

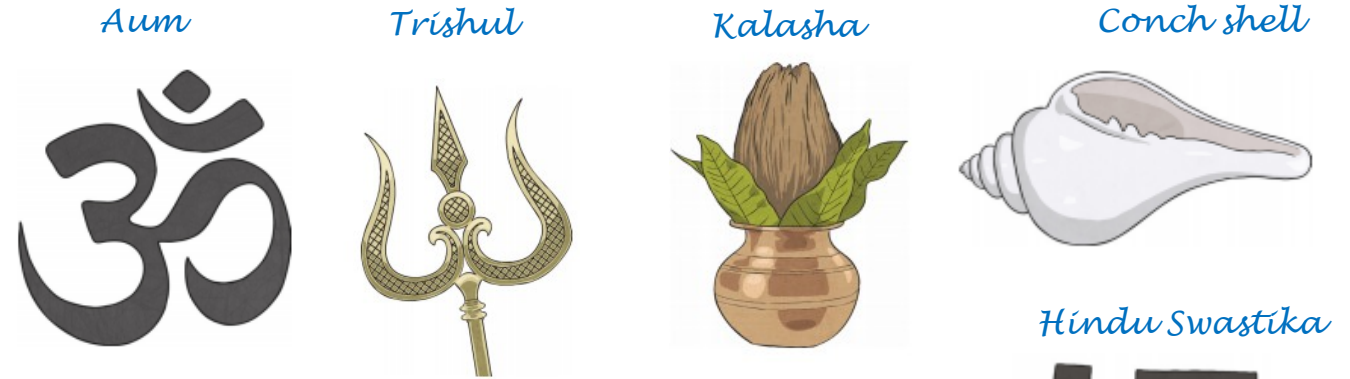
Year: 6

Topic: Hinduism

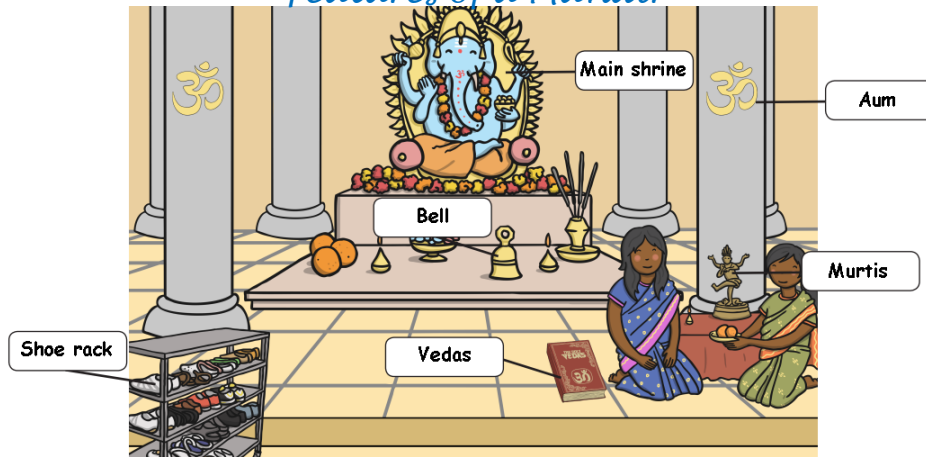
Key Vocabulary

| Word | Definition |
|---------|--|
| Mandir | A place of worship for people of the Hindu faith. |
| Aum | One of the most sacred symbols in Hinduism. |
| Brahman | The supreme God to Hindus. |
| Karma | The idea that all actions have consequences which affect how people will be reborn in their next life. |
| Murti | Statutes or pictures depicting Hindu Gods. |
| Puja | The Hindu act of worship. |
| Pandit | A Hindu priest. |
| Diwali | The festival of light. |
| Vedas | The earliest sacred books of the Hindus, a collection of hymns and poems. |

What I should Know



Features of a Mandir



Hindu Swastika



Lotus flower



Important events

| | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1300BC | 800BC | 100BC | 600 | 950-1050 |
| The oldest hymns in Hinduism, the Rig Veda, begin to be composed. | The sacred text of the Mahabharata begins to be composed. | The Ramayana is written in Sanskrit. | Hinduism grows and flourishes and simple prayers and songs are written in the languages that Hindu people speak. | A "city of temples" is built in India at Khajuraho; 25 of the original 80 temples are still standing today. |

Important/Key Facts

- All Hindus believe that life, death and re-birth are a continuous process.
- Hindus believe in one supreme God who created everything and contains every characteristic in the universe. The supreme God is made up of many different gods who can take the form of humans or animals.
- Many gods are worshipped in Hinduism. Each Hindu god is said to be a different part of the supreme God 'Brahman'.
- The three most important Hindu gods are Brahma (the Creator), Shiva (the Destroyer) and Vishnu (the Protector); together they make up a trinity (Trimurti).
- Hinduism has several Holy Books. The oldest are called the Vedas and are written in Sanskrit. The word 'Veda' means knowledge.
- As well as the Vedas, collections of Hindu hymns and prayers, there are lots of stories about Hindu gods. A popular one is a long poem called the Ramayana, the story of Lord Rama, an Indian prince, and his wife Sita.
- Hindus bow when they pray in the mandir.
- Hindus believe that people can be born again after death; this is known as reincarnation. In each life the person is rewarded or punished for what they have done in the previous life (karma).
- Hindu people go on pilgrimages to places that are sacred to the Hindu faith. The river Ganges in India is said to flow from the feet of the god Vishnu and is sacred to Hindus, who believe that bathing in the Ganges washes away sins.

Festivals

Holi



Holi is also known as the festival of colours. It marks the beginning of spring, usually in March and celebrates new life. Colours are thrown to remind people that we need to make our lives colourful. Red symbolises power, orange shows purity and green is for love. The festival of Holi is linked with two stories: The legend of Holika and Prah-lad and The story of Krishna and the milkmaids.

Diwali

Diwali is a very important celebration for Hindus. It is known as the "festival of lights" and celebrates the new year. During the festival, Hindus celebrate a Diwali legend of the return of Rama and Sita to Rama's Kingdom, after fourteen years of being banished. Diwali is a time for celebrating good over evil and happiness.



Navratri



Navratri means 'nine nights', which is how many days of celebration are held for this festival. It is dedicated to the goddess Durga and her nine day battle to defeat the demon king, Mahishasura. For nine days, the goddess Durga is prayed to and worshipped. There are nightly feasts and special dances.

Beliefs

These are some of the core beliefs that Hindus share:

- Truth is eternal—Hindus believe that they should pursue knowledge and understanding of the truth.
- Dharma—Dharma is a complex idea that includes the right behaviour, following the moral law (and not just what you feel like doing) and taking ones duties seriously.
- Reincarnation—They believe that the soul cannot be destroyed. Instead they believe in reincarnation, which means that the soul exists in the body but when a living thing dies it enters a new living thing.
- Moksha—Moksha means liberation of the soul from the cycle of death and rebirth.

Websites, Books, Resources

Websites:

True Tube

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/holy-cribs-mandir>

BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zh86n39>

Books:

Celebrating Hindu Festivals by Liz Miles

Ganesha's Sweet Tooth by Sanjay Patel

Lighting a Lamp: A Diwali Story by Jonny Zucker

Other resources:

BBC Food

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/occasions/diwali>

Education quizzes

<https://www.educationquizzes.com/specialist/religions-hinduism/>