

Understanding Hindu Dharma: Unit Overview

What Do Hindus Learn from Their Sacred Texts?

Introduction

This Unit explores key concepts within Hindu Dharma and what these mean to Hindus. Children will look at how Hindus live their lives based on the teachings from their sacred texts.

Unit Essentials

▶ [RE CPD- Hindu Dharma Overview](#)

- ▶ For most of the speaking and listening opportunities within the unit, some children may benefit from adult or peer support. They may also benefit from some pre-teaching before the session in order to access the content.
- ▶ Lesson 4 – the creative opportunity in this lesson involves resources being printed and prepared beforehand in order to create a karma tree.
- ▶ Lesson 5 – resources are required for a collage and you may want to ask children to bring in some resources from home to create their own battle scene.
- ▶ Lesson 6 – involves children taking part in a debate. There is a great PowerPoint which will support children with their discussion [here](#).

Progression Statements

- ▶ Identify and explain the core beliefs and concepts studied, using examples from religious texts and sources of authority in religions.
- ▶ Analyse the key beliefs and teachings of various religions and worldviews, using appropriate language and vocabulary and demonstrating respect and tolerance.
- ▶ Explain some of the challenges offered by the variety of religions and beliefs in the contemporary world.
- ▶ Explain how some beliefs and teachings are shared by different religions and how they make a difference to the lives of individuals and communities.

Disciplinary Lens

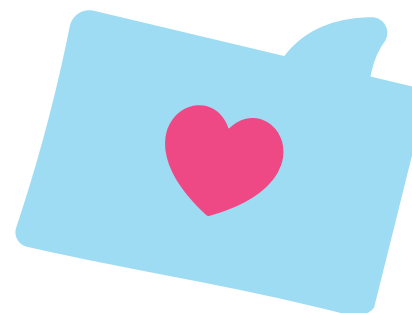
In this Unit we will be using the Theology lens and the Social Science lens. This [Using Lenses in Worldview Explorers](#) guidance will help you to understand how we use the Disciplinary Lenses in our Worldview Explorers scheme.

Prior Learning

Children may be able to draw on knowledge gained during previous units taught in KS1 as you explore each lesson within this unit. In year 4, children looked at [Sacred Places in Hindu Dharma](#). In year 5, they looked at [Hindu Worship](#) and the importance of worship to Hindus. This unit will further enhance their understanding of Hindu Dharma by exploring more complex concepts.

Digging Deeper

This unit includes a [Knowledge Organiser](#) which is used at the start of each lesson. It would be beneficial to have this up in the classroom and for children to add to it as the unit progresses so they are able to see how their knowledge has developed. The knowledge from the unit can be further developed by inviting a visitor in to put some of the key concepts learnt into practice, such as inviting a visitor in to carry out a yoga or meditation session. You may find our [UKS2 Visits and Visitors](#) resources helpful in planning this interaction.



Lesson Breakdown

Lesson 1: What Are the Hindu Sacred Texts?

This lesson focuses on The Vedas and how these are broken down further into different sections: one being the Upanishads. The focus is on these texts and understanding the importance of 'Atman' to Hindus.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Hindu Dharma

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 1](#)

Lesson 2: How Are Karma and Reincarnation Connected?

This lesson introduces the concept of karma and reincarnation in Hindu Dharma, how the two are connected as well as what Hindus believe about both.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Hindu Dharma

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 2](#)

Lesson 3: What Do Hindus Believe About Samsara and Moksha?

This lesson moves on from lesson 2 by looking at samsara (rebirth) and moksha (achieving peace by being united with the ultimate reality (Brahman)) and how these are connected to a person's karma.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Hindu Dharma

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 3](#)

Lesson 4: What Do Hindus Believe About Ahimsa and Compassion?

This lesson looks at how both ahimsa (non-violence) and compassion work together and you will go through different examples of this in practice.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Hindu Dharma

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 4](#)

Lesson 5: How Do Hindu Sacred Texts Influence Their Beliefs?

This lesson recaps The Vedas from lesson 1 and adds more detail, as well as looking at the Ramayana and Mahabharata as key influences for Hindus.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Hindu Dharma

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 5](#)

▶ [All About Diwali PowerPoint](#)

Lesson 6: What Are Some of the Challenges Hindus Face?

This lesson brings together Hindu beliefs, how Hindus may sometimes face challenges because of their beliefs as well as how fitting in with the modern world and keeping up with their traditions may prove to be quite difficult for some Hindus.

Religions and Worldviews Covered: Hindu Dharma (plus comparisons made with other religions and worldviews)

Resources:

▶ [Lesson Pack 6](#)

▶ [What Does Hindu Dharma Teach About the Environment? PowerPoint](#)