



Key Vocabulary

Hinduism	Hinduism is over 4,000 years old, making it one of the world's oldest religions. It is made up of a variety of different religious beliefs and practices. It originated near the Indus River in India	Vishnu	Vishnu is the preserver of the world. His role is to return to the earth in troubled times and restore the balance of good and evil. He has blue skin and four arms.
Ganesh	Ganesha is known as the remover of obstacles and the offspring of Shiva.	Lakshmi	Lakshmi is the goddess of money, wisdom and good luck in Hinduism.
Shiva	Shiva is the destroyer of the universe. Shiva destroys the universe in order to re-create it. Shiva has blue skin, a third eye and carries a trident.	Rakhi	'Raksha' means protection and 'Bandhan', to tie. A sister will wrap a red-and-gold rakhi (sacred thread of love) round her brother's wrist.
Brahma	Brahma is the creator of the world and all creatures. He is usually shown with four heads.	Ahimsa	Ahimsa – the principle of non-violence. Most Hindus believe that all living things are sacred because they are part of God, as is the natural world
Diwali	Diwali is known as the 'Festival of Light' because millions of people light small oil lamps and place them in houses, gardens, roofs and more.	Diya lamp	A Diya, diyo, deya, divaa, deepa, deepam, or deepak is an oil lamp. It is used in India and Nepal. It is made from clay and a cotton wick dipped in ghee or vegetable oils.

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Links to religions



WHAT?

1



Hinduism is one of the oldest religions in the world. Hinduism is over 4,000 years old, making it one of the world's oldest religions. It is made up of a variety of different religious beliefs and practices. It originated near the Indus River in India. Hinduism began in India and spread throughout the world.

2



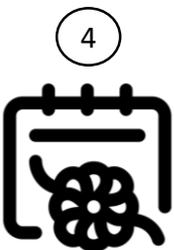
Hindus worship many different gods. Ganesh is one of the Hindu gods. Known as the Remover of Obstacles and the Lord of Beginnings. Brahma is said to have created the universe. Vishnu is the preserver and protector of the universe. Goddess Lakshmi is worshipped to attain wealth, beauty and good luck. Shiva destroys the evil within the universe so that it can be recreated.

3



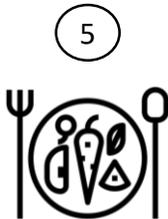
Hindus have a shrine at home. There will be a small shrine with pictures or statues of one or more gods or goddesses to which the family will offer puja (worship). Bell used to awaken the god and let them know you are ready to worship. Food, usually fruit, is given as an offering to the gods.

4



Hindus value respect. Rakhi festival is the annual festival of Raksha Bandan celebrates the love between brothers and sisters. It is celebrated by tying Rakhi (colourful thread) around the brother's wrist. Rakhi signifies the everlasting love between the siblings. Rakhis are normally red and gold.

5



Ahimsa is a Sanskrit word which means "non-violence" or "non-injury". The practice of ahimsa is an important aspect Hinduism. Hindus try not to hurt any living thing. Ahimsa is the Hindu belief that symbolizes love, genuine care, and compassion towards all living beings. Many Hindus are vegetarian. Cows are sacred to Hindus.

6



Diwali is India's most important holiday of the year. The festival gets its name from the row (avali) of clay lamps (deepa) that Indians light outside their homes to symbolize the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. Diwali is the five-day Festival of Lights, celebrated by millions of Hindus.