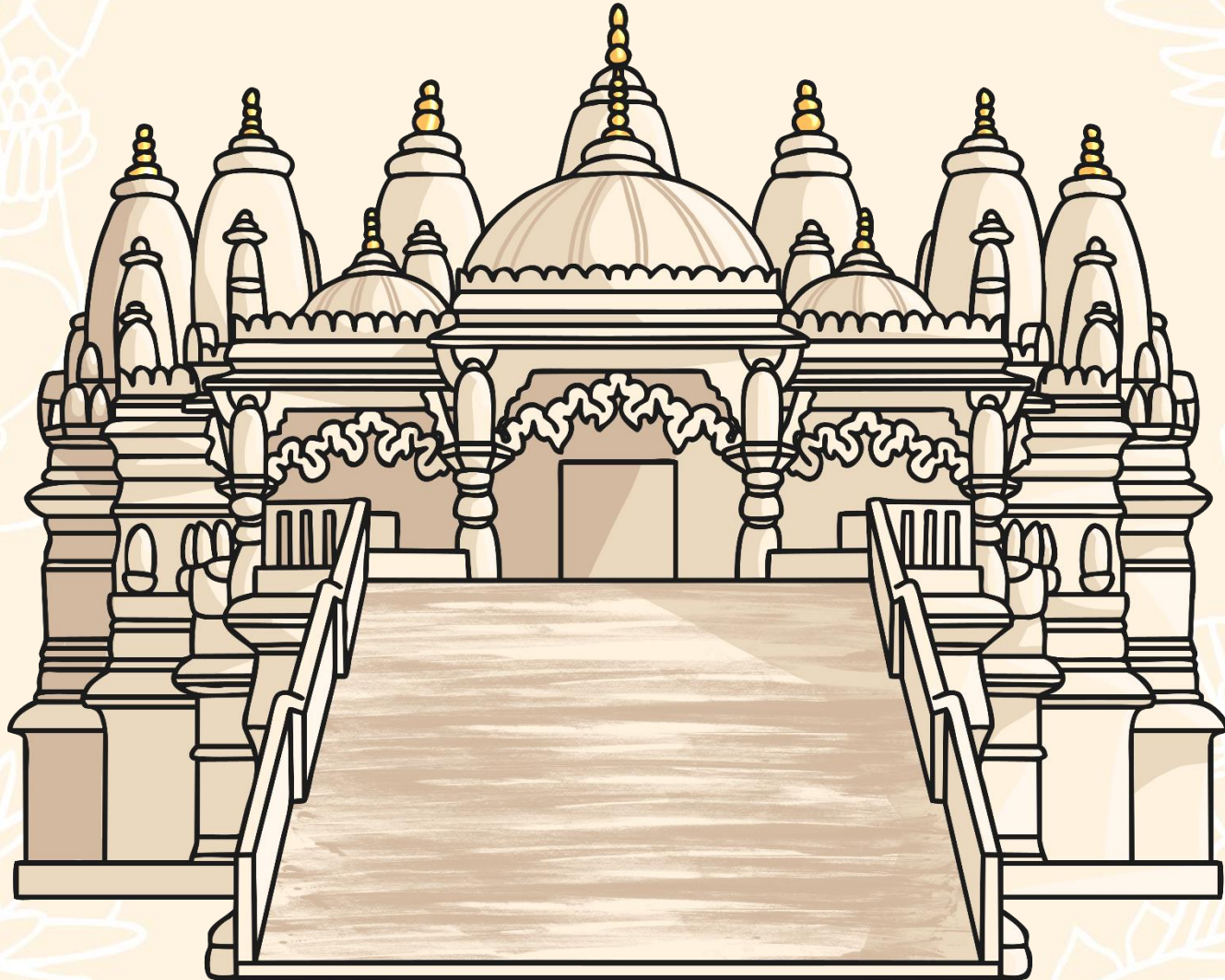


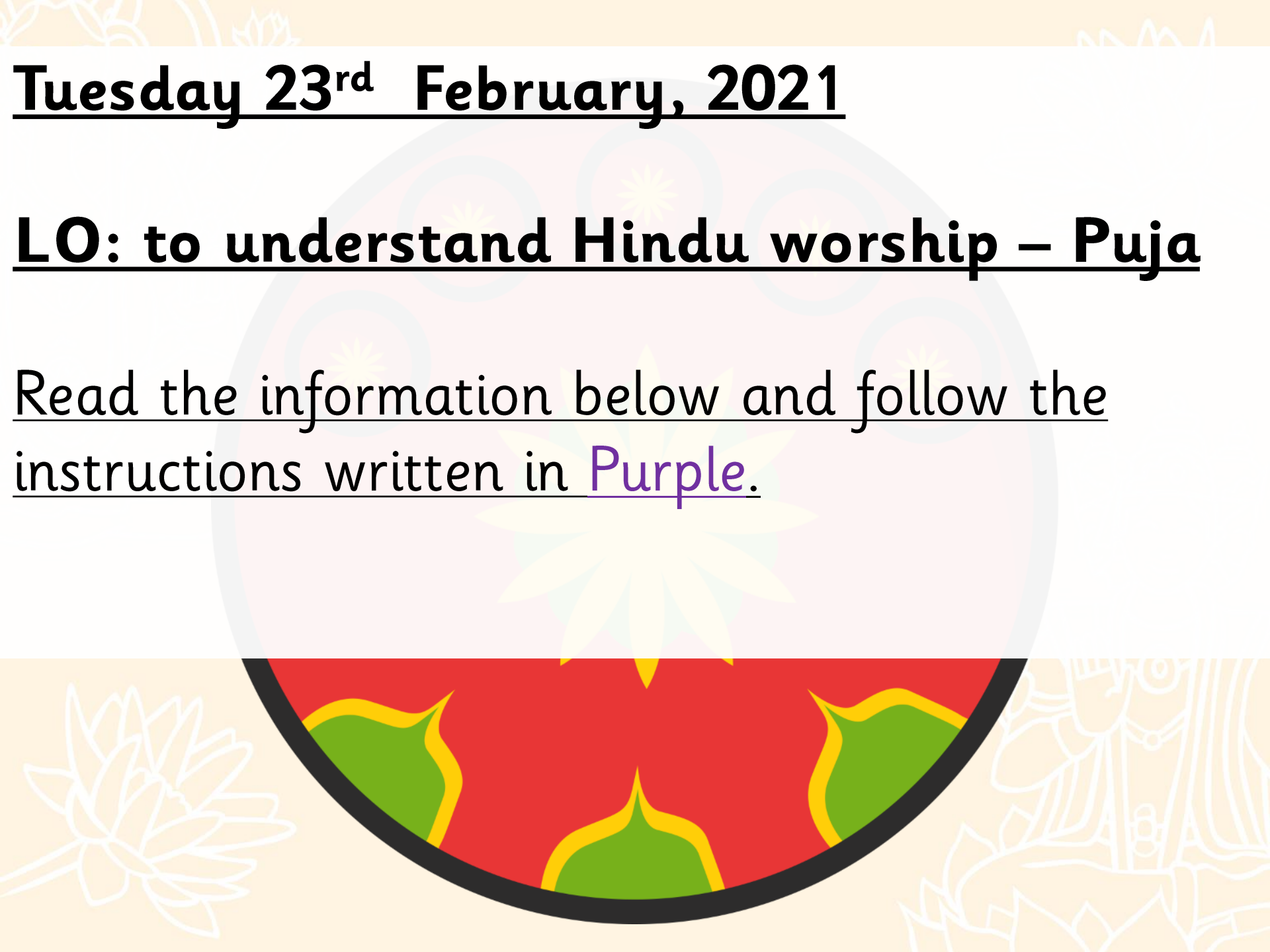
Places of Worship



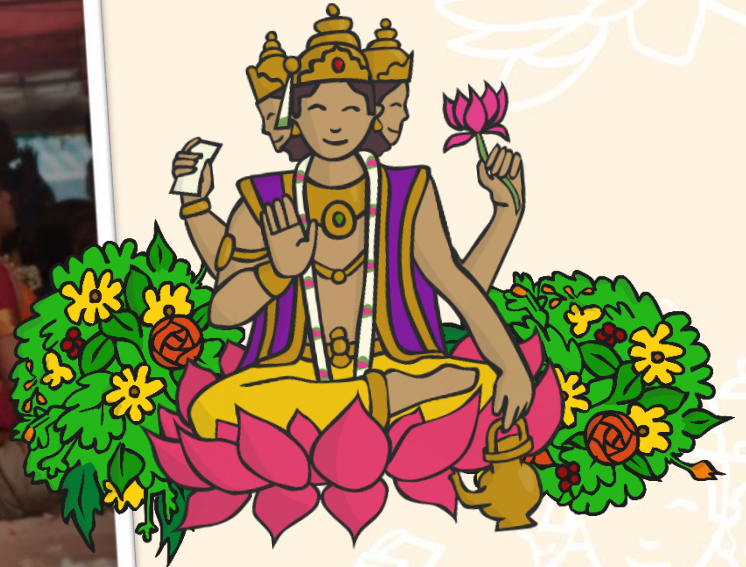
Tuesday 23rd February, 2021

LO: to understand Hindu worship – Puja

Read the information below and follow the instructions written in **Purple**.



Why do people go to a Hindu Mandir?



Worship, or '**puja**', takes place here. Hindus can come at any time to be peaceful, pray and sing religious songs.

