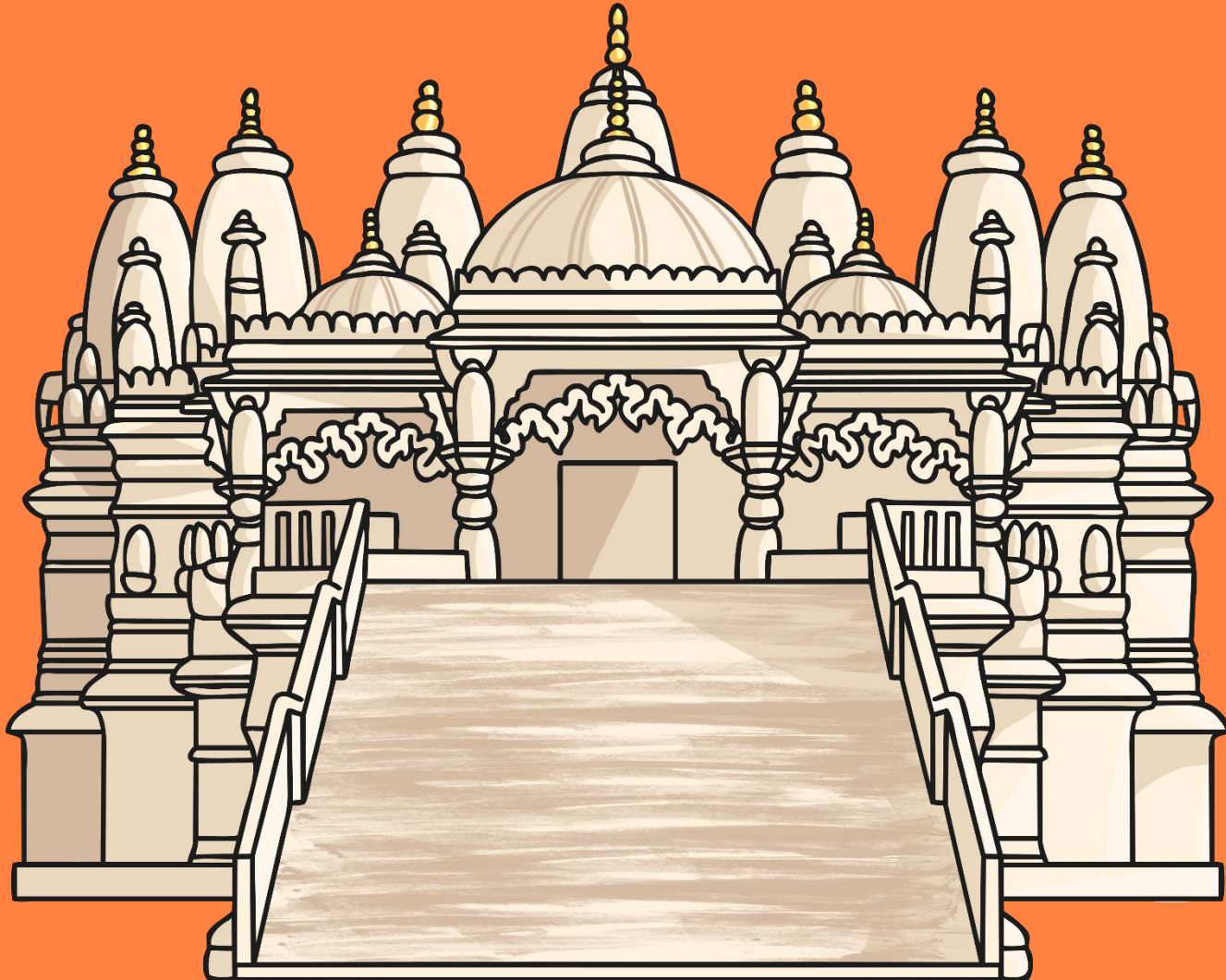


# Places of Worship



# Starter Activities



All of these buildings look different, but what do they all have in common?  
Who might visit them?  
What might happen there?

