

Unit of work: 3/12	Topic title: Celebrations	Half term: Spring A
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Outline	Details
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Learning Objectives ~

- To explore their senses and to begin to associate the part of the body with the sense (ELG from Knowledge and Understanding of the World ~ Science)
- To find out about some of the elements of a religious celebration
- To take part in planning and making a celebration appropriate to the class members
- To think about the beauty of life and to focus upon the senses
- To begin to appreciate the importance of giving by making a festival gift

Week 1: What is a celebration? (using sight)	Ask the children if they celebrated Christmas at home (careful, some may not) and discuss the elements of a celebration. Make a list of those things that particularly appealed to the children and talk briefly about the Hindu festival of Holi. This festival of colours involves the five senses, and everyone can spatter paint (or finger paint) a paper T-shirt while we talk about colours that we like. Another group can be threading a welcome garland to use later, using pasta, milk bottle tops, paper beads etc. Hang the t-shirts on a line and use them afterwards with numbers on for maths, or make absolutely huge ones and use them as the background for your display.
Week 2: Who is Krishna? (using sound)	Read a simple version of Krishna's story and explain that this story is important to Hindus because it reminds them of the Lord Krishna. Show a picture or artefact if you can. Use a familiar tune to compose a song for a celebration (eg Here we go round the mulberry bush) and add actions or percussion. Two smaller circles are easier to work with than one big one, so use another adult to help you if possible.
Week 3: Good and Evil (using touch)	Make little coil pots with air clay. These are for night-lights, so make sure that the base is big enough, and will be gifts to take home later. Talk about the bonfire celebration of Prahlad, to emphasise the triumph of good over evil. Are there other bonfire celebrations that the children know? Link this with lights, by contrasting the coldness of the clay to the warmth of a candle flame. You may want the children to paint their pots at different times during the coming week.
Week 4: Special food	Make some special food ready for the celebration next week. This could be traditional coconut barfi (recipe enclosed) or

(using taste)	perhaps simple biscuits if you think it easier. The rest of the class can be decorating small paper plates with repeating patterns around the edge, or making invitations for some visitors if you're feeling brave! Talk to the children about tastes they like and dislike. Why do we all like party food?
Week 5: Our celebration (using all the senses, adding smell) Take photos	Make your own celebration! Ask the children to wear colourful T-shirt for the lesson, and wear the garlands. Set out the food to one side with the little pots and candles around it grouped in fives for the five senses. Add joss sticks to be lit later. In the centre of the room, perform your songs with actions or percussion. Then sit down, light the joss sticks and some of the night-lights. Share the food together and enjoy the time together.
Week 6: I remember	Put one little lighted pot in the centre of the circle and the rest unlit in front of each child. Talk about all the sessions this half term ~ What do the children remember best? What have they enjoyed? Share the photos if you have them. To whom will they give their little pot, and why?
Assessment:	As the children make their pots, talk with them about their gift, to whom they will give it, and why it is important to give. Try to note/record answers.

#### A recipe for coconut barfi.

##### Ingredients

175g evaporated milk  
150g desiccated coconut  
100g golden granulated

##### Equipment

Saucepan  
wooden spoon  
greased tray

Pour the milk into the saucepan. Add the sugar and heat over a gentle flame. Stir occasionally. Bring to the boil and simmer until the milk has reduced by half. Stir in half the coconut. Remove ingredients from the pan and spread on a greased toffee tray.

Leave to cool and then cut into cubes.

(from Celebrate Hindu Festivals by Heinemann)

Book focus ~ eg Celebrate Hindu Festivals, Heinemann 0-431-06950-6  
or World Religions, Dorling Kindersley 0-7513-6075-9

