



Our Learning Keys

Unit 1.7 How and why do we celebrate significant times?

R.E.

Year 2

Autumn 2

Questions

- What values or beliefs can we see in these festivals?
- How are some religious festivals similar?
- How do festivals make a difference to families?

Vocabulary

holy sacred	Special because of God
diwa	A special kind of lamp
Guru	teacher
Gurpurab	A Guru's Birthday
sewa	Selfless service (Sikh)
langar	A special meal cooked by Sikhs to share with others
menorah	A special kind of candle holder used in Jewish worship
Maccabees	The Maccabees were a tribe of Jewish warriors

Images



Facts

- The festival of Diwali is celebrated mostly by Hindus, but also by Sikhs and some Buddhists.
- Diwali is a festival of lights.
- Diwali is normally celebrated in either October or November.
- There are lots of stories told about Diwali. One is the story of Rama and Sita.
- Hinduism is a very old religion. It might be around 4000 years old.
- Sikhism is a newer religion – it is about 500 years old.
- Sikhs believe that their lessons were taught by Gurus, and that there were 10 living Gurus. The first of these was Guru Nanak, who died around 1539.
- The Jewish religion (Judaism) is around 4000 years old. It is the oldest **monotheistic** religion (meaning they only believe in one God)
- Hannukah is usually celebrated in late November or December by Jewish people.
- Hannukah celebrates when the Maccabees (Jewish fighters) beat the Greeks and took back their sacred temple in Jerusalem and a miracle where the sacred oil in the temple lasted for 8 days, even though they only had enough oil for one day.

Links

- Literacy: Can you retell or sequence the stories that inspired these festivals?
- Geography: Where in the world do these religions come from?
- PE/Dance: How do people express their culture through dance?
- Food technology: Can you cook some traditional food?

Doors this will open...

Author

Librarian

Religious leader

Teacher

Chef

Dancer

Artist

Previously...

In Reception and Year 1, we learnt about the Christian festivals of Christmas and Easter.

Unit 1.7

Celebrating significant times

Next...

In Years 3 and 4, we will look in more detail about the significance of festivals to Jewish and Muslim believers. In Year 4, we will learn more about and Hinduism and Sikhism.