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2021

LO: to know the features of a Mandir – a Hindu Temple



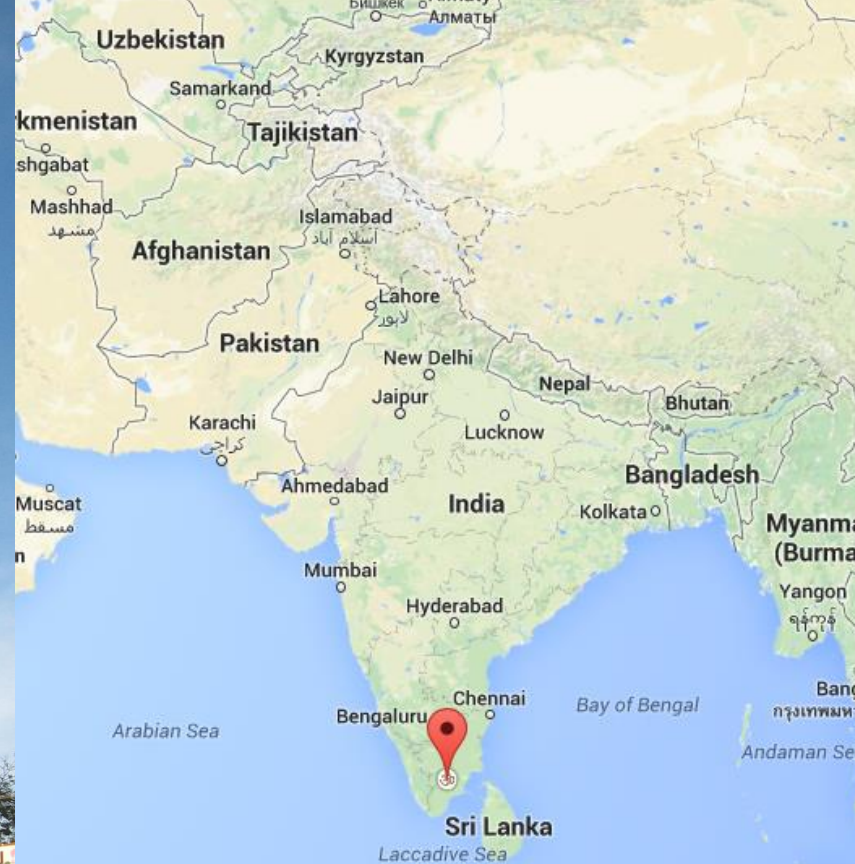
# Hindu Mandirs Around the World



**Prambanan** is the largest temple in Indonesia.



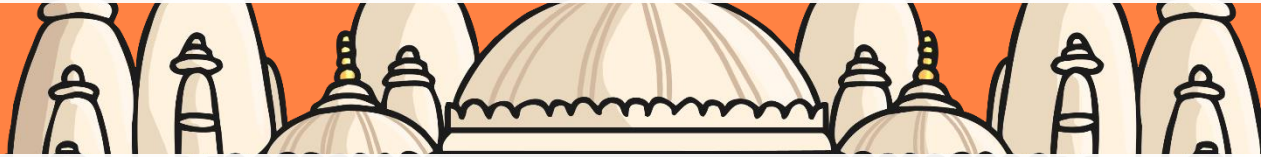
**The Meenakshi Amman Temple** is one of the most important Indian Hindu temples with 14 towers!





The **Shri Venkateswara (Balaji) Temple** is one of the largest functioning Hindu temples in Europe. The temple is located in Tivdale (about 8 miles from Kingswinford).

A Hindu temple is a busy and exciting place. As well as being used for worship, birth, wedding and death ceremonies, it is also a place where visitors can go and discuss and strengthen their faith, take part in meditation classes and yoga.



At a Hindu temple, different parts of the building have a special meaning, for example, the central shrine inside the mandir represents the heart of the Hindu worshipper, and if the temple has a tower this symbolises a connection with heaven.



Worshipping at the mandir is a special time to be together with other Hindus.

Mandirs are seen as a place where heaven meets the earth so many mandirs are tall buildings, like mountains reaching up into the sky.



# Showing Respect

- Before entering the mandir you must have a wash, make sure you are wearing clean clothes and remove your shoes.
- You must make offerings to the gods.
- You must bow to show respect to the gods.



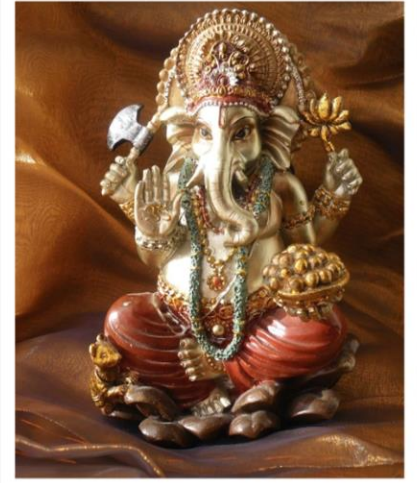


### **Shoe Rack**

A place to store shoes before entering the mandir.

### **Murti**

A murti is a statue of God, or a god or goddess.



## Important Features of a Hindu Mandir

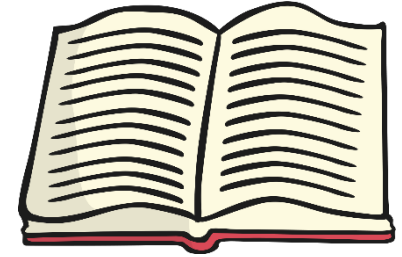


### **Main Shrine**

This is the heart of the temple to represent the heart of the worshipper. It is usually at the front of the temple.

## Aum

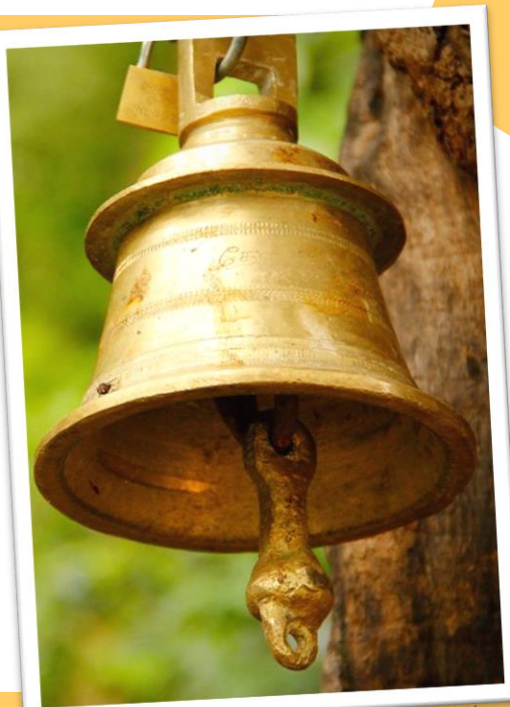
This is the Hindu symbol. You may see this if you are ever visiting a Hindu temple.



## Vedas

These are the ancient Hindu texts. They are kept safe in a special case.

