



# 5

Name:..... Form:.....

See pages 12 and 13 of Hindu mandir

## Daily worship

In the mandir, one type of worship is conducted every day.

**Q1.** What is another word for daily worship?

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**Q2.** Who can lead the daily worship?

 .....

**Q3.** How are the gods and goddesses invited to join the worshippers?

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 .....

**Q4.** What things might a god or goddess be offered during daily worship?

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 .....

**Q5.** At what times of the day is puja usually conducted in the mandir?

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**Q6.** When might a person or family ask for a special puja?

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 .....

 .....



## Answers

1. Puja.
2. A Hindu priest or anyone who knows how.
3. With chanting, prayers, and by ringing a bell.
4. Flowers, fruit, sandalwood paste, incense, chants, prayers, music, dancing.
5. Sunrise, morning, afternoon, sunset and at night.
6. To mark a special event, such as the start of a new business venture or the birth of a child.

## Lesson objectives

- ▶ To show the type of worship that happens every day at a mandir.
- ▶ To show the types of things that happen during everyday worship.
- ▶ To show that worship may be conducted for many reasons.

## Lesson outcomes

- ▶ The children can describe some of the aspects of everyday worship at the mandir.
- ▶ The children understand that puja is everyday worship.
- ▶ The children can give reasons why personal everyday worship may take place.

## Teaching notes

*There are many different ways to perform puja, depending on the god or goddess being worshipped and the occasion. What is given here is a general overview of puja. If there*

*are any Hindu children in your class, you may like to have them discuss puja which they have attended.*

*However it is performed, puja involves seeing the god or goddess, making offerings to the god or goddess and sharing in the offerings.*

*Most Hindus who worship daily conduct puja in their own homes, and may come to the mandir only for special events or personal celebrations.*

*Every item used in the puja has a special significance and symbolism, which can also vary greatly among Hindus. For example, flowers can stand for the good that worship can cause to blossom in people, a pot filled with water and topped with mango leaves and coconut stands for Mother Earth, life and divine consciousness. A coconut alone may stand for God, betel leaves, betel nuts, banyan and bel leaves can also stand for God. Food can stand for ignorance, by offering it, worshippers hope it will be filled with enlightenment that can then be eaten. Light (lamps) can represent the light of knowledge and enlightenment. Red powder (vermillion) can stand for emotions.*

## Complementary work

Let the children use secondary sources about different ways to conduct puja, or about puja for different gods and goddesses.

## Resources

Secondary sources about puja.