

Diwali Religious Festival Story

Victory of light over darkness, good over evil
and knowledge over ignorance



Religious Education KS1
Hinduism

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and knowledge over ignorance



The Hindu New Year festival of Diwali lasts from one to five days. It is a festival of light, where people hang lanterns and set off fireworks. The origins and stories surrounding the festival vary from one part of India to another.

However, it is generally associated with the goddess of wealth and prosperity, Lakshmi, or with the victorious return to Ayodhya of Rama and Sita after their exile.

Share the story of Rama and Sita on the following pages with the children. You can also download the accompanying PowerPoint to display the story to the class.





Lord Rama was a good man.

He was married to a princess called Sita.

They lived in the ancient city of Avodhya.



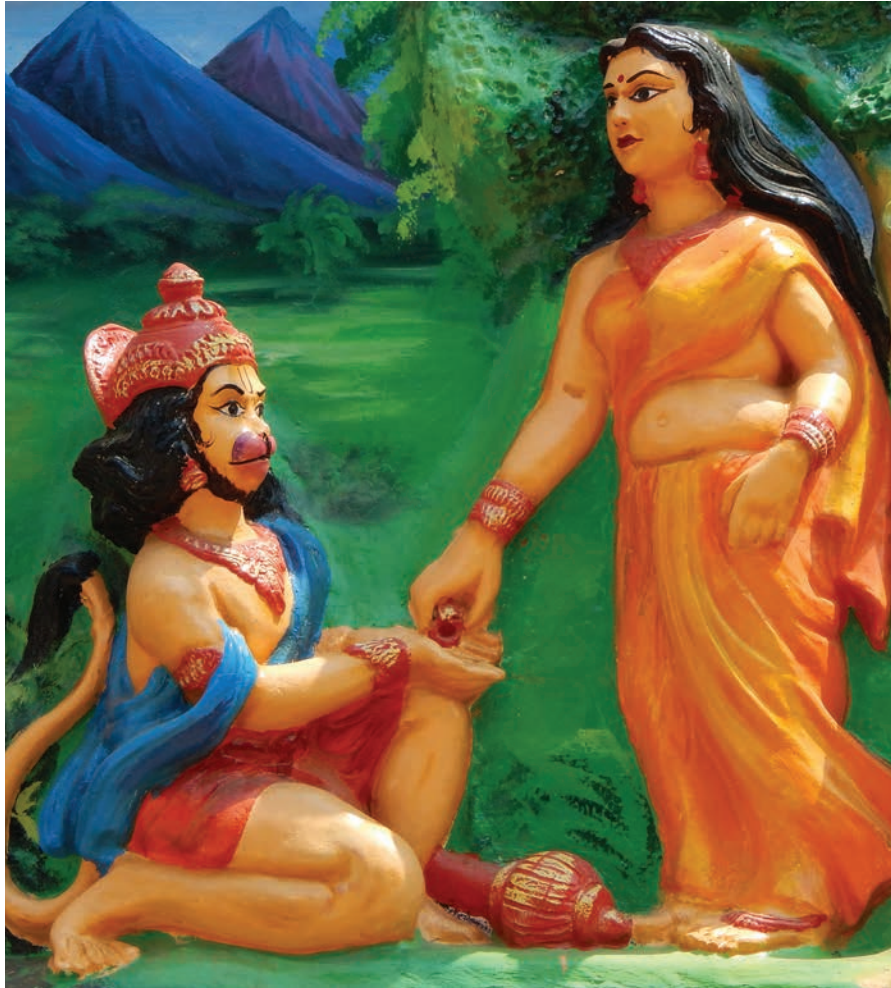
Ravana was the demon king,
who had 10 heads!

One dreadful day, Ravana
kidnapped Sita.



Rama searched high and low.

Eventually he met Hanuman,
the monkey god. Hanuman
agreed to help Rama look for
Princess Sita.



Hanuman finally
found Sita.

She was imprisoned
on the island of Lanka.



Hanuman, Rama and his brother, Lakshman, fought a great battle against Ravana.

Rama had a special bow and arrow from the gods.

Eventually Rama defeated the demon king using his special arrow.



Sita and Rama, along with Lakshman, his brother, set off for their city in the middle of the night.

It was so dark they could hardly see!



The people lit up the whole city with little lamps, or Diyas, to help guide them home.

This showed how much the people wanted Rama and Sita to come back.





Rama and Sita became
the new King and Queen.
They ruled very wisely.





Today, Hindus celebrate by lighting candles.

People also open their doors and windows, to guide the Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and purity, into their homes.





Hindus also celebrate by cleaning their homes, making rangoli patterns.

And, of course, lighting more candles.

Happy Diwali!



Questions

How did this story make you feel?

Which part of the story did you like best? Why?

This story is about good defeating evil.

Who do you think was good?

Who do you think was evil?

Do you know of any other stories when good overcomes evil?



Make some Diya lamps with the children using plasticine/clay, or decorate your own using iChild's Diya Lamp activity

<https://www.ichild.co.uk/activities/view/nOetWfd3lSqaTqnNkZHDh/Diya-Lamp>

Or why not have a go at making a Rangoli Paper Plate Craft

<https://www.ichild.co.uk/activities/view/5cYHPGB7njVlf7vj47s4EA/Rangoli-Paper-Plate-Craft>