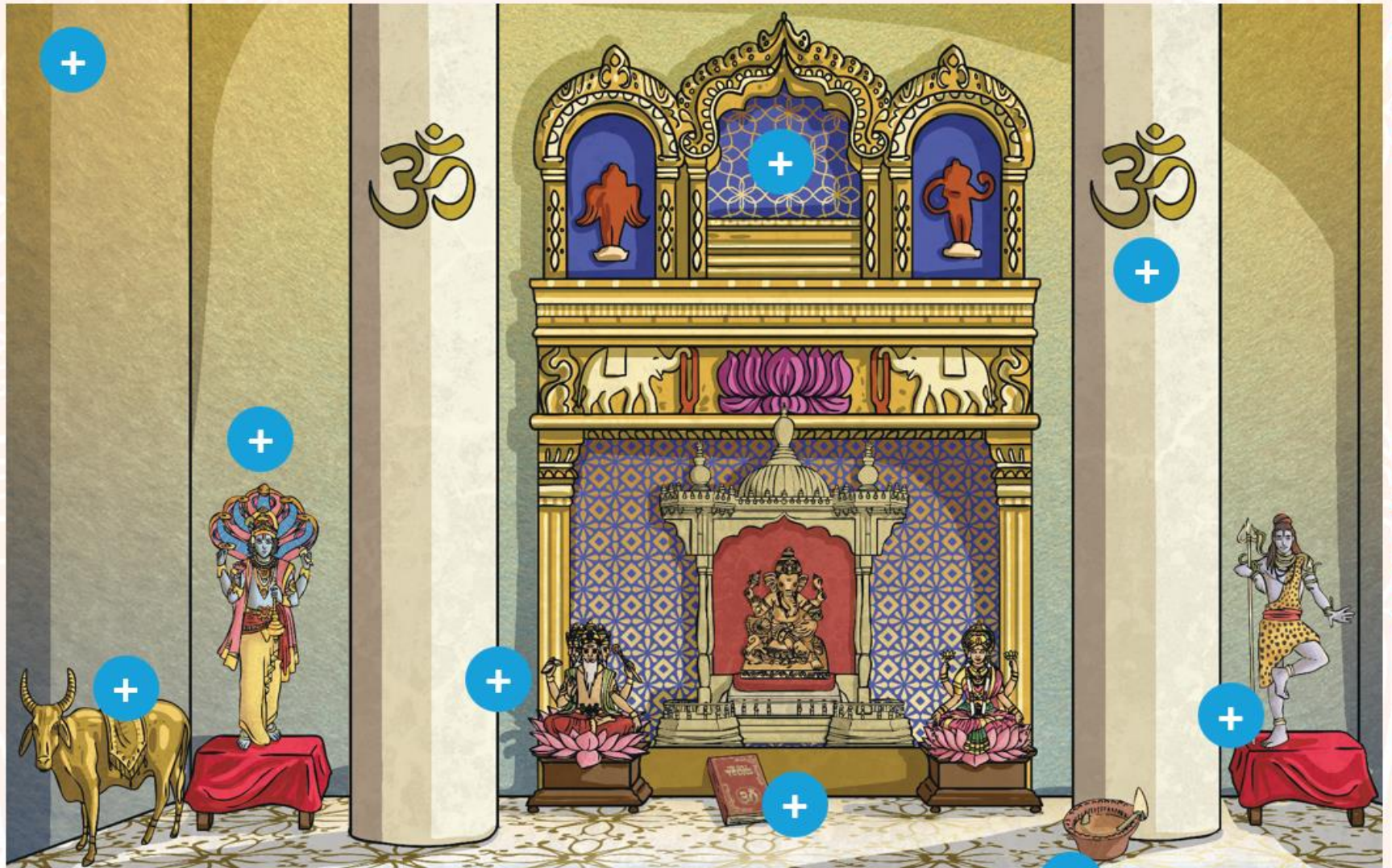
## Important Features of a Hindu Mandir



## Bell

Worshippers ring the bell before entering to let God know they have arrived.

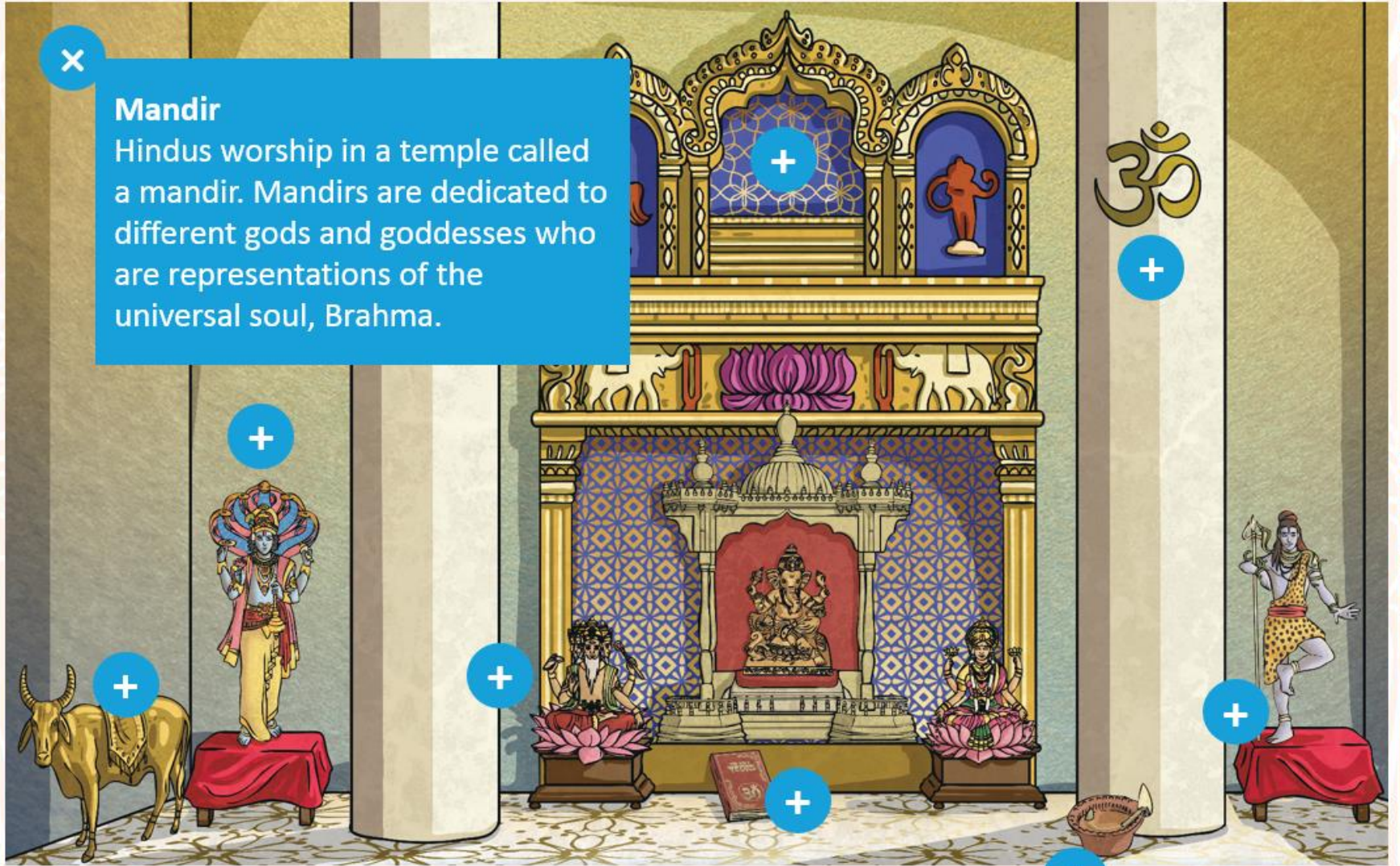
# Can you identify some of the features?



x

## Mandir

Hindus worship in a temple called a mandir. Mandirs are dedicated to different gods and goddesses who are representations of the universal soul, Brahma.



