

Year 3: How do Hindus Worship?

Worship in a Mandir



The **Mandir** is a **Hindu** temple. Mandirs can look different.

During **Puja**, Hindus give offerings to the gods and pray to the shrine of a god or goddess.



Arti is the ceremony of lights, where light is presented to the gods by waving candles in front of the shrine.

Worship in a Home Shrine



Hindus create a shrine at home so that they can worship (Puja) every day.

Hindus make offerings to the gods at home.

Items used in Puja











- Diwali is the five day festival of lights in Autumn each year.
- Hindus celebrate Diwali as the new beginnings and how good defeated evil.
- Diwali comes from the story of Lord Rama and his wife, Sita.

Long ago, there was a great warrior prince called Rama and his beautiful wife, Sita. An evil king called Ravana lived near them. He had ten heads and twenty arms! Ravana wanted to make Sita his wife, so he kidnapped her. Rama realised that Sita had been kidnapped, so he tried to look for her. He met the monkey god, Hanuman, in the forest. Hanuman agreed to look for Sita.



Hanuman gathered his monkey army and they prepared to battle Ravana. Rama and Hanuman began to battle Ravana, but it was a huge battle and it seemed like Ravana would win... ...however, Rama produced a magical golden arrow and fired it at Ravana. It hit him in the chest. With Ravana defeated, Rama and Sita were reunited! Rama and Sita returned home at night time. They found that all of the villagers had lit lamps to guide them home.

CRC: Article 14 - All children have the right to their own religion.



Vocabulary	
Arti Ceremony	part of Hindu worship, where light is given to the gods
Brahman	Hindus recognise Brahman as their one God.
communal	a shared place or object for many people
community	a group of people in the same area or religion
defeat	win against someone
diva	a lamp or candle used during worship
evil	someone or something bad
Hanuman	the monkey god who helped Rama find Sita
Hindu	someone who follows Hinduism
Hinduism	a religion with different beliefs, cultures and traditions
home shrine	a place of worship at home
imagery	writing that makes you picture something in your mind
Lakshmi	the goddess of money, wisdom and good luck
loyalty	doing things for others because you care
Mandir	a Hindu temple
moral	what is right
Murti	special statues or images of gods or goddesses
Puja	the act of worship for Hindus
Ramayana	the story of Rama and how he saved his wife Sita
sacrifice	giving something important up for someone else
shrine	a holy place to pray
symbol	a religious sign
symbolism	when something stands in the place of something else
worship	the act of showing love to God