

Hindu Web

Introductions to Hinduism

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/hinduism> As always, it is worth looking at the BBC website for a broad introduction to a faith.

<http://hinduism.iskcon.com/> The International Society for Krishna Consciousness site claims to “explain the Hindu traditions in clear terms”. It is definitely a good

introductory site for adults with sections on concepts, practice, lifestyles and traditions.

<http://www.geetabhawan.co.uk/> This is the website of the first Hindu Temple to be opened in the Midlands – it has photographs of the Temple itself and useful sections on deities, aartis, scriptures, festivals etc.

Websites which can be used by pupils

<http://www.hindukids.org> This is what it says – a site by Hindus for Hindu children. It has a fun selection of materials including songs, stories, prayers, and animated cartoons telling the stories of festivals. There’s singing and chanting too, so if you want to hear “Aum”, or see worship underway this is a fun way of doing it. You can also learn about some different gods and goddesses. There is even a full length (silent) cartoon of the Ramayana (you can stop the action and guess “what happens next”) <http://www.hindukids.org/ramayana/index.html> there are also “mini movies of the festivals (also cartoons). Just a warning – it is a children’s cartoon site, so you frequently see cartoon animals and birds, not people, carrying out puja etc. Teachers may find the glossary facility helpful <http://www.hindukids.org/learn/glossary/index.html> and also take a look at the Hindu alphabets.

<http://atschool.eduweb.co.uk/carolrb/Hinduism/hindui.html> The Eduweb site is written at primary level. A good site for children to look up information for themselves – and Manor School kindly offer a scheme of work for teachers too!

http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/vtc/ngfl/re/m_parry_carmarthenshire/artefactau/hindu.htm Photographs and information about artefacts for Divali, Raksha Bandan and Hindu shrines



Information on Hindu Deities and Artefacts

http://www.allre.org.uk/shells/strath_hafacts.html and http://www.allre.org.uk/shells/strath_hindudeities.html as always, the Strathclyde site is worth a visit for photographs and drawings of artefacts with supporting information.

<http://www.goloka.com/index.html> Classical paintings of some Hindu gods

<http://www.arth.upenn.edu/nalin/nalin.html> This is actually photographs from a museum exhibition in America – but a nice collection of artefacts.

<http://www.ghanapathytemple.org.uk/deities/index.htm> The Shree Ghanapathy Mandir in Wibleton has a useful set of photographs of its deities with information about each one. The temple is particularly dedicated to Ganesha (here called Lord Ghanapathy) and there is a great deal of information about him. Another site with plenty on Ganesha is <http://hinduism.about.com/library/weekly/aa083000a.htm>

http://www.sanatansociety.org/hindu_gods_and_goddesses.htm One of the more extensive sites on Hindu deities, which will introduce you to several of the less common figures. Some of the pages have audio files of chanted mantras and downloadable wallpapers. There are also some colouring pages at http://www.sanatansociety.org/Hindu_kids_corner/hindu_kids_coloring_pages.htm

<http://www.sln.org.uk/re/Hindu%20images%201.htm> A gallery of Hindu deities from Staffordshire learning net.

<http://mandir.webmauritus.com/virtualshivala.php> This is called a virtual mandir tour, although it's really photographs of deities with accompanying mantras.

Temple Tours

<http://www.mandir.org/> The website of the beautiful Swaminarayan Mandir in Neasden – a piece of India in London. Site has some lovely photographs.

http://www.cleo.net.uk/resources/displayframe.php?src=200/consultants_resources%2Fre%2Ftemple%2Findex.htm a 360 degree look at a Gujarat style Hindu Temple in Preston. The site also includes several interactive quizzes (although these don't always work well) and photographs of Hindu deities. There's also an interesting look at the kind of items you would find on a Temple noticeboard.

<http://www.ngfl.ac.uk/re/shreeprajapatimandir.htm> A photo tour of a Bradford mandir.

<http://www.devon.gov.uk/dcs/re/places/index.html> This is an interesting one - two photographs of a garden shed which has been converted into a Temple!

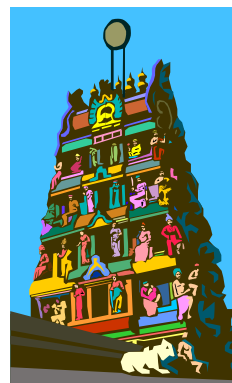
<http://picasaweb.google.com/gopal.coimbatore/Janmashtami> slideshow of a Texas mandir.

