

HINDU BOX KEY STAGE 1 & 2 ARTEFACTS

Posters of Hindu deities (x 8)

Shiva
Rama
Lakshmi
Hanumar
Ganesh
Kananan

Kirushna and Ratha
Krishna

Prayer Beads

As with many religions Hindus sometimes use prayer beads to help them focus their attention when they pray. Hindu prayer beads generally have 108 beads.



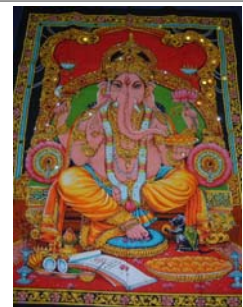
Ganesh (Small Plaque)

Ganesh, the elephant-headed god, is one of the most popular of the Hindu deities. His image is found in most Hindu temples and many homes. He is the god of good fortune and new beginnings and consequently is worshipped at the beginning of religious services and the beginning of new ventures.



Ganesh (Sequin Wall Cloth)

A colourful wall hanging of the Hindu god decorated with sequins.



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Aum (Brass Symbol)

This brass symbol of the syllable 'Aum' is the most sacred of sounds in Hinduism representing the supreme power.



Puja Set

Hindu worship is called Puja. It may be done in the home before a small shrine or in a temple. Items in the Puja set all serve a purpose to engage the senses and therefore the whole person in the act of worship. The bell is rung to mark the commencement of the worship and the incense burnt to scent the air. Water and food is offered and light in the 'Diya' which contains a wick made of cotton dipped in ghee or vegetable oil. Most practicing Hindus will perform Puja once or twice a day.



Radha Krishna (small statue)

Vishnu is worshipped in Hinduism as the preserver and protector of the universe. This god is believed to have come to earth in human form nine times. One of these times was in the form of 'Krishna'. Krishna embodies joy, freedom and love. He is typically depicted with blue-black skin wearing a yellow loin cloth with a crown of peacock feathers. Radha was Krishna's favourite cowgirl. The Hindu tradition is rich in poetry about the love of Krishna and Radha.



Mehandi (henna set)

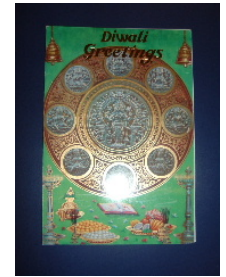
Mehandi or mehndi is the art of decorating the skin using henna and stencils. Complex patterns are painted onto the skin of the hands and feet of brides before wedding ceremonies. Bridegrooms are also painted in some parts of India



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Diwali Greeting Card

Diwali is the most important of the Hindu festivals. It is the festival of light and is celebrated by all members of the family with the exchange of gifts and sending cards in the same way Christians celebrate Christmas. Parties, food and fireworks are also very much part of the festivities.



Funeral Garland

Originally made from sandalwood. The person to be buried is dressed in his or her finest clothes and garlanded with flowers. They are laid on a mat decorated with flowers so that mourner can pay their respects. Often a garland of dried flowers is placed around a photograph of the deceased to show respect for their memory. For further details on Hindu funerals see the book 'Journey's End' also in the box.



Diya Lamp, Kum Kum Powder, Incense Sticks

The diya lamp is a small lamp used at the Hindu festival of Diwali. The diyas are set in windows to welcome the return of Rama and Sita. According to the story the people of their kingdom lit thousands of clay lamps to welcome the exiles back home.

Kum Kum powder is placed on the centre of the forehead before worship and women may often wear a kum kum spot on their forehead throughout the day. It is believed to represent God's blessing.

Incense is used during worship.



Lakshmi (statue in box)

Lakshmi is a popular goddess in Hindu mythology and is known as the goddess of wealth and purity. Lakshmi is commonly portrayed as a beautiful woman with four arms, standing on a lotus flower. Hindus believe that anybody who worships Lakshmi sincerely, and not in greed, will be blessed with fortune and success. She is particularly worshipped during the festival of Diwali.

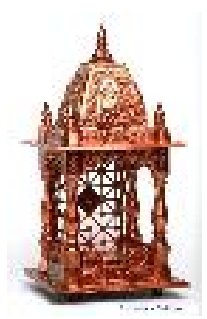


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Mandir (shrine statue in box)

This is a representation of a Hindu temple or Mandir which may be found in a home shrine. A temple is seen as the house of the supreme God although Hindus believe God is everywhere.

Hindu temples are often highly decorated with many statues and pictures of lesser gods and goddesses festooned with garlands.



Lord Shiva (statue in box)

Shiva is one of the three gods in Hinduism who are responsible for the creation, upkeep and destruction of the world. The other two gods are Brahma and Vishnu. Brahma is the creator, Vishnu is the preserver and Shiva is the destroyer. However, Hindus believe that destruction can make way for beneficial changes so Shiva is seen as both good and bad. Shiva is also known as 'Lord of the Dance'. In this statue as he dances he is balanced on one foot representing his role in keeping the universe in balance.



Baby Krishna on a Leaf

In Hindu tradition baby Krishna escaped death as a baby and went on to be a naughty boy who loved pranks. He is a much loved figure in Hinduism.



Shiva, Parvati and Ganesh

In Hinduism Shiva and Parvati are seen as the perfect example of marital bliss. Parvati is the mother goddess. In this statue they are with Ganesh their second son.



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Rama, Sita, Lakshman & Hanuman (Statue in a box)

These are four major characters from the Hindu epic, the Ramayana, a story associated with Diwali. Prince Rama was exiled from his kingdom and went with his wife Sita and brother Lakshman to live in a forest. While there Sita was captured by the wicked demon king Ravana. The Ramayana tells how the brothers rescue her with the help of the monkey king Hanuman.



Ganesh Hand Puppets (x2)

A hand puppet of Ganesh which can be used to help tell stories related to him, particularly how he got his elephant head.



HINDUISM KEY STAGE 1 & 2 – CONTENTS

Books:

Hindu Priest (My Life, My Religion)
Rasamandala Das/Chris Fairclough/Watts

Divali (A World of Festivals)
Dilip Kadodwala/Evans

First Steps to Rights
Unicef

Geeta's Day
Prodeepta Das

Hindu Prayer & Worship
Rasamandala Das/Anita Ganeri

Hindu Stories (Storyteller)
Anita Ganeri/Evans

Hindus in Britain (Communities in Britain)
Fiona Macdonald/Watts

How Ganesh got his Elephant Head (Classic Indian Stories for Children)
Bear Cub Books/Johari and Sperling

How Parvati won the Heart of Shiva (Classic Indian Stories for Children)
Bear Cub Books/Johari and Sperling

I am a Hindu (My Belief)

Aggarwal & Fairclough

I am Hindu (Talking about my Faith)
Cath Senker/Watts

India Children's Needs, Children's Rights
Unicef

Krishna and Hinduism (Religious Lives)
Ruth Nason

Krishna and Hinduism (Great Religious Leaders)
Kerena Marchant

Little Krishna
Johari/Bear Cub Books

My Hindu Community
Kate Taylor

The Divali Story
Anita Ganeri

Sacred Texts The Ramayana and other Hindu Texts
Anita Ganeri

Visiting a Mandir (Start-Up Religion)
Jean Mead and Ruth Nason

Divali (We Love)
Savior Pirotta/Wayland

Hindu Mandir (Where we Worship)
Angela Gluck Wood/Watts

Why is this Festival Special? Divali
Lillian Powell/Watts

Big Books:

A Row of Lights (Times to Remember)
Lynne Broadbent/John Logan

My Hindu Faith
Rainbows/Evans