



Craft Activity

Theme: Diwali Festival

Intro: Diwali is a 5-day festival of lights that is celebrated by some people in the Northern part of the world, particularly India. During the celebration, temples, homes, shops and office buildings are decorated using bright lights, people swap gifts, play games and feast on sweet foods with their family and friends.

Craft activity: Paper Lights

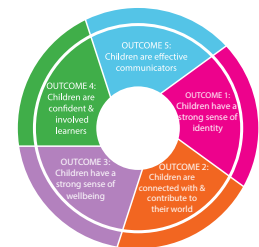
Children will need: Paper cups, glue, coloured paper, string/wool, stick on beads, sequins, cellophane, or other sparkly collage materials.

Instructions:

Decorate the cup with the coloured paper, cellophane, and collage materials. Use a piece of string to hang your paper light.

Extension ideas: Younger children can decorate their lights and then use cellophane to fill the inside of their lights, instead of sticking it from the bottom. This may be easier for the children. Make some salt dough and use it to make a Diya (a tealight candle holder), decorating it with glitter and beads.

Fact: Diwali is a time when people welcome Lakshmi, the Goddess of wealth and prosperity into their homes. For this reason, 'Lakshmi's footprints' are a common motif associated with Diwali.



Learning Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity.

Playgroup SA Diwali Festival - Group Time



Coordinator extension ideas and group time guide

Sensory activity:

Lakshmi's Footprints

You will need: Paper, textas and/or crayons, your foot.

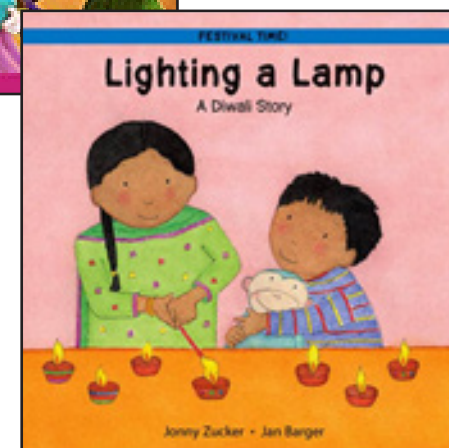
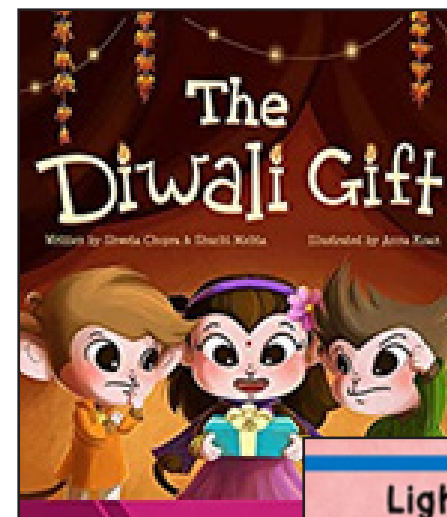
Instructions: Trace your foot and decorate using bright textas and crayons.

Outside Activity:

Rangoli: Use coloured chalk outdoors to draw and colour a Rangoli. These are colourful pictures like a Mandala. (some simple designs are attached for you to use)

Group time ideas:

- Play a game of Musical Chairs. This is popular with children during Diwali.
- Make some firework biscuits. Provide the children some plain biscuits. Use coloured icing sugar for them to decorate their biscuits.
- Indian Show and Tell. Is there a family from India that would like to do a show and tell? Use the family's knowledge and experience during the group time.



Book Suggestions:

Lighting a Lamp by Jonny Zucker

The Diwali Gift by Shweta Chopra & Shuchi Mehta