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### Lord Vishnu

Lord Vishnu is known as the preserver of the universe. He has a blue body, four arms and wears yellow clothes.

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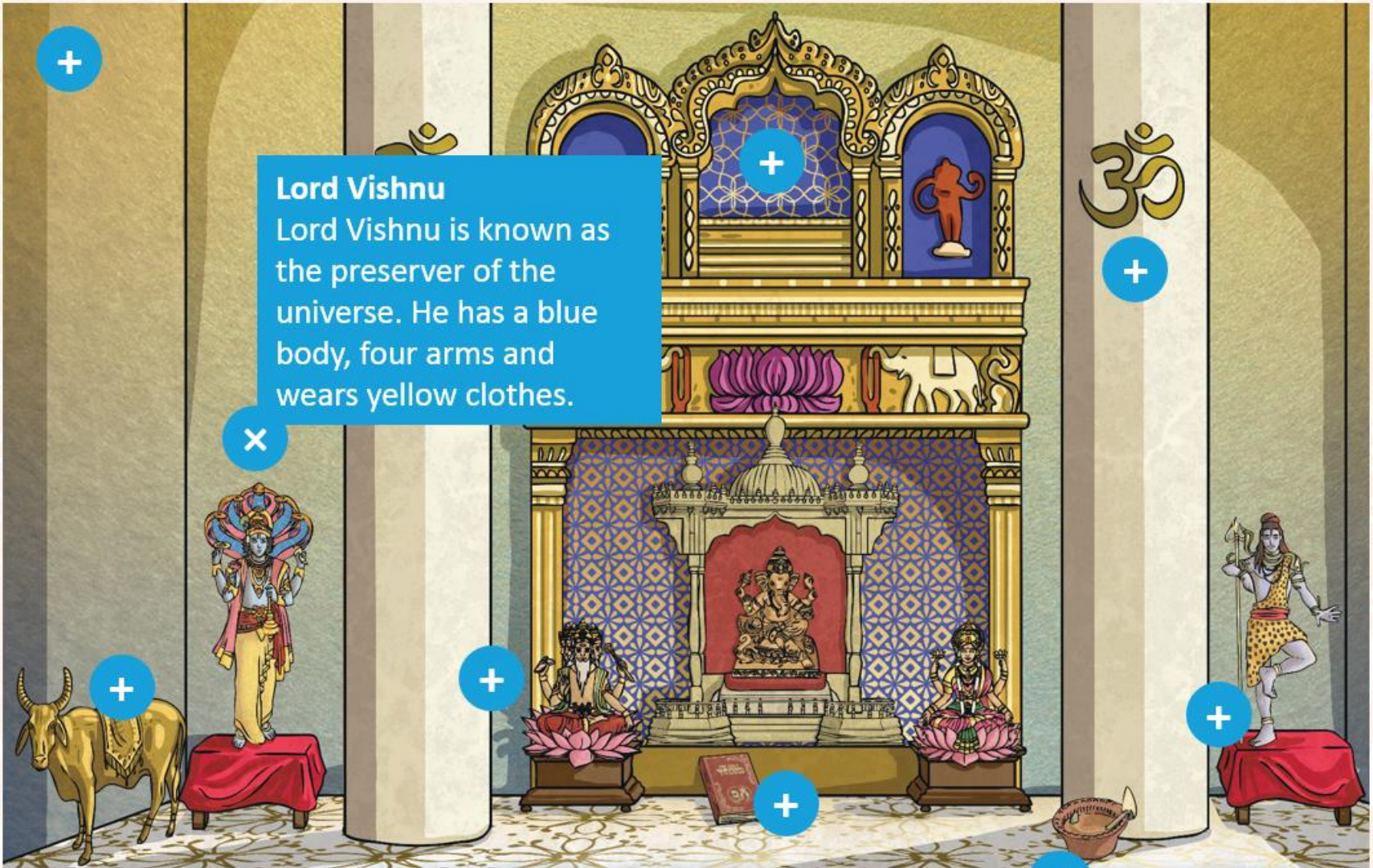
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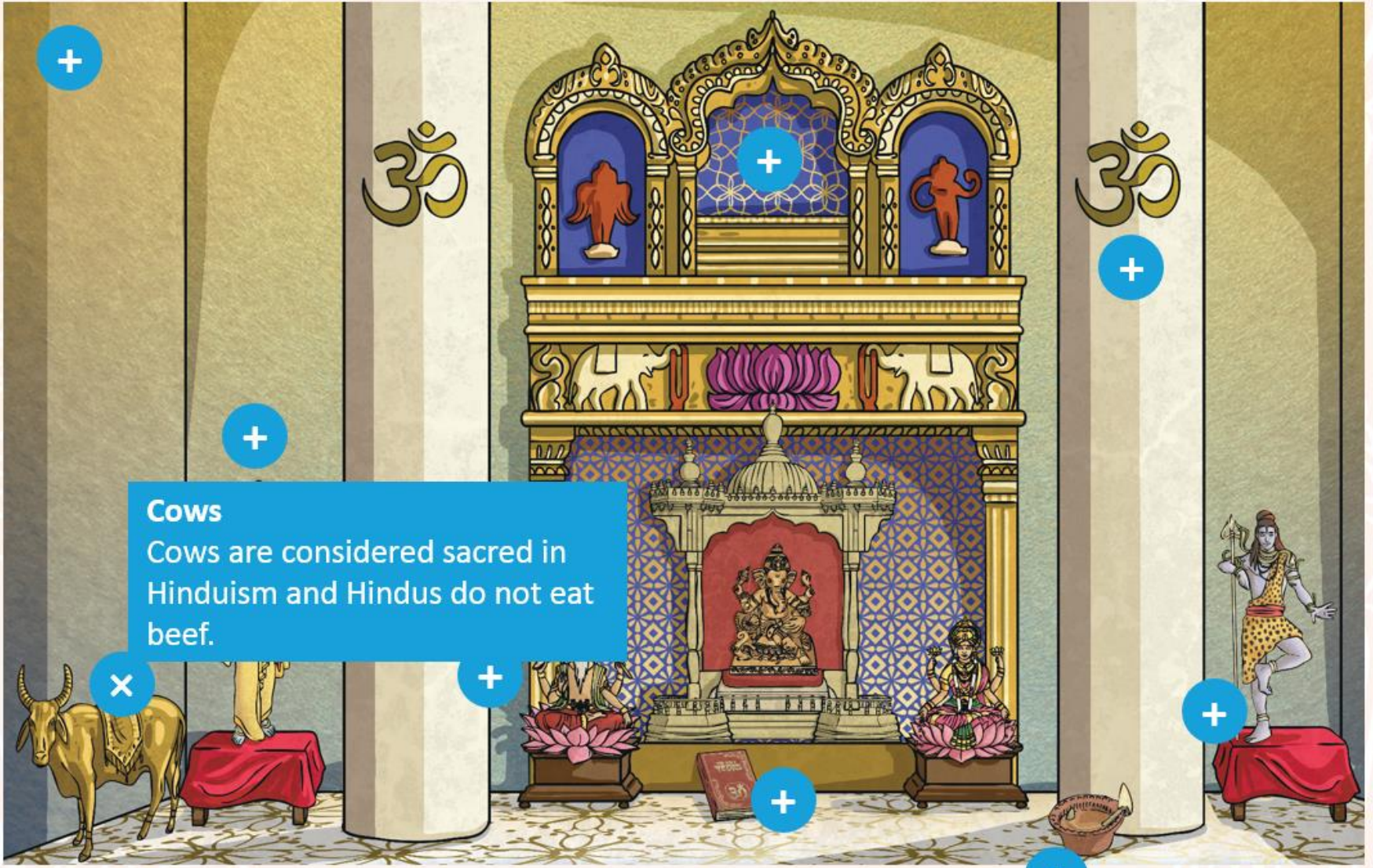
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**Cows**  
Cows are considered sacred in Hinduism and Hindus do not eat beef.



