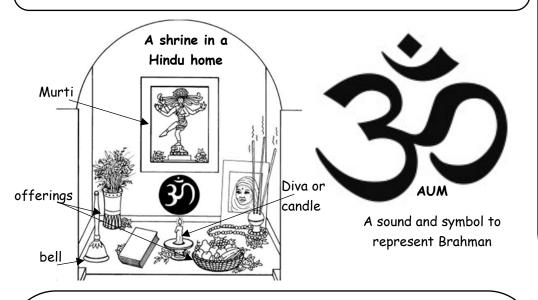




What should I already know?

- Hinduism is a religion.
- Hindus are the followers of Hinduism.



The story of Rama and Sita

Prince Rama was supposed to become king but he and Sita fled to the forest when his step mother drove him away. Ravana the demon king, fell in love with Sita. While Rama was hunting, Ravana captured Sita but Sita left a trail of jewelry for Rama to find. Rama followed the trail and on the way met the monkey king, Hanuman. He asked for his help. All the monkeys in the world looked for Sita and found her on an island. Rama, with the help of all the animals, built a bridge and fought Ravana to recuse Sita. He used a special bow and arrow from the sky god. Rama and Sita became king and Queen and candles were used to welcome them home. Today, the story of Rama and Sita is remembered during the festival of Diwali. Hindus light lamps, watch fireworks and exchanging gifts.

	Key Vocabulary and definitions
Deity	The characters of Brahman
Murti	An image or statue of a deity
Shrine	A special place where people come to worship
Ramayana	A short epic telling the story of Rama and Sita
Diwali	Festival of light
Reincarnation	People are born again in another body after they die and this cycle continues over many lifetimes.
Karma	actions of each life effecting our reincarnation
Puja	A daily act of worship
Brahman	Hindu name for God

Key knowledge

- Hindus believe in one God which is represented in many different ways through deities.
- The three main deities are:
 - Brahma who creates the universe
 - Vishnu who preserves the universe
 - \circ $\;$ Shiva who destroys the universe
- Puja is the daily act of worship that Hindus do at home or at a Mandir. During Puja Hindus will sing, pray bring offerings and meditate.
- Hindus believe that how you live I this life decides how you reincarnated in your next life. This is called Karma.