

Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To demonstrate comprehension of the Diwali story, identifying key themes and character motivations.

Read the story below carefully. Answer the questions in full sentences, using evidence from the text to support your ideas.

In the heart of the village, Ellie the elephant gathered the children to share the legend of Diwali. She explained that long ago, a noble prince named Rama returned home after fourteen years of exile. The people of his kingdom were overjoyed. To guide him through the darkness of the moonless night, they lit thousands of small clay lamps, called diyas, and placed them in rows along the streets and windowsills. The golden glow transformed the dark night into a scene of brilliant light. Ellie told the children that this story represents the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. Today, families celebrate by cleaning their homes, creating colourful patterns called rangoli on their doorsteps, and sharing delicious sweets with friends and neighbours. It is a time for kindness and for welcoming new beginnings.

Word bank: triumph · celebration · tradition · guidance · diya · kindness

1. Why did the people of the kingdom light thousands of clay lamps when Prince Rama returned? (2 marks)

2. What does the triumph of light over darkness represent in the story of Diwali? (2 marks)

3. According to the passage, list two ways that families celebrate Diwali today. (2 marks)

4. Why do you think the people placed the lamps in rows along the streets? (2 marks)

5. Find and copy an adjective from the text that describes the light produced by the diyas. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a picture of a doorstep decorated with a colourful rangoli pattern and several glowing diyas.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are Prince Rama returning home. Write a short diary entry (3-4 sentences) describing how you feel when you see the thousands of lights glowing in the distance.