

The Festival of Lights: Diwali

Learning objective: To understand the narrative and traditions of Diwali, the Hindu festival of light, and to retrieve key information from a text.

Read the passage about the story of Diwali carefully, then answer the questions below. Use your best handwriting and check your spelling.

Diwali is a beautiful festival celebrated by millions of people around the world. It is often called the 'Festival of Lights'. The story tells of Prince Rama and his wife, Sita, who were sent away from their home for fourteen years. After many adventures, they finally returned to their kingdom of Ayodhya. The people of the kingdom were so overjoyed to see them that they lit thousands of clay oil lamps, called diyas, to guide them home through the darkness. Today, families celebrate by lighting diyas, creating colourful rangoli patterns on their floors, and sharing delicious sweets. It is a time to celebrate the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.

Word bank: Diwali · Ayodhya · Rama · Sita · Lamps · Victory · Festival · Rangoli

1. What is another name for the festival of Diwali, and why is it called that? (2 marks)

2. Why did the people of Ayodhya light thousands of clay lamps? (2 marks)

3. According to the passage, what are the clay lamps called? (1 mark)

4. List two ways that families celebrate Diwali today. (2 marks)

5. What is the deeper meaning behind the festival of Diwali? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a traditional diya lamp with a bright, glowing flame and decorate the area around it with a colourful rangoli pattern.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a citizen of Ayodhya waiting for Prince Rama to return. Write a short diary entry (3-4 sentences) explaining how you are preparing for his arrival.