

# The National Junior C of E Primary School

Unit: Hinduism

Subject: RE

Term: 3

## Unit Overview / Key Question:

**How do Hindu's reflect their belief in the way they live?  
How do beliefs impact on action, duty, service and everyday life?**

Hinduism is the world's oldest living religion, dating back to at least 2000BCE. As its name suggests, Hinduism developed and still flourishes mainly in India. There are over 1 billion Hindus in the world today. Many Gods are worshipped in Hinduism. All of these different Gods are believed to be a part of the supreme God named 'Brahma'. Hinduism does not have one holy book, but several sacred texts. Temples are Hindu worship buildings.

## Symbols and Key Festivals



AUM or OM is a sacred symbol that represents Hinduism – what people cannot imagine, Brahman.





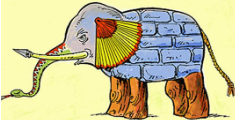
Samsara the process of reincarnation. Representing the cycle of good and bad Karma in life.



Rangoli patterns are created during Diwali, the festival of light.

### What?

### Key Knowledge

How does belief affect lives?	There is no one way to be a Hindu, however there are core beliefs that all Hindus share; truth is eternal, dharma, moksha and reincarnation.
How are Karma and Samsara seen in modern life?	What can people do in life to achieve good or bad karma? Samsara are like rivers that are the flow of new life. 
Can giving joy to others give joy to ourselves?	BAPS (The world's largest Hindu charity) is guided by the simple but profoundly spiritual message of His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj: "In the joy of others, lies our own."
How can you be the change you want to see in the world?	Hindus believe in ahimsa which means non-violence, they believe it is the highest duty. Mahatma Gandhi was a famous Hindu who believed strongly in a non-violent way of life. He believed 'Non-violence is a weapon of the strong.'  <i>Be the change you want to see in the world -Mahatma Gandhi</i>
What is the importance of Diwali?	The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps.' Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' and celebrates the return of Rama and Sita. Diwali always falls some time between October and November. It is held in honour of Lakshmi, the Hindu goddess of wealth and prosperity. Hindus pray to Lakshmi to bring them good luck for the following year.
What do Hindu's learn about deities and the divine through stories?	Many Hindu stories show their understanding that God is ONE but in many forms. The story of the 'Blind men and the elephant' is a good example of this. Hindu beliefs suggest we all have our own ideas depending on our personalities - we are all a bit right- God is all ideas, not just one. 

## Vocabulary

Brahman	A central part of a Hindu's life. To do the right thing at all times. Following the moral law and taking ones duties seriously.
Brahama	Known as the God of creation.
Vishnu	Known as the preserver.
Shiva	Knowns as the destroyer.
Karma	Good and bad actions during one's life which affect which living thing the soul will return
Atman	All living things have a soul.
Samsara	Reincarnation.
Trimurti	The Gods of Hinduism being different expressions of Brahman - Vishnu, Brahma, Shiva.
Moksha	The liberation of the soul from the cycle of death and rebirth ( <b>reincarnation</b> ). It is the ultimate goal for Hindus. When the soul reunites with Brahman.
Dharma	The code for leading one's life.
Ahimsa	Means non-violence. Hindus believe it is wrong to show violence towards other living things.

## Prior Knowledge

In previous years children have looked at **how Hindu worship and celebration builds a sense of community**. Celebration includes Diwali, the festival of lights, and Holi, the festival of colour which celebrates the triumph of good over evil. They have explored Hindu artifacts and discovered their role within worship. They have also learnt about the main gods in Hinduism - there are 33 million gods and goddesses.

