

FESTIVAL GUIDE - GRADES K-5

Dussehra: Good Wins Over Evil

The story in a nutshell

Dussehra (doo-SEH-rah) is a joyful Hindu festival that celebrates good winning over evil. It is also called Vijayadashami (vee-jah-yah-DAH-shah-mee), which means the tenth day of victory. Long ago, the demon king Ravana (rah-VAH-nah) took Queen Sita (SEE-tah) away to his island. Prince Rama (RAH-mah) crossed the ocean, fought a mighty battle, and won. Every year, actors retell Rama's story in outdoor plays called Ramlila (rahm-LEE-lah). In many towns, a giant statue, called an effigy, of Ravana is filled with fireworks and safely burned by grown-ups while families cheer. Dussehra reminds everyone that courage and truth win in the end.

"Good choices, courage, and truth win in the end."

The Dussehra story in seven parts

1. The demon king Ravana takes Sita away
2. Prince Rama crosses the ocean with his army
3. Rama and Ravana fight a mighty battle
4. Rama wins and good defeats evil
5. Actors retell the story in Ramlila plays
6. Giant Ravana effigies burn with fireworks
7. Families share sweets and cheer for good

Talk about it

1. Why do you think people retell the story of Rama and Ravana every year?
2. Rama stayed brave and kept trying, even when the battle was hard. When have you kept trying at something hard?
3. Dussehra celebrates good winning over evil. What does being good look like in our classroom?

Build a mini effigy!

Make a mini Ravana effigy from a paper bag or cardboard tube. Draw one big head and nine smaller heads, decorate the crowns, and never use fire. On the back, write one kind or brave choice you want to make this year.

Teacher tip: pairs with lessons on good choices, courage in stories, and world festivals in autumn.



Scan to listen to the episode

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

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Dussehra Coloring Page

Coloring page: Rama and the giant effigy!

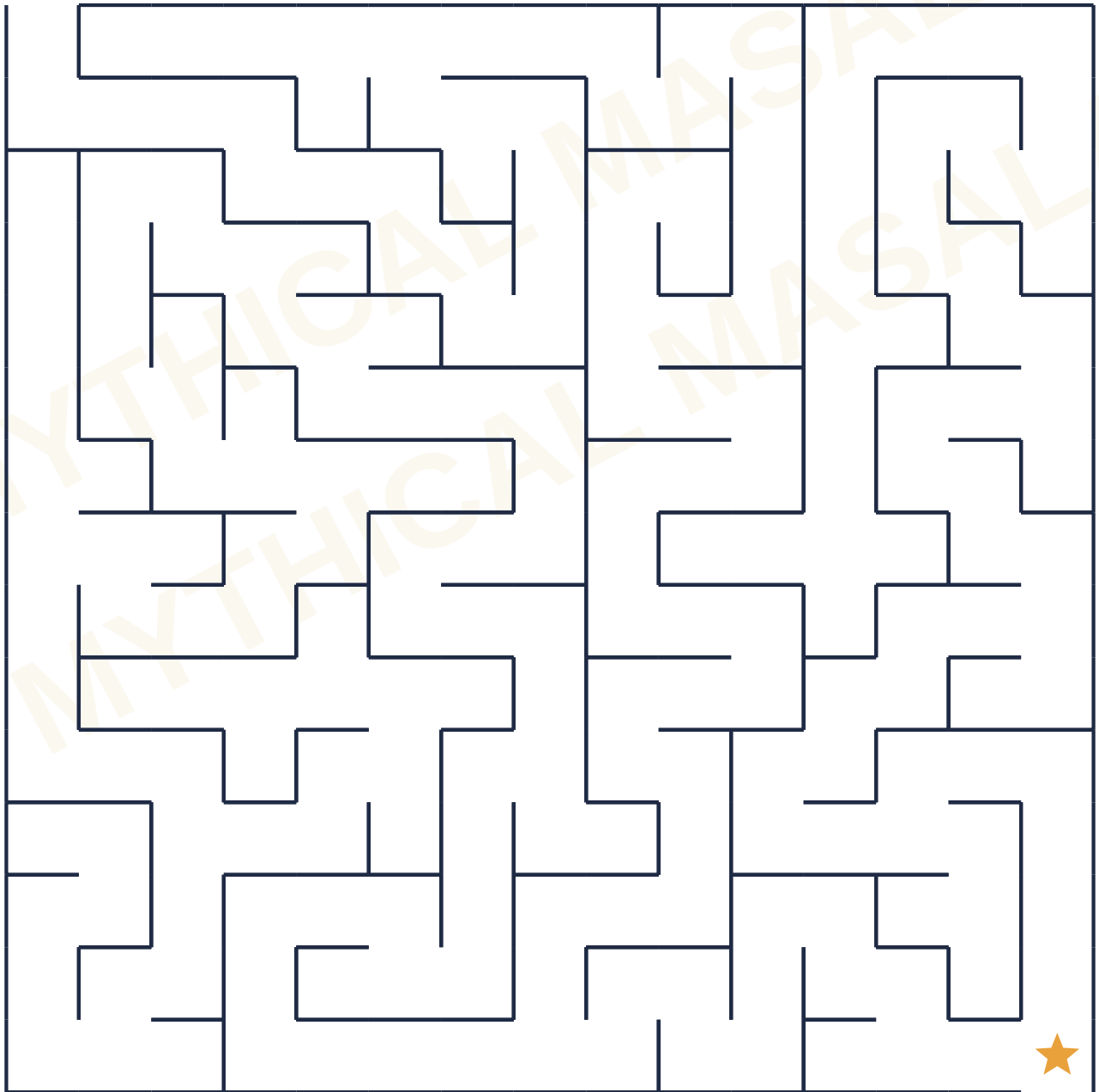


FIND YOUR WAY - MAZE

Help Rama reach the Dussehra fairground!

The giant Ravana effigy is waiting at the fair. Guide Rama through the maze to reach it.

START



FINISH



WORD SEARCH

Dussehra Word Search

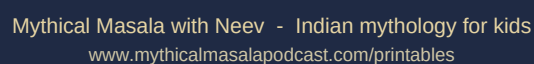
U	C	O	U	D	W	R	A	V	A	N	A
L	O	M	Y	D	J	B	C	Q	Z	F	L
K	U	Q	M	U	P	H	O	R	D	E	S
W	R	P	Y	S	E	X	V	W	F	S	W
X	A	D	U	S	Y	P	P	T	S	T	X
Y	G	L	Z	E	W	G	I	M	I	I	L
W	E	F	X	H	M	R	I	I	T	V	E
O	P	I	I	R	T	E	F	F	A	A	K
R	D	A	M	A	R	K	B	K	F	L	H
R	T	R	U	T	H	R	E	F	Q	E	X
A	V	S	H	G	V	I	C	T	O	R	Y
U	R	A	M	L	I	L	A	V	B	N	O

Find these words:

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| - Arrow | - Bow | - Courage |
| - Dussehra | - Effigy | - Festival |
| - Rama | - Ramlila | - Ravana |
| - Sita | - Truth | - Victory |



Connect the dots: Bow



QUIZ TIME

Dussehra Quiz

1. What does Dussehra celebrate?

2. Who defeated the demon king Ravana?

3. What is the giant Ravana statue at the fair called?

4. What are the outdoor plays that retell Rama's story called?

5. How many heads does Ravana have?

Answers (turn the page upside down!)

1. Good winning over evil.
2. Prince Rama.
3. An effigy.
4. Ramllia plays.
5. Ten heads.

Word search answers

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

