

FESTIVAL GUIDE - GRADES K-5

Diwali: The Festival of Lights

The story in a nutshell

Diwali (dih-VAH-lee) is India's biggest festival. Millions of families celebrate it around the world, including many here in the United States. It lasts five days. Families light small oil lamps called diyas (DEE-yahs) to celebrate light winning over darkness. Diwali honors the day Prince Rama returned home after defeating the demon king Ravana. It is also a time to welcome Lakshmi (LUHK-shmee), the goddess of good fortune. People share sweets, set off fireworks, and draw colorful rangoli (rahn-GOH-lee) patterns at their front doors.

"Even the smallest light can push away darkness."

How families celebrate

1. Light diyas and candles to welcome light
2. Draw colorful rangoli patterns at the door
3. Share sweets and gifts with family and neighbors
4. Watch fireworks light up the night sky
5. Welcome Lakshmi, goddess of good fortune
6. Remember Rama's return to Ayodhya

Talk about it

1. Why do you think people use light to stand for good and darkness for bad?
2. How does your family celebrate special holidays? What is the same, and what is different?
3. Rama came home after 14 years away. Why are homecomings worth celebrating?

Design a diya!

Draw your own Diwali oil lamp and decorate it with patterns and bright colors. Then draw the rangoli pattern you would make at your front door.

Teacher tip: pairs with lessons on world holidays, light and dark in science, and compare-and-contrast writing.



Scan to listen to the episode

<https://www.mythicalmasalapodcast.com/festivals/diwali>

More free printables: www.mythicalmasalapodcast.com/printables



Diwali Coloring Page

Coloring page: light your own diya!

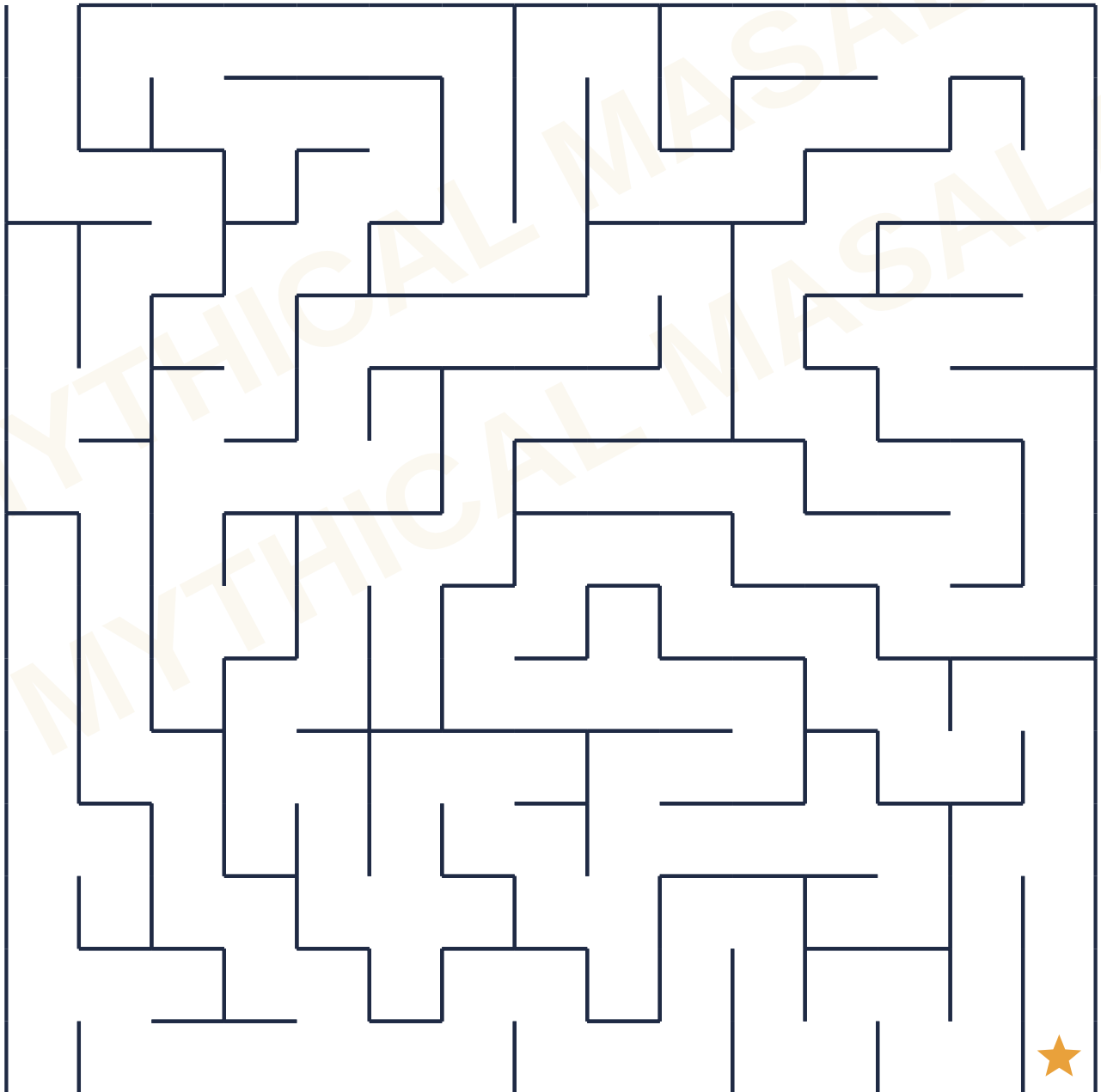


FIND YOUR WAY - MAZE

Help Rama find the way home to Ayodhya!