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### Lord Brahma

Lord Brahma is the creator of the universe. He is represented as a four-headed, four-armed god with a beard.

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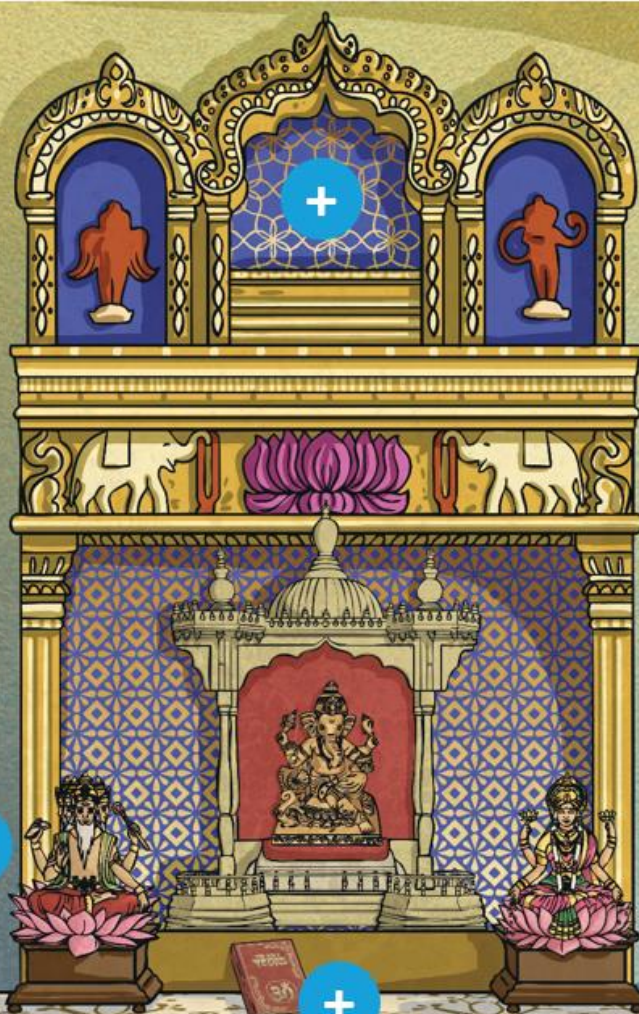
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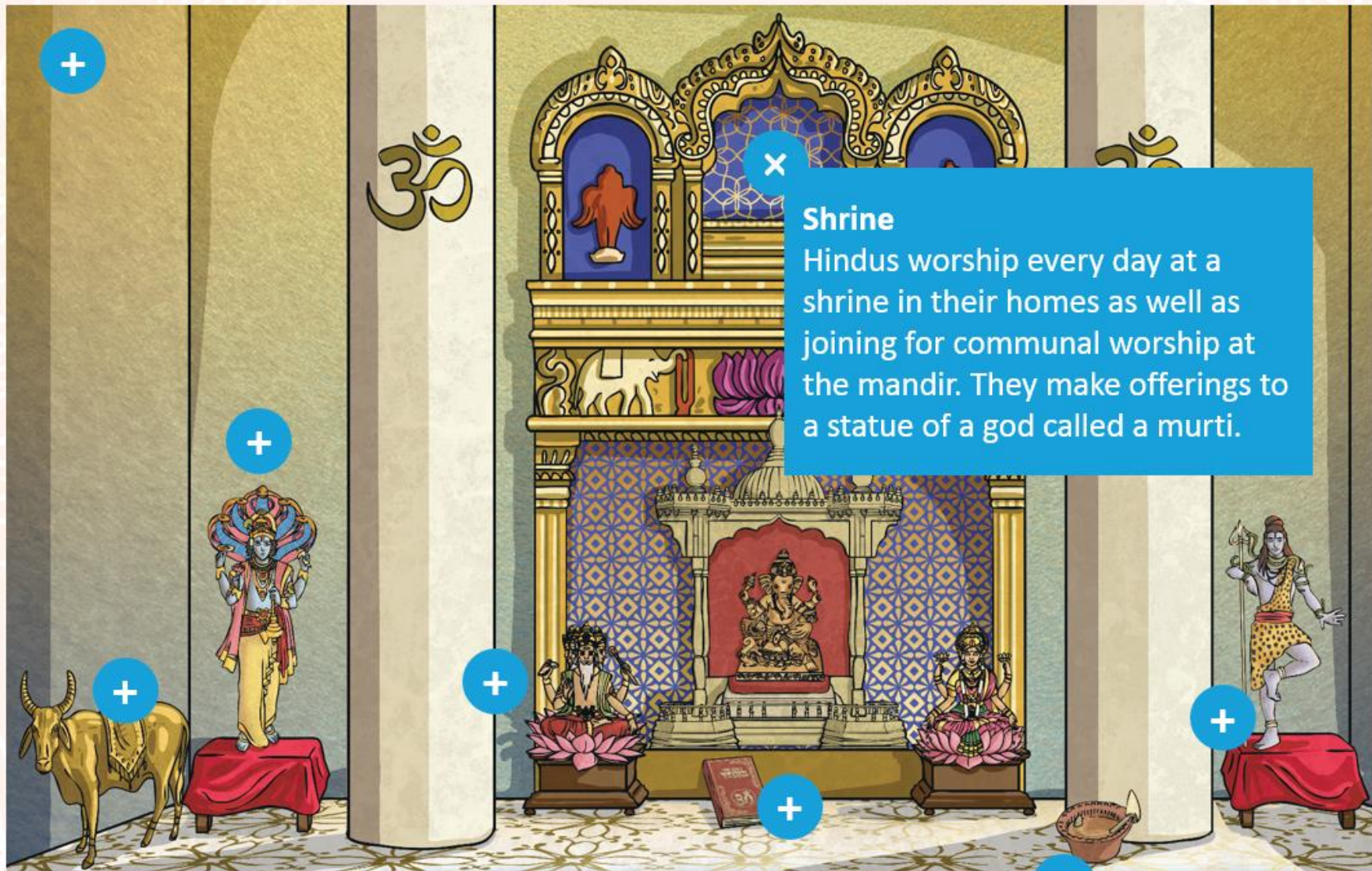
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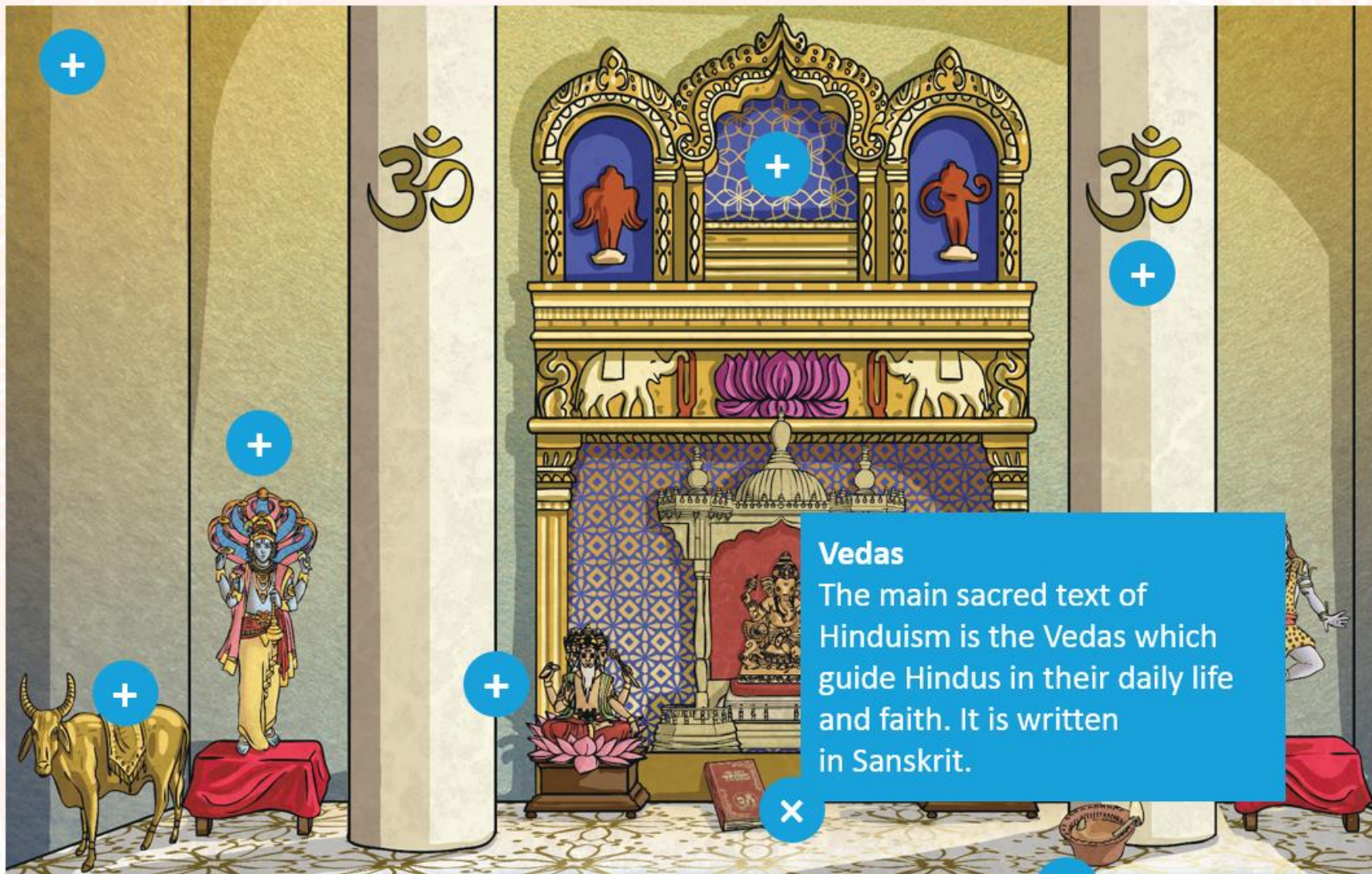




