

THE INVESTIGATION

This investigation enables pupils to learn about key aspects of Hindu belief and worship. What we call ‘Hinduism’ is the diverse way of life, spiritual practices and beliefs of the Indian people. We are focussing on British Hindus, and there is great diversity in British Hinduism as well as the original Indian Hinduism. Hinduism is more appropriately called ‘Sanatana Dharma’; eternal truth. We will find out some key Hindu beliefs, and how these are expressed in thoughts and actions. We will also think about being a Hindu in Britain today.

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Web Links: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zh86n39/resources/1>
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/religion/hinduism.htm>

STEP 1: THE KEY QUESTION L2.8 What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today

STEP 2: SELECT LEARNING OUTCOMES Being clear about these outcomes will help you to decide what and how to teach.

EMERGING	EXPECTED	EXCEEDING
<p>Identify and name examples of what Hindus have and do at mandir to show their faith (A3).</p> <p>Identify and name what Hindus do during puja to show their faith (A3)</p> <p>Identify and name examples of what Hindus have and do in their families to show their faith (A3).</p> <p>Ask good questions about do at puja and how it shows Hindu faith (B1).</p>	<p>Describe puja and how it shows Hindu faith (A1)</p> <p>Make connections with some Hindu beliefs and teachings about aims and duties in life (A1).</p> <p>Describe some ways in which Hindus express their faith through puja, aarti and bhajans (A2).</p> <p>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 (B2).</p>	<p>Explain similarities and differences between Hindu worship and worship in another religious tradition pupils have been taught (B3).</p> <p>Discuss and present ideas about what it means to be a Hindu in Britain today, making links with their own experiences (C1).</p> <p>Discuss and present ideas about dharma for Hindu children in Britain today, making links to their own duties. (C1)</p>

STEP 3: SUGGESTED CONTENT FOR LEARNING

NOTE: THE STRANDS OUTLINE LESSON IDEAS. IN TOTAL IT IS ADVISED 10 HOURS OF TEACHING FOR ALL POINTS. THEREFORE PICK 1 to 2 STRANDS PER WEEK/LESSON. YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO COMPLETE ALL STRANDS IN THE 6 TO 8 WEEKS, THEREFORE PICK WHAT IS RELEVANT.

This plan has selected the following content to exemplify the learning outcomes. Pupils will:

- Find out about how Hindus show their faith within their families.
- Learn that ‘Hinduism’ is incredibly diverse as a whole way of life rather than a set of beliefs.
- Find out about the objects involved in puja at home and at the mandir; murtis, family shrine, statues and pictures of deities, puja tray including incense, fruit, bells, flowers, candles;
- Learn about an important sacred text; the Bhagavad Gita
- Learn about Hindu religious ritual; the OM, blessing food, the aarti ceremony, singing hymns (bhajans).
- Explore Hindu ideas about the four aims of life (punusharthas) dharma: religious or moral duty; artha: economic development, providing for family and society by honest means; kama: regulated enjoyment of the pleasures and beauty of life; moksha: liberation from the cycle of birth and rebirth; reincarnation.
- Explore Hindu ideas of karma – how actions bring good or bad karma. Find out how and why ‘snakes and ladders’ links with Hindu ideas of karma.
- Explore what Hindus do to show their tradition within their faith
- Find out about the deities and how they help Hindus achieve moral aims

Spring Y4 Key Question L2.8 What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today

STEP 4: ASSESSMENT: Write specific learning outcomes.

Turn the learning outcomes into pupil-friendly 'I can' or 'You can' statements.

You might adapt these specific outcomes to form 'I can' statements (for pupil self-assessment), 'You can' statements (for teacher assessment), and 'Can you...?' statements (for next steps or challenge)

EMERGING	EXPECTED	EXCEEDING
<p>I can...You can...Can you...? Identify and name examples of what Hindus have and do at mandir to show their faith (A3). Identify and name what Hindus do during puja to show their faith (A3) Identify and name examples of what Hindus have and do in their families to show their faith (A3). Ask good questions about do at puja and how it shows Hindu faith (B1).</p>	<p>I can...You can...Can you...? Describe puja and how it shows Hindu faith (A1) Make connections with some Hindu beliefs and teachings about aims and duties in life (A1). Describe some ways in which Hindus express their faith through puja, aarti and bhajans (A2). 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 (B2).</p>	<p>I can...You can...Can you...? Explain similarities and differences between Hindu worship and worship in another religious tradition pupils have been taught (B3). Discuss and present ideas about what it means to be a Hindu in Britain today, making links with their own experiences (C1). Discuss and present ideas about dharma for Hindu children in Britain today, making links to their own duties. (C1)</p>

