

Knowledge Organiser

Subject: RE and RL

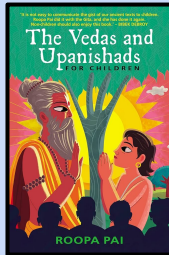
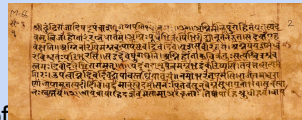
Topic: What does it mean to live as a Hindu?

Year Group: 5



Key Text

Hindus use a variety of sacred texts to connect with their spirituality. The main sacred texts include: **The Vedas:** The oldest and most authoritative scriptures of Hinduism. They are written in Sanskrit and contain hymns, prayers, and rituals. **The Upanishads:** Philosophical texts that explore the spiritual ideas found in the Vedas, focusing on meditation, morality and the nature of God. **The Bhagavad Gita:** A conversation between Prince Arjuna and the god Krishna, offering guidance on how to live a righteous life. **The Ramayana and Mahabharata:** Epic stories that teach moral lessons and explore the duties of individuals in society.



Key Vocabulary

Aarti: A ritual of offering light to a deity, often using oil lamps.

Aum: A sacred sound that represents the universe and the divine.

Brahman: The supreme, formless, and eternal reality in Hinduism. Hindu's one main god. Hindus believe that Brahman (the one God) has three functions and these are shown by the three gods, Shiva, Brahma and Vishnu.

Dharma: A key concept in Hinduism that refers to the duty, righteousness, and moral order that governs the universe and human life.

Karma: The belief that actions in this life will affect one's future lives.

Key Concepts and Questions

Dharma (Duty and Righteousness): Dharma guides Hindus in living a life of righteousness, fulfilling their roles in society according to their responsibilities.

• Key Questions:

- How do you think living according to your duties (Dharma) might change the way you make decisions?
- Why is it important to consider others in our actions?

Karma (Actions and Consequences): Karma is the belief that every action has consequences, either in this life or in future lives.

• Key Questions:

- How might the idea of karma influence how you treat others?
- Can you think of a time when your actions led to positive or negative consequences?

Moksha (Liberation): The ultimate goal in Hinduism is to achieve moksha, which is freedom from the cycle of rebirth.

• Key Questions:

- What do you think it means to be free from the cycle of rebirth?
- Why might achieving moksha be important to Hindus?

Mandir: A Hindu temple.

Moksha: The ultimate goal of life in Hinduism, representing liberation from the cycle of rebirth (samsara).

Murti: An image or statue of a deity used in worship.

Puja: The act of worship in Hinduism, which can include prayers, rituals, and offerings.

Atman: The spiritual essence or soul of an individual.

Samsara: The cycle of birth, death, and rebirth that individuals go through until they achieve moksha.

Bhakti: Devotion to a particular god or goddess, often expressed through prayer, songs, and rituals.

Sanskrit - an ancient Indo-European language of India, in which the Hindu scriptures and classical Indian epic poems are written..

School Vision Links

This topic links to our school's vision by encouraging children to reflect on the importance of living a life with purpose, much like the Hindu concept of Dharma, which teaches the importance of fulfilling one's responsibilities. By exploring Hindu beliefs and practices, children are encouraged to think deeply about how their actions affect others, aligning with our vision to act with kindness and integrity.

Learning about Hindu spirituality provides an opportunity for children to spiritually flourish by encouraging them to consider their own purpose in life and how they can contribute positively to their community. This understanding nurtures their spiritual growth and helps them develop a sense of inner peace and connection to the world around them.

School Values Links

Hope

Dignity

Wisdom

Community

Hope: The concept of **Karma** in Hinduism teaches that positive actions lead to positive outcomes, fostering a sense of hope for a better future. This aligns with the Christian value of hope, encouraging children to believe that their actions can make a positive difference in their lives and the lives of others.

Dignity: Hinduism's emphasis on **Dharma** (duty and righteousness) promotes living a life of integrity and respect for all beings. This supports the Christian value of dignity, as it encourages children to act with honour and respect toward others, recognising the inherent worth of every individual.

Wisdom: The study of Hindu sacred texts, such as the **Bhagavad Gita** and the **Upanishads**, provides deep spiritual and moral lessons. This nurtures the Christian value of wisdom, helping children develop thoughtful and discerning approaches to their own lives and decisions.

Community: **Bhakti** (devotion and communal worship) in Hinduism fosters a strong sense of community and belonging. This reflects the Christian value of community, emphasising the importance of coming together, supporting one another, and building relationships based on shared faith and values.

Cross Curricular Links

English: VIPERs skills during religious literacy lesson. Writing stories or poems inspired by Hindu epics like the Ramayana or Mahabharata.

Art: Creating artwork that depicts scenes from Hindu mythology or symbols such as the lotus or Om.

History: Exploring the historical development of Hinduism and its influence on Indian culture.

Music: Learning about traditional Hindu devotional music and its role in worship.

Key Information and Dates	Religious Literacy Text
Key Beliefs: Hinduism is a Dharmic faith that emphasises the importance of Dharma (duty), Karma (actions), and Moksha (liberation). Practices: Hindus practice Puja (worship), often at home or in temples, where they offer prayers, flowers, and food to deities. Timeline of Key Dates: Origins: Hinduism dates back over 4,000 years, making it one of the oldest religions in the world. It originated in the Indian subcontinent. Vedic Period: Around 1500 BCE, the Vedas were composed, laying the foundation for Hindu beliefs and practices. Upanishadic Period: Around 800-400 BCE, the Upanishads were written, deepening the spiritual understanding of the Vedas. Epic Period: Around 500 BCE to 100 CE, the Mahabharata and Ramayana were composed, becoming central texts in Hinduism.	“Amma, Tell Me About Karma!” by Bhakti Mathur. “Hindu Children's Illustrated Dictionary” by Manju S. Dhamija. “I Am Hindu” by Seno and Sashi Sivanesan. “Amma, Tell Me About the Great Indian Wedding!” by Bhakti Mathur. “Grandma’s Stories: Hindu Death and Rebirth” by Prema Jayakumar. “Living as a Hindu” by Rukmini Srinivas.