



EPISODE 5: Charlie and Blue Hear all about Hindu Worship

Key Stage 1 Cross-Curricular Topic: Sensational

Introduction

Puja is the name for Hindu worship. Puja can take place in the home or in the Mandir (the proper name for a Hindu temple).

The use of all five senses is central to Hindu puja and shows that the whole person (not just a part) is involved in worshipping God:

Sight	The murtis (statues of the Gods and Goddesses), lamps and brightly coloured decorations.
Smell	Incense and flowers.
Sound	Chants, bells or a conch (a large shell which is blown like a trumpet).
Touch	Washing the murti, and placing coloured dots of powder as a sign on blessing on people's foreheads.
Taste	Sharing prasad (blessed food – usually fruit or sweets).

Hindus worship one God who they believe is a spirit, but believe this can take many different forms, representing all the things we can learn from God.

One form of puja is the arti ceremony, which is an offering of fire. An arti lamp has five wicks to represent the five traditional elements (earth, air, fire, water and space). The lamp is waved in front of the deity while the bell is rung. Following this the people present each pass their hands over the flame and then over their head to receive God's blessing.

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Overview

Suitable for: Key Stage 1

Lesson Objectives:

- To recall what puja is.
- To talk about how we can use all the senses to welcome a guest into our homes.
- To describe how Hindus use all their senses in worship and why.

Key Question: Why are our senses so important?

Time: 45 minutes actual teaching and learning time.

TrueTube Film: [Charlie and Blue Hear all about Hindu Worship](#)
Theme: *Ethics and Religion*
Topic: *Religious Traditions/Worship*

Resources:

- Internet connected whiteboard or enough laptops or tablets for the class
- Bar of chocolate (but be aware of food allergies)
- Blindfolds (tea-towels are the ideal length, but make sure they are washed before *and* after!)
- White boards and pens
- Sensory resource sheet

Key Words:

- Puja
- Mandir
- Ganesha (usually pronounced without the 'a' on the end)
- Shrine
- Murti
- Hindu
- Prasad

Film Digest






[Charlie and Blue Hear all about Hindu Worship](#) (7:17)





Theme: *Ethics and Religion*




Topic: *Religious Traditions/Worship*



Zippity-zip, let's go on a trip! Charlie and her favourite soft toy (and best friend) Blue visit a Hindu Mandir where Geetha shows them how Hindus use their senses of sight, hearing, taste, touch and smell in worship.

Lesson Plan

	<p>Starter</p> <p>Have a bar of chocolate ready and ask for 6 volunteers. (Remember to check for allergies among the class and choose pupils accordingly.)</p> <p>Five children are going to explore the chocolate using only one sense each and one child will use all their senses. Clean tea towels are the ideal length for blindfolds (but make sure they are washed before <i>and</i> after!)</p> <p>Sight Looking at the chocolate (no touching and holding their nose).</p> <p>Touch Touching the chocolate (blindfolded and holding their nose).</p> <p>Smell Smelling the chocolate (blindfolded, but no touching).</p> <p>Sound Listening to the rustle of the packet (blindfolded and holding their nose).</p> <p>Taste Tasting a piece (blindfolded and holding their nose).</p> <p>The final child will explore using all their senses.</p> <p>Encourage each child to describe their experience of the chocolate (they might need some questions to prompt them), and then ask the class which child they think had the best experience of the chocolate. It might be kind to share the chocolate out to all the volunteers at the end! (Taking any food allergies into account, of course.)</p> <p>Explain that in Hinduism it is believed that to have the best experience of worshipping God, it's good to use as many senses as possible.</p>	<p>5 mins</p>
	<p>Share the learning objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To recall what puja is. • To talk about how we can use all the senses to welcome a guest into our homes. • To describe how Hindus use all their senses in worship and why. 	<p>2 mins</p>
	<p>Display and give the meaning of the key words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puja: Worshipping God at a Hindu shrine. This could be at home or in a Mandir. • Mandir: A Hindu temple. • Ganesha: A Hindu image of God, shown with an elephant's head – a sign that God is kind, strong and wise. 	<p>5 mins</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shrine: A special place in a Hindu home or Mandir where Hindus pray to God. • Murti: An image of God – usually a statue. • Hindu: Follower of a religion that has its beginnings in India. Most Hindus believe there is one true God, but that God has many forms. • Prasad: Food for sharing that has been blessed; usually sweets or fruit. <p>Find a useful subject knowledge resource for Hinduism here: http://iskconeducationalservices.org/HoH/practice/300.htm</p>	
	<p>Play the film</p> <p><i>Charlie and Blue Hear all about Hindu Worship</i></p>	8 mins
	<p>Thinking Point 1</p> <p>Replay the opening scene up to the point where Charlie shows Blue her drawing of Ganesha (0:20 to 1:38). Pause the film at this point and ask the children to look at Charlie’s drawing of a Hindu shrine and see if they can name any of the objects.</p>	3 mins
	<p>Thinking Point 2</p> <p>Ask the children, “If you’ve got a problem who would you ask for help or advice?” In pairs they can then talk about issues they might meet at school or in their daily lives.</p> <p>Encourage the children to share some of their ideas with the class.</p> <p>Explain that, for Hindus, as well as <i>people</i> who help them, Ganesha is the image of God who can remove problems and obstacles from their life. So a Hindu might pray to God especially at times when they are worried about the future, or if they are hoping that a difficult task or challenge will go well.</p>	3 mins
	<p>Thinking Point 3</p> <p>Replay the scene in the Mandir where Blue explores the use of senses with Geetha (4:00 to 6:00). Pause the film when Blue says, “Yummy!” and ask the children to close their eyes for some quiet thinking time, remembering all the ways that Hindus can use their senses in the Mandir.</p> <p>After a little while, encourage them to work with a partner, and to write down or draw as many as they can remember.</p>	6 mins

