

KS1 Hinduism

God

Belief in one God (Brahman) represented in many different images and characters

Key figures

Krishna
Lakshmi
Ganesh

Place of worship: Mandir

Building where Hindus meet
Puja
Arti ceremony
Symbols and artefacts (aum/om)
People with a special role

Holy Books

Many holy books
Stories from the Ramayana (Rama and Sita)
Childhood of Krishna

Hindu way of life

Hindus believe in:

- o Love and loyalty between all members of the extended family
- o The community as a family

Key festival:

- o Divali

KS2 Hinduism

God

God is worshipped in many forms, including Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva
The concept of avatars

Place of worship: Mandir

Artefacts and symbols - lotus flower, swastika, colour saffron
Role of divine images (murti) in worship
Yoga, meditation and mantra
Music, dance and drama
Rangoli, mehndi patterns

Holy books

The Vedas, including the Upanishads
Bhagavad Gita
Stories with a moral

Hindu way of life

Hindu values and rituals are learnt in the home:

- + samskars (rituals of birth, initiation, marriage and death)

Hindus respect:

- + God

- + other people

- + the cow and all forms of life

Hindus believe in:

- + four different stages of life (ashramas)

- + the endless cycle of creation, preservation and destruction

- + reincarnation (the cycle of birth and death), karma, rebirth

Key festivals:

- + birthdays of Rama (Ramnavami) and Krishna (Janmashtami)

- + Raksha Bandhan

- + Holi

Sacred place of pilgrimage:

- + Varanasi

- + source of the Ganges

KS3 Hinduism

God

The nature of God, seen both as an abstract force or life-giving energy, and as a personal deity in human form, present in all life including the natural world (*Chandogya Upanishad*)

Key figures

Mahatma Ghandi

Swami Vivekananda

Sadhus (holy men)

Place of Worship: Mandir and Shrines

Symbolism and design of the mandir as expressions of religious belief

Puja, actions and their meaning

Worship in the home; worship in the temple - practice and purpose

Holy books

The Vedas – Shruti, eternal truths

The Upanishads

Mahabharata and Ramayana

The Puranas

Vedanta - commentaries

Hindu way of life

A central concept in understanding Hinduism as a way of life is Dharma, linked to the law of Karma
Sanatana dharma: ahimsa (non-violence), and varnashram dharma (laws and duties)

Hinduism teaches belief in the sacredness of all forms of life and their interconnectedness which affects the Hindu view on:

- + social responsibility

- + suffering

- + the environment

- + war and peace

- + wealth and poverty

Key festivals:

- + Maha Shrivatri – winter festival to Shiva
- + Navaratri – nine days

Pilgrimage:

- + Hardwar, famous for the Kumbha Mela (every twelve years)