



DIWALI

What is Diwali?

- Diwali is a Hindu festival which lasts for 5 days.
- It is also celebrated by Sikhs.
- Diwali means “row of lighted lamps” and is often called the Festival of Lights.
- The festival celebrates good over evil; light over darkness.
- The Goddess of Wealth (Lakshmi) is honoured during Diwali which is also considered to be the Hindu New Year.
- Because there are many regions in India, Diwali is celebrated in many different ways (and also all over the World.)
- Diwali is also used to celebrate a successful harvest.

What happens during Diwali?

- Wearing new clothes
- Spring cleaning houses
 - Having feasts

Decorating homes and buildings with fancy lights, candles and lamps (divas)





Fireworks displays

Exchanging sweets and gifts



Drawing Rangoli patterns on floors

Rangoli patterns are drawn to welcome in visitors to people's homes. They are also thought to welcome the Goddess of Wealth.



Some of the ancient legends are re-
enacted



What have you learned?

- What does Diwali mean?
- Who celebrates Diwali?
- What sorts of things do people do during Diwali?
- Can you think of any similar things you do at a special time of year?