	<p>Activity</p> <p>Give each table ONE of the five senses to think about and encourage the children to suggest how to welcome a guest into their home, just as God is welcomed into Hindu homes, using all five senses. After some discussion time, ask the children to share their ideas from each table.</p> <p>Provide each child with one of the <i>Sensory Sheets</i> (see from page 11 below) that matches the sense you have assigned their table. This will act as a reminder of how the sense is used in Hindu puja. Ask them to write down their own ideas for welcoming someone into their own home, using the sense on their card.</p> <p>If time allows, they could then swap their cards with those of another table and see if they can add to the ideas already recorded.</p>	8 mins
	<p>Plenary - Has Learning Taken Place?</p> <p>You could finish the lesson by asking children on each table to share their sensory ideas and say how this links with Hindu puja.</p> <p>By the end of the lesson:</p> <p>All children can: recall what puja is.</p> <p>Most children can: talk about how we can use all the senses to welcome a guest into our homes.</p> <p>Some children can: describe how Hindus use all their senses in puja and why.</p>	5 mins
	<p>Extension - Suggested Further Activities</p> <p>Explore some artefacts from Hinduism, especially the items found in a shrine:</p> <p>http://resources.hwb.wales.gov.uk/VTC/ngfl/re/m_parry_carmarthen_shire/arteffactau/cysegrfa.htm</p> <p>Ask them to find out the purpose of some of the important items for worship, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murti: an image of God. • Bell: to let God know they have come to worship. • Arti lamp: with five wicks to offer to God, and then receive blessings. • Water container and spoon: to offer life-giving water to God. • Kumkum powder: used to make a red mark on the murti and also on people's foreheads as a sign of God's blessing. • Prasad: food for sharing that has been blessed; usually sweets or fruit. 	

	<p>Visit a Mandir or do a virtual tour: http://www.reonline.org.uk/specials/places-of-worship/hinduism_video.htm ...or invite a Hindu into school.</p> <p>Ensure that the children already have some questions prepared and you have a note of them. You might also like to nominate one or two of your more confident children to ask the first questions and get the ball rolling.</p>	
	<p>Create a sensory trail designed to welcome guests into the classroom and explain Hindu puja to them.</p> <p>Encourage the children to include something for each all the five senses in their welcome, and to explain why they have chosen their items and why they think that all five senses should be involved in their welcome.</p>	

Resources

- Hinduism subject knowledge glossary:
[http://iskconeducationalervices.org/HoH/practice/300.htm](http://iskconeducationalservices.org/HoH/practice/300.htm)
- Shrine artefacts:
http://resources.hwb.wales.gov.uk/VTC/ngfl/re/m_parry_carmarthenshire/artefactau/cysegrfa.htm
- Virtual tour:
http://www.reonline.org.uk/specials/places-of-worship/hinduism_video.htm

Background Information

We think the following links related to this topic should prove useful to support your teaching and for following up on this introductory lesson:

- The Heart of Hinduism:
<http://hinduism.iskcon.org/index.htm>
- Subject knowledge development:
<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/religion/hinduism.htm>
- A selection of links for Hinduism and KS1 from RE:ONLINE:
<http://www.reonline.org.uk/learning/belief-systems=hinduism;age-range=ks1;search=;sort=date/>
- Email a believer:
<http://pof.reonline.org.uk>
- BBC Bitesize clips. Further clips can be sourced for KS2:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zwv8q6f/resources/1>



Smell

In Hinduism, flowers and incense are used to welcome God.
What smell would you use to welcome a special guest?



Sound

In Hinduism, a bell is rung to let God know someone is there.
What sound would you use to welcome a special guest?



Touch

In Hinduism, the murti (the statue of God) is washed before puja.
What would your special guest touch when they arrive?



Taste

In Hinduism, prasad is shared. Prasad is blessed sweets and fruit.

What food would you offer your special guest?



Sight

In Hinduism, there are lots of bright colours.
What would your special guest see when they came to visit?