### Shrine

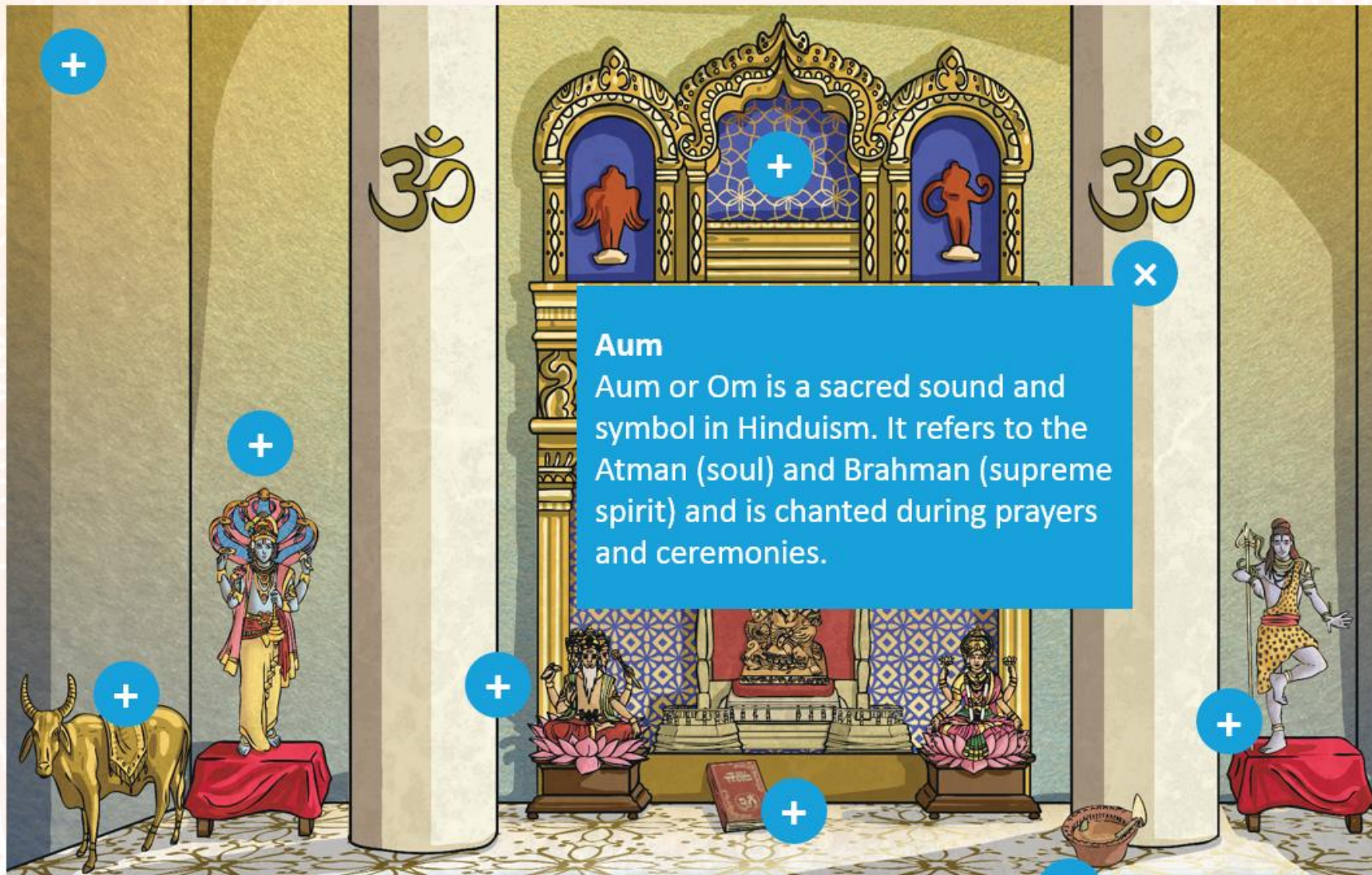
Hindus worship every day at a shrine in their homes as well as joining for communal worship at the mandir. They make offerings to a statue of a god called a murti.





### Vedas

The main sacred text of Hinduism is the Vedas which guide Hindus in their daily life and faith. It is written in Sanskrit.