The city has lit a thousand lamps to welcome him. Guide Rama through the maze to the star.

START



FINISH



WORD SEARCH

Diwali Word Search

V	C	Q	J	L	A	V	I	T	S	E	F
R	K	D	I	X	V	B	A	A	Q	R	E
A	T	I	S	N	E	Y	U	T	D	M	I
S	H	B	K	R	H	K	D	F	O	O	L
T	G	K	R	D	A	O	V	C	C	A	Q
E	P	A	O	A	J	N	L	H	K	U	Q
E	G	Y	W	J	V	E	G	S	J	Y	C
W	A	L	E	P	W	E	H	O	F	D	A
S	D	W	R	A	M	M	A	Z	L	J	Y
N	D	N	I	M	I	V	C	M	F	I	I
Y	S	W	F	L	A	M	P	Y	A	W	D
T	U	A	R	L	I	G	H	T	Q	R	H

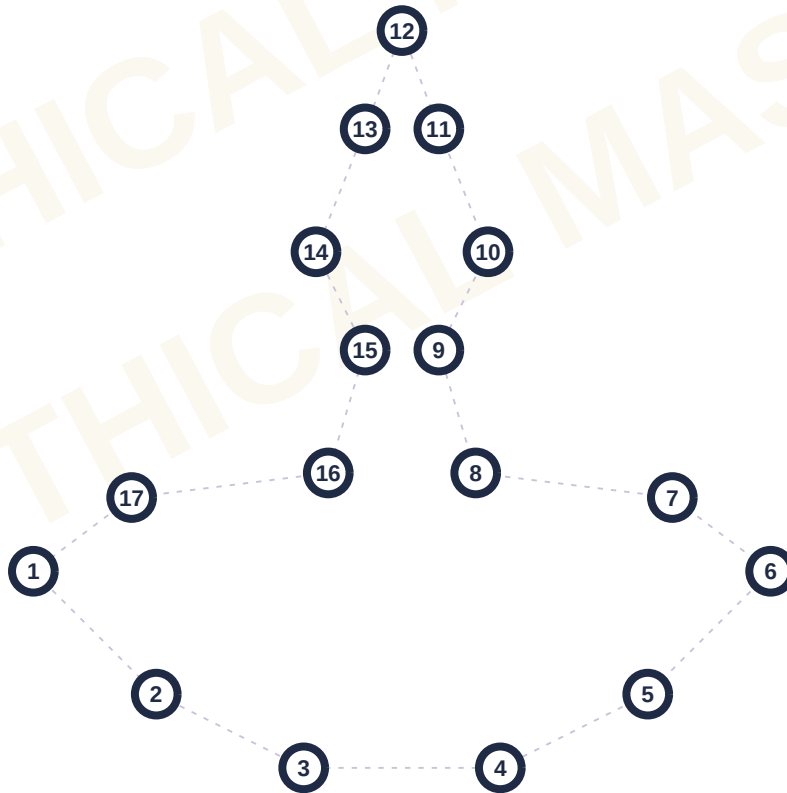
Find these words:

- Ayodhya
- Fireworks
- Light
- Sita
- Diya
- Lakshmi
- Rama
- Sweets
- Festival
- Lamp
- Rangoli
- Welcome



CONNECT THE DOTS - 1 TO 17

Connect the dots: Diya



Connect the dots from 1 to 17, then color your diya lamp!



QUIZ TIME

Diwali Quiz

1. What is Diwali often called in English?

2. Whose return home does Diwali remember?

3. What are the small oil lamps called?

4. Which goddess do families welcome during Diwali?

5. What are the colorful patterns drawn at the front door called?

Answers (turn the page upside down!)

1. The Festival of Lights.
2. Prince Rama's return to Ayodhya after defeating Ravana.
3. Diyas.
4. Lakshmi, the goddess of good fortune.
5. Rangoli.

Word search answers

V	C	Q	J	L	A	V	I	T	S	E	F
R	K	D	I	X	V	B	A	A	Q	R	E
A	T	I	S	N	E	Y	U	T	D	M	I
S	H	B	K	R	H	K	D	F	O	O	L
T	G	K	R	D	A	O	V	C	C	A	Q
E	P	A	O	A	J	N	L	H	K	U	Q
E	G	Y	W	J	V	E	G	S	J	Y	C
W	A	L	E	P	W	E	H	O	F	D	A
S	D	W	R	A	M	M	A	Z	L	J	Y
N	D	N	I	M	I	V	C	M	F	I	I
Y	S	W	F	L	A	M	P	Y	A	W	D
T	U	A	R	L	I	G	H	T	Q	R	H

