A) The Thames B) The Ganges* C) The Nile D) The Amazon (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a beautiful, colourful diya lamp. Ellie the Elephant would love to see how you decorate it with patterns to celebrate the festival of Diwali!

Extension challenge: Research the story of Rama and Sita. Write a short paragraph explaining why people light lamps during Diwali based on this story.