



Year 1 units of work - Beliefs What do Hindus believe?



1



Lesson 4 What do Hindus believe?

Learning objectives

- To know more about Hindu beliefs
- To be aware that not all Hindus believe the same things

Religious Education Council Requirements

A1, A3, B1, B2, B3

Resources

- Hindu visitor or Persona Doll; or visit to a mandir (temple) or shrine in someone's home; or role-play area
- Flipchart or board
- **Resource sheet 3:** *Beginner's guide to Hinduism* (for teacher support)
- *My Hindu Faith* Rainbows Big Book (Evans), optional
- Internet access (optional)

Vocabulary

Aum; charity; Dharma; diva, Divali, Holi, Raksha Bandhan; gods, murti, Rama, Sita, Trimurti; Hindu; incarnation, mandir, temple

Key questions 😯

What do (some) Hindus believe about God? What do they do in their lives to show that belief?

Group formation

• Whole class

Introduction

Ask: What's Hinduism all about?

Activities

Either: visit the mandir or temple at home, or

Success criteria

• To be able to explain what some Hindus think about God and how this influences their lives

receive the visitor (or Persona Doll) and ask questions, or support people's research in the role-play area.

As before, encourage everyone to ask prepared questions or investigate prepared points. Prompt them to think about the answers and then ask more questions.

Here are some example questions:

Key questions 😯

When did you become a Hindu? What do you believe? Where and how do you worship? Do you have any special books? Do you wear any special clothes? Please tell us about any special ceremonies you have. What happens? Please tell us about Hindu festivals. Which is your favourite and why?

Plenary

On a large outline of a diva lamp on the board, write down all that has been discovered about Hinduism.

Differentiation

Everyone should help their own learning by asking questions. Provide books for support as necessary.

Allow people to draw pictures if that is easier.

Extension

Encourage people to extend their research from books and/or RE websites, for example www.hindukids.org.



Name:_

Date:

Beginner's guide to Hinduism

- Hinduism is a very old religion.
- There are many different kinds of Hindus.
- Hindus believe in one god who can be represented in many forms' and these forms are other gods/deities
- All believe in a cycle of rebirth: good living in this life leads to better standing in the next incarnation.
- The concept of Dharma is important: law, duty, justice and virtuousness are central to Hindus' faith.
- A popular festival is Divali the festival of light which is held at the Hindu New Year and celebrates the story of Rama and Sita.
- In the spring the festival of Holi is celebrated. People throw coloured powders at each other and coconuts into a bonfire.
- In August the festival of Raksha Bandhan is performed when sisters tie woven rakhi (bracelets) around their brothers' wrists. Brothers then promise to care for their sisters.
- Many Hindus have shrines in their homes where they can pray in the morning and evening.