For details about 26 Hindu Temples in the UK and others all around the world try http://www.mandirnet.org/temples_list/lookupcsc.php?country=United_Kingdom There is also a page of links to on-line mandirs around the world at http://www.hindulinks.org/Temples_Yatra_and_Organizations/Temples_and_Ashram

[s/index.html](#) However – be warned – this site has extremely annoying flashing advertising, some of it of a kind you probably would not wish your pupils to see – check it out first.... The National Council of Hindu Temples also has a list at <http://www.nchtuk.org/content.php?id=79>

<http://www.sln.org.uk/re/southindiaimages.htm> Photographs of South Indian temples and short video clips of aarti and making rangoli patterns.

Bharat Bhavan , the Cambridge mandir, has a website at <http://www.cam.net.uk/home/aaa315/icca/index.htm> Although visitors will be welcome eventually, at time of writing it is still a building site.



www.indiantemples.com says it's the ultimate site for information about temples in India – and I'm prepared to believe it!

Festivals

<http://www.ahmedabadcity.com/tourism/html/festiv.html> This is a tourist site with summaries of the main Hindu festivals. Two of the links allow you to offer virtual puja to a god – try the Ganesh darshan on the Ganesh Chaturthi page and darshan to Krishna on the Janmashtami page.

<http://www.bawarchi.com/festivals/> This site has summaries of festivals, but its special feature is recipes for every festival.

<http://www.diwalifestival.org/> Everything you could want to know about Divali – and I do mean everything!

http://www.lqfl.net/lqfl/leas/ealing/web/EGFL1/teaching_learning/subjects/REandSAC/RE/RE_spotlight/Festivals/Sept/Krishna/Sept_Krishna.htm From Ealing, background on the celebrations surrounding the birth of Krishna. Follow the links at the bottom of the pages for more information.

<http://www.holihangama.com/about/index.html> for an introduction to Holi

<http://www.channel4.com/life/microsites/K/kumbhmela/home.html> If you are looking at pilgrimage you could find this Channel 4 site on the Kumbha Mela very helpful – unfortunately I had a lot of trouble trying to play the videos.

<http://www.shreeswaminarayan.org.uk/> The Swami Narayan mandir in Willesden regularly puts photographs of the last few festivals celebrated on their website – this will give you up to date information about Hinduism in the UK.

Rakshabandhan, Diwali, Ekadashi and Tulsi Vivaha are all explained at <http://www.nchtuk.org/secondary.php?id=16> , the site also has step by step guides to puja for festivals including a Divali puja at <http://www.nchtuk.org/content.php?id=407>

All about Raksha Bandan at <http://www.raksha-bandhan.com/> including how to make a rakhi at <http://www.raksha-bandhan.com/how-to-make-a-rakhi.html>

Stories and Scriptures



<http://www.bhagavad-gita.org/> This is the entire Bhagavad Gita on-line in Sanskrit and in translation. You probably won't want to read this with your class, but it is interesting to hear a verse read out in Sanskrit.

http://www.refuel.org.uk/curric/ks3_topics/holy_books/hinduism.php Short introduction to the Hindu Scriptures.

<http://www.sln.org.uk/storyboard/> Staffordshire Learning Net has an RE storyboard site. There are currently 20 Hindu stories on site, including the blind men and the elephant.

http://www.sanatansociety.org/indian_epics_and_stories.htm A few Hindu stories with illustrations.

http://www.hinduwebsite.com/sacredscripts/hinduism_scripts.asp Online translations of all the main Hindu scriptures

Try <http://www.boloji.com/hinduism/ramayana/> for a good retelling of the Ramayana (illustrated)

Hindu Life

<http://aprendizdetodo.com/wedding/> Here's a really useful account of how to stage a Hindu wedding. There's lots more background information on weddings in India at <http://www.kamat.com/kalranga/weddings/index.htm>

http://www.hindunet.org/day_as_hindu/ How to organise your day as a Hindu, with details about: prayers for daily rituals; yogasana and exercise; daily pujas and aarti; prayers to Mother India. The adverts on this site are a real nuisance though.

<http://www.iloveindia.com/babynames/index.html> Indian names and their meanings.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/hinduism/living/caste.shtml> Brief introduction to caste system.

<http://www.kamat.com/kalranga/art/rangoli.htm> All about rangoli patterns – make sure you check out the links at the bottom of the page too.