



Week beginning: Monday 6th July

Subject R.E.

Question:



How and why do Hindus celebrate Durga?

Introduction

Hindus worship God in many different ways. In this lesson you will learn about one celebration of God in the form of the Goddess, Durga.

Watch this clip from the BBC. This is a special festival of worship to Durga in Calcutta, a huge city in India.

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p010xmhy

The clip shows a 9-day long festival called Durga Puja (also known as the festival of Navaratri). It is a lively celebration, full of sounds, colours, smells, tastes and other sensations.

As you watch the clip, think about your five senses: seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling and touching. Imagine what it would be like to be at this Hindu celebration.

- What things do you see and hear?
- Use your imagination: what would you taste, smell and touch if you were there?

Younger Children

Older Children

Task one: Re watch the video - Complete the "Using your senses" worksheet.

Complete the first extension task.

Task one: Re watch the video - Complete the "Using your senses" worksheet.

Task two: Match the key words and the definitions

Complete both extension tasks.

Task one: (Younger children)

Using your senses!

Fill in at least one thing in each box. What strikes you most?

 Something I can see	
 Something I can hear	
 Something I would taste	
 Something I would smell	

Task one: (Older children)

Using your senses!

Fill in at least one thing in each box. What strikes you most?

 Something I can see	
 Something I can hear	
 Something I would taste	
 Something I would smell	
 Something I would touch	
 Something I want to say	
 Something I wonder	

Task Two: (Older Children)

Some keywords

You have heard some important words during the clip. Can you say what they mean? You may need to watch and listen to the clip again!

Shrine	
Puja	
Goddess	
Durga	
Worship	

Answers (not in the correct order)

- A ceremony of worship, offered to God/the Goddess
- A place where gods and goddesses are worshipped
- One form of the Goddess, usually shown with many arms and riding on a tiger (or a lion)
- The female form of the Deity (God)
- An act of devotion towards God, showing a person's commitment, loyalty and love

Extension task one (Younger and Older Children)

Hindus remember the Deity (god or goddess) in many different stories. One story that they remember at Durga Puja is the story of how the goddess Durga defeats the demon Mahishasur. The demon Mahishasur unleashed terror on the world. The goddess Durga, full of energy, mounted a tiger and rode into battle. Mahishasur changed form many times: starting as a buffalo, he changed into an elephant, a lion, a man - and finally back to buffalo. Durga killed all these forms, until she defeated the demon.

You can watch a version here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHDt4IUP-4k

Can you see why Hindu women dance such a lot at the Durga Puja? It was a great victory of good over evil.

How would you illustrate the great battle between Durga and Mahishasur?

Choose one or two scenes and do some drawings on a blank page.

You could draw Durga with her many arms and the weapons given to her by the other deities.

Extension task two (Older Children)

What matters most?

What do you think is most important to Hindus at this celebration? Some suggestions are below, but you should add your own. Can you rank them to say which are most important all the way down to the one that is least important and say why?

Dancing	Murtis (statues or pictures)	Shrines
Good over evil	Women	Recycling
Music	Processions	The Goddess

1. (the most important of all)

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9. (the least important)