Each mandir is dedicated to a god and inside will be a shrine to that god. Offerings or 'prashad' such as flowers, fruit, water, milk, nuts or sweets are made. Incense is burned to make the temple feel special and during worship, Hindus chant the names of their favourite gods and goddesses.

What Happens During Puja?

Puja involves:

- praying to an image of a deity (murti)
- giving offerings to the deity.

Worshippers take off their shoes to worship. They usually begin with the sacred word 'Aum' then repeat prayers (mantras) and the name of their favourite gods or goddesses.

Offerings such as fruit, incense, water and flowers are made.

Blessed food, which is known as 'prashad', is eaten once the worship has finished.

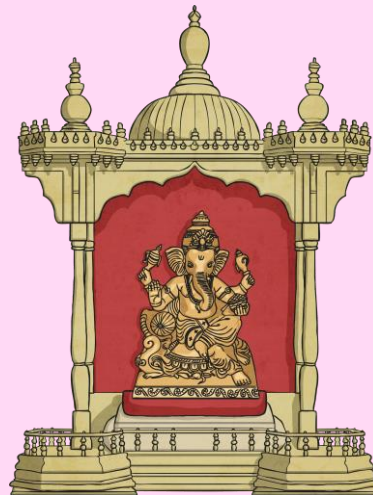


Where Can Puja Take Place?

Puja is a daily routine for Hindus and is carried out at least once every day.

Most Hindu homes have a holy shrine where puja takes place. Having a shrine at home means that families can worship together.

Some shrines are elaborately decorated and others are quite simple.



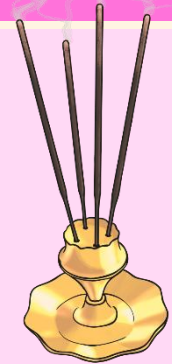
Objects Used in Puja

Each shrine contains a puja tray, which holds several important items:

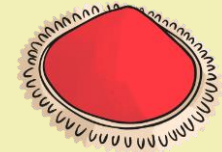
Bell – The worshippers ring the bell to let God know that they are ready to worship.



Incense and incense holder – The incense burns and gives off a pleasant aroma, which purifies the air around the shrine.



Kum kum powder – When mixed with water, this powder makes a red paste. Hindu worshippers use it to mark their foreheads as a sign of respect to the gods. They also mark the foreheads of the gods on their shrine.



Diva lamp – The lamp is lit as a symbol of God's presence.



Water containers and spoon – To show respect, water is offered to the gods on a spoon.



More Facts About Puja at the Temple

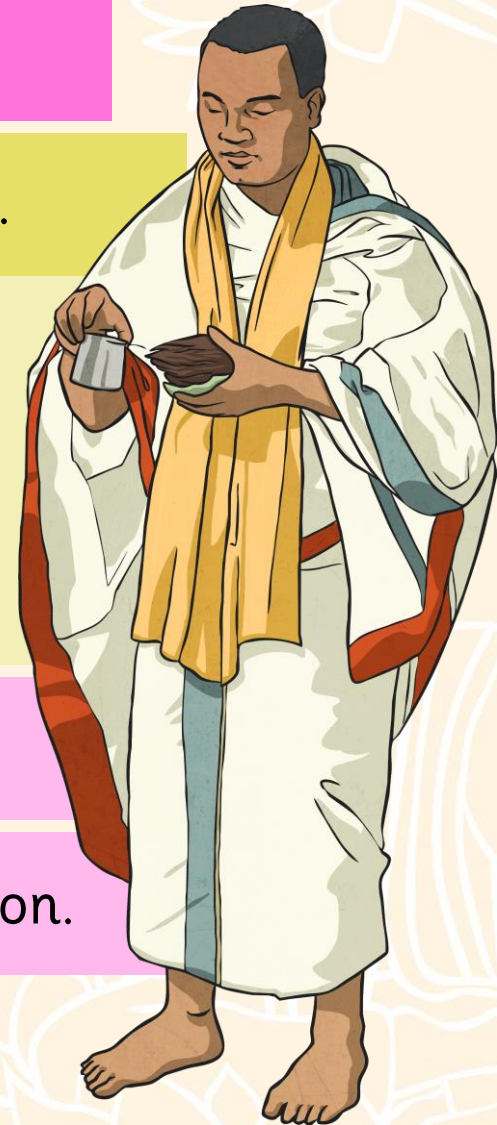
Puja is conducted by the temple priest.

Hindus can visit the temple at any time for puja.



Sunday is a popular day for worship.

Worshippers sing as a way of showing their devotion.



TASK

Watch the video about Puja.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zh2hyrd>

Use the information you have read and seen to complete the activity on the next page.



THE PUJA TRAY



Incense Holder and Incense

Bell

Water and Spoon

Draw a picture of a puja tray in the space below .Once you're done, draw a line from the boxes on each side of the page to the object in the tray and then in the box, write down why that object is used.

Kum Kum Powder

Diva Lamp

Offerings/Prashad