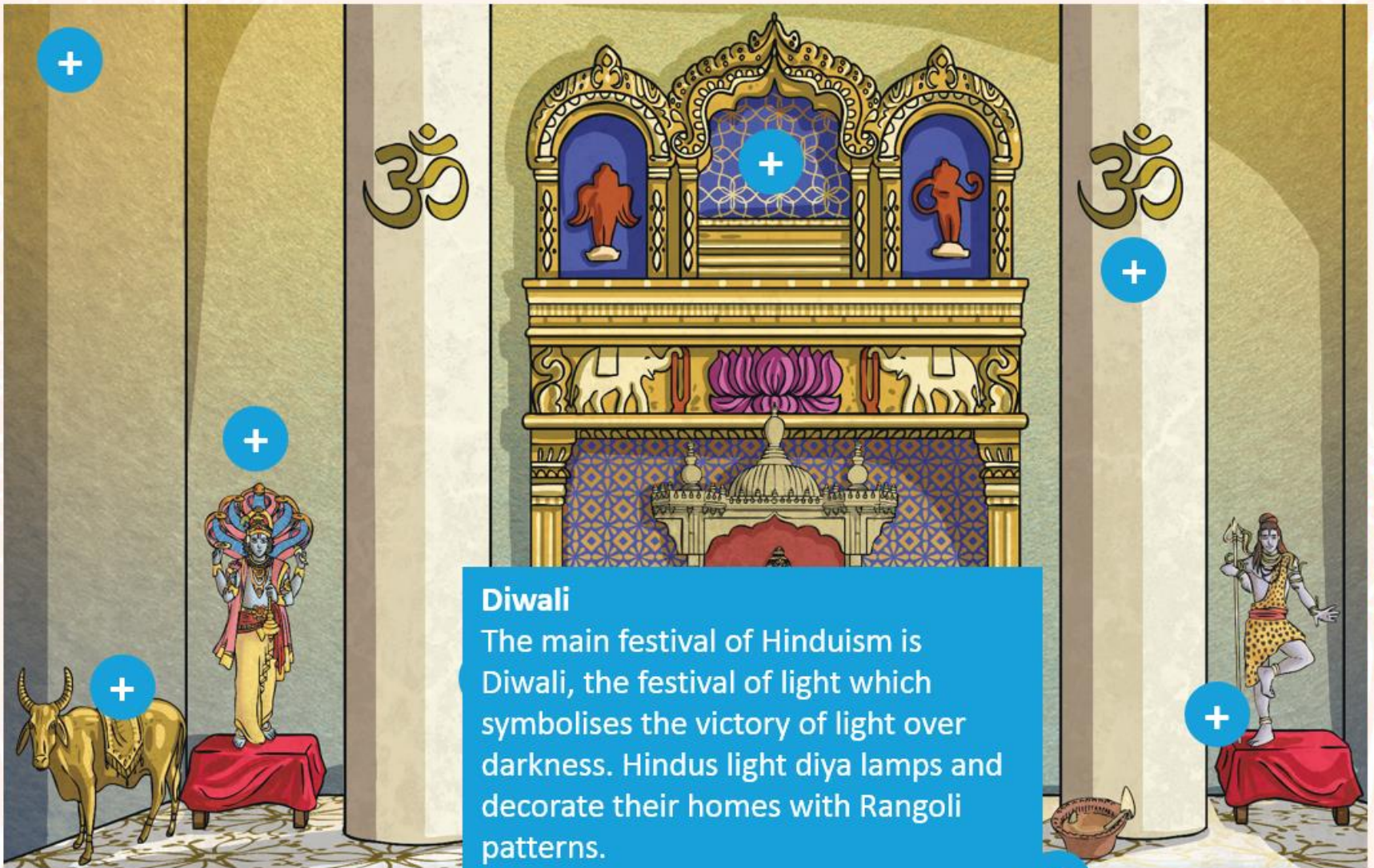


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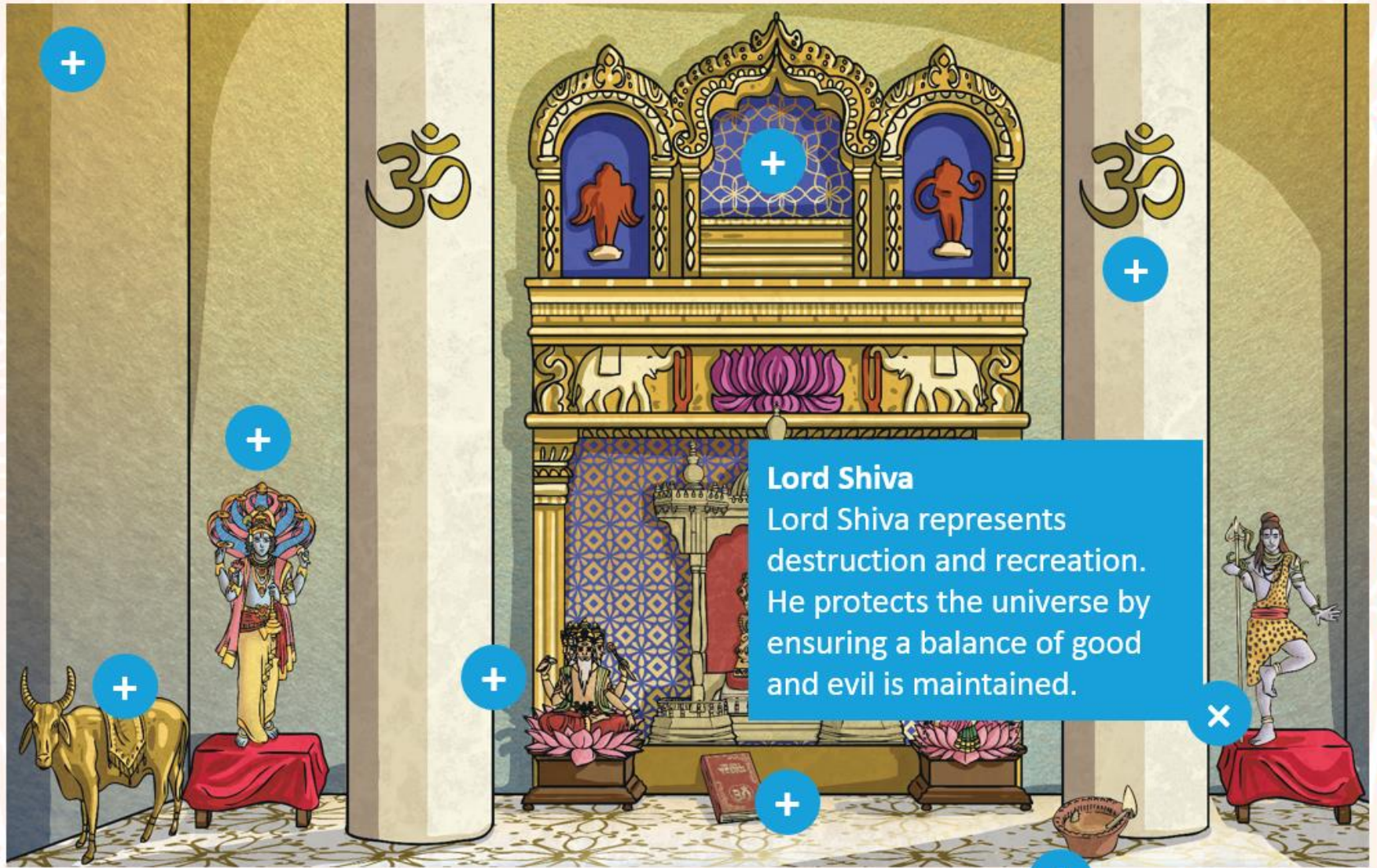
### Aum

Aum or Om is a sacred sound and symbol in Hinduism. It refers to the Atman (soul) and Brahman (supreme spirit) and is chanted during prayers and ceremonies.



### Diwali

The main festival of Hinduism is Diwali, the festival of light which symbolises the victory of light over darkness. Hindus light diya lamps and decorate their homes with Rangoli patterns.



### Lord Shiva

Lord Shiva represents destruction and recreation. He protects the universe by ensuring a balance of good and evil is maintained.

**Watch this video to**  
**see inside a real**  
**Mandir.**

**What features can**  
**you see?**

Task:

Using the Word  
Document

‘Features of a Mandir’  
complete the table by  
filling in the missing  
information.