



Philosophers Year B Autumn Term 1 – What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today? (RE) Overview, Vocabulary and Sticky Knowledge



What do I already know?

In Little Explorers, I learned...

- Each person is individual and unique.
- People have different religious beliefs and this is ok!
- Christians believe God shows love for children through baptism. This is where children are blessed with Holy Water and candles are lit. (Where do we belong?)

In Big Explorers, I learned...

- Religions use symbols to show belonging: some Christians wear a cross or use the symbols of a fish.
- Muslims believe that you should not show images of Allah or Mohammad as a sign of respect. They often use calligraphy and geometric patterns.

What will I now learn?

- Describe puja and how it shows Hindu faith
- Make connections with some Hindu beliefs and teachings about aims and duties in life
- Describe some ways in which Hindus express their faith through puja, aarti and bhajans
- Suggest at least two reasons why being a Hindu is a good thing in Britain today, and two reasons why it might be hard sometimes
- Discuss links between the actions of Hindus in helping others and ways in which people of other faiths and beliefs, including pupils themselves, help others
- Describe how the life of Gandhi shows Hindu beliefs in action

Key Vocabulary:

Challenging
vocabulary.

Reincarnation
Ramayana
dharma

Words to learn.

Deity Murtis Puja Aarti
Bhajans Brahman
Brahma Trimurti Vishnu
Shiva Artha Kama Moksha

Words I should
know.

mandir god goddess supreme Hindu

Sticky Knowledge:

- Hindus worship together at a mandir or temple where Puja is performed.
- There are many shrines inside the temple. Going to worship at a shrine is like visiting the gods and goddesses.
- Hindu worshippers ring a bell at the shrine to awaken God. Prayers are said and offerings such as food are made.
- Hinduism has a rich musical tradition. There are many 'bhajans' devoted to different deities; some fast and upbeat, some peaceful and meditative.
- During worship, the aarti lamp is lit and offered to the deity. It is then seen as having become filled with the deity's blessings and energy.
- Many Hindus believe all living beings possess a 'spark' of Brahman known as atman, which means that all living beings are sacred and special.
- Hindus believe the spark of God is eternal, so when their body dies it will be reborn into another body. Which body it goes into will depend on karma.

During worship, Hindus use many items, which are kept on a Puja tray.

The items include a bell, a pot of water, a diya lamp, an incense burner, a pot of kum kum powder, and a spoon.

Puja involves offering light, incense, flowers and food to the gods.

