

# World Religions

## Outdoors: Diwali

Adorn your grounds with light and colourful floor art in celebration of the Hindu festival of light: Diwali.

### Religious Studies Activity

All levels

 Through investigating and reflecting upon the ways in which followers of world religions mark major life events and times of year, I can explain key features of such festivals and celebrations (RME 2-06b)

 A1 Recall and name different beliefs and practices, including festivals, worship, rituals and ways of life, in order to find out more about the meanings behind them (KS1)

 Pupils should be given opportunities to: recall, describe and begin to explain religious beliefs, teachings and practices (KS3)

 Recognising the similarities and differences between cultures, for example food, clothes, symbols, celebrations (KS2)

 Be able to identify essential elements of the beliefs and symbols of the chosen major world religions (Junior certificate Part 3)

*Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights in which Hindus celebrate the symbolism of light triumphing over darkness. During this time the outside entrances to homes are decorated with intricate floor art called **rangoli** and lit up with clay candle holders called **diva**.*

### Rangoli

Prepare a white outline of the design using chalk, flour or rice. Popular designs in Hindu culture include lotus flowers, symmetrical circular patterns or even depictions of gods.

The white outline should then be filled carefully with coloured powder. This can be: coloured flour; rice or sand; crushed chalk or powder paint.

Application of the powder can be done simply by using a piece of rolled card to act as a funnel.

### Divya



Photo by Clare Rooney

Take a palm sized ball of clay and shape it into a small bowl with a point at one end. Once dried this can be painted and used to hold a votive candle. Decorate the rangoli with lit divya lamps.



Photos by Clare Rooney

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