Progression	At the end of key stage 2 most pupils will be able to:
<p>Know about & Understand A1. Describe, explain and analyse beliefs, and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities;</p>	<p>Describe and make connections between different features of the religions and world views they study, discovering more about celebrations, worship, pilgrimages and the rituals which mark important points in life in order to reflect thoughtfully on their ideas;</p>
<p>Know about & Understand A2. Identify, investigate and respond to questions posed by, and responses offered by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and world views</p>	<p>Describe and understand links between stories and other aspects of the communities they are investigating, responding thoughtfully to a range of sources of wisdom and to beliefs and teachings that arise from them in different communities;</p>
<p>Know about & Understand A3. Appreciate and appraise the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning;</p>	<p>Explore and describe a range of beliefs, symbols and actions so that they can understand different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning;</p>
<p>Express and Communicate B1. Explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities</p>	<p>Understand the challenges of commitment to a community of faith or belief, suggesting why belonging to a community may be valuable, both in the diverse communities being studied and in their own lives;</p>
<p>Express and Communicate B2. Express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value;</p>	<p>Understand the challenges of commitment to a community of faith or belief, suggesting why belonging to a community may be valuable, both in the diverse communities being studied and in their own lives;</p>
<p>Express and communicate B3. Appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion;</p>	<p>Observe and consider different dimensions of religion, so that they can explore and show understanding of similarities and differences between different religions and world views;</p>
<p>Gain & deploy skills: C1. Find out about and investigate key concepts and questions of belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, responding creatively;</p>	<p>Discuss and present thoughtfully their own and others' views on challenging questions about belonging, meaning, purpose and truth, applying ideas of their own thoughtfully in different forms including (e.g.) reasoning, music, art and poetry;</p>

An Introduction to Hinduism

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zh86n39/articles/zmpp92p>

Hinduism is over 4,000 years old, making it one of the world's oldest religions. It is made up of a variety of different religious beliefs and practices. It originated near the Indus River in India. The name 'Hindu' comes from the word Indus.

Central to Hinduism is the belief in a supreme God **Brahman**. Brahman is present everywhere and there is a part of Brahman in everyone.

Brahman takes many forms. Especially three forms called the Trimurti.



- **Brahma** is the **creator** of the world and all creatures. He is usually shown with four heads.
- **Vishnu** is the **preserver** of the world. His role is to return to the earth in troubled times and restore the balance of good and evil. He has blue skin and four arms.
- **Shiva** is the **destroyer** of the universe. Shiva destroys the universe in order to re-create it. Shiva has blue skin, a third eye and carries a trident.

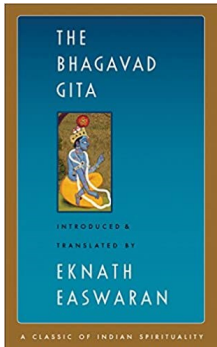
The cycle of birth, death and rebirth

Hindus also believe life is a cycle of birth, death and rebirth, with our actions in this life, our "karma", effecting our future incarnations. This cycle is called reincarnation.



What are Hinduism's holy books?

Hinduism does not have a single holy book, but many ancient texts and scriptures.



- **The Vedas** - a collection of hymns praising the Vedic gods. Veda means 'knowledge'.
- **The Ramayana** - long epic poems about Rama and Sita.
- **The Mahabharata** - which includes the Bhagavad Gita.
- **The Puranas** - a collection of stories about the different incarnations and the lives of saints.

What is the Hindu way of life?

For many Hindus there are four goals in human life (punusharthas);

1 **Moksha** - the release of the soul (Atman) from the cycle of rebirth.

The individual soul (Atman) unites with Brahman the universal soul. There are different ways to Moksha.

- spiritual - involves acquiring spiritual knowledge through yoga and meditation. devotion to god
- working selflessly for the good of society.
How a person is reincarnated is determined by karma.

2 **Dharma** - the code for leading one's life.

Respect for elders is considered important and many consider marriage as a son's religious duty.

3 **Artha** - the pursuit of material gain by lawful means.

4 **Karma**- through pure acts, knowledge and devotion, you can reincarnation.

What is the Hindu place of worship?

Most Hindus worship (puja) every day at home and have a **shrine** there. A shrine can be anything from a room, a small altar or simply pictures or statues. Family members often worship together.

At the shrine, Hindus make offerings to a murti. A murti is a sacred statue of God, or a god or goddess.

