

# Light and Dark

RE | Year 2 | Unit Overview

## Introduction

This 'Light and Dark' unit will teach your class about the importance of light to many in Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism through learning about Advent, Christmas, Diwali and Hanukkah. Children learn how and why light can be important to each festival through participating in lots of practical and creative activities. Children then go on to think about what light and darkness can represent and symbolise in each religion. Towards the end of the unit children will begin to make simple links and comparisons between the different religions.



## Health & Safety

Ensure that there is adequate adult supervision and guidance when children are making their diya lamps in Lesson 3, and if the lamps are lit in Lesson 4. Also ensure that any relevant school policies, including those regarding food allergies, are followed if children take part in any of the food/drink preparation activities mentioned in the Taskit sections.



## Home Learning

**Light:** In this task, children will make a poster to show what the word 'light' means to them.

**Take Six:** In this task, children will take photos of three things which remind them of or represent light and three things which remind them of or represent the dark.

## Assessment Statements

By the end of this unit...

### ...all children should be able to:

- understand that Advent is a countdown to Christmas;
- understand that many Christians celebrate Christmas;
- understand that many Hindus celebrate Diwali;
- understand that many Jews celebrate Hanukkah;
- understand that light can be an important part of all.

### ...most children will be able to:

- explain why light can be important to many Christians at Advent and Christmas;
- explain why light can be important to many Hindus at Diwali;
- explain why light can be important to many Jewish people at Hanukkah.

### ...some children will be able to:

- explain what light can represent for many Christians;
- explain what light can represent for many Hindus;
- explain what light can represent for many Jews;
- compare what light can symbolise in each religion;
- make links between religions.

To look at all the resources in the Light and Dark unit [click here](#).

To find out more about PlanIt download our [free guide here](#).

# Lesson Breakdown

## 1. Advent at Christmas

- I can explain what Advent is.

### Resources

- Strip of green paper – per group
- Scissors
- Glue
- Felt-tip pens
- Cardboard tube per group
- Camera



## 2. Christmas Lights

- I can explain why light can be important at Christmas.

- Pencils
- Colouring pencils



## 3. Rama and Sita

- I can explain why the story of Rama and Sita can be important to Hindus.

- Self-hardening clay
- Clay modelling tools
- Labels (optional)



## 4. Light Over Darkness

- I can explain why light can be important at Diwali.

- Paints and paintbrushes
- Glitter, sequins and PVA glue (optional)
- Pencils
- Tea light candles or battery-operated candles



## 5. The Maccabee Brothers

- I can explain why the story of Hanukkah can be important to Jews.

- Pencils



## 6. Hanukkah

- I can explain why light can be important at Hanukkah.

- Scissors
- Felt-tip pens
- Coloured paper, glue, sequins, glitter (optional)



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