


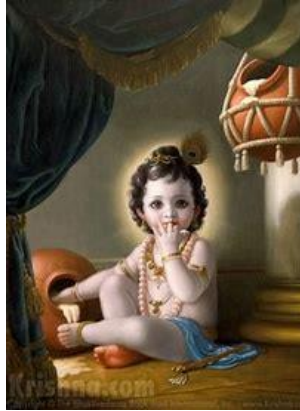
Topic: Sacred Writings - Hinduism	Phase: UKS2	Strand: Exploring and Investigating												
<p><b>What should I already know?</b></p>	<p><b>Important things to know...</b></p>		<p><b>We are MANOR! As learners we will ...</b></p>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know that Hinduism is a major world religion which is based in India.</li> <li>I know that Hinduism is a polytheistic religion, meaning that Hindus believe and worship more than one god.</li> <li>I can reflect on some of the sacred Hindu stories I know – such as the Diwali story, the Hindu Creation story and The Birth of Ganesh – and can reflect upon how they may affect the lives of believers.</li> </ul>	<p><i>'All gods lead to God as all rivers lead to the sea'</i> is the best way to sum up what Hindu's believe about God. There are many different Gods worshipped in Hinduism but they are all different aspects of the one supreme God. Hindus can choose the way they want to think of and worship God, the important thing is to love God. During this unit we will be reflecting on our knowledge of Hinduism and using it to develop a deeper understanding of how and why sacred writings can have such a meaningful impact on the way believers live their lives. In particular, we will be looking at the life of Krishna, who is perceived by most Hindus to be an incarnation of Vishnu. It is believed that all other deities are manifestations of him. Krishna is considered to be a warrior, hero, teacher and philosopher by Hindus. There are many different stories about Krishna as a child, and these are often taught to Hindu children to teach them about their early life. You could do some research on these using a safe search engine, and then compare them to stories you were told as a child. Are there any similarities or differences in the morals of the stories?</p>		<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1564 386 1847 582"> <p><b>Manners</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1847 386 2527 582"> <p>Develop a respect and understanding for the views and opinions of other people and share ideas about our own ideas and thoughts in a respectful manner. We will celebrate good work, value others' contributions, and discuss and debate opinions.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1564 582 1847 811"> <p><b>Aspiration</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1847 582 2527 811"> <p>Learn by being challenged in a series of well-designed and interesting activities designed to deepen our understanding of the world and broaden our horizons. We will be aspirational in developing knowledge and conceptual understanding through practical activities and discussions.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1564 811 1847 1039"> <p><b>Nurture</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1847 811 2527 1039"> <p>To recognise that we live in a wonderful world made up of many different people and ways of living. We will develop an appreciation and respect for the diverse world and environment in which we live, showing care and compassion for the people and beliefs around us.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1564 1039 1847 1196"> <p><b>Open-Mindedness</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1847 1039 2527 1196"> <p>We will be open-minded so that we can learn more about others and the way in which they live their lives. We will listen respectfully to each other and not laugh at or make fun of what other people say.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1564 1196 1847 1376"> <p><b>Resilience</b></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1847 1196 2527 1376"> <p>Engage confidently with the RE curriculum and learn that anything is possible and failure is not something to fear but to learn from. We will support each other to learn new things and share what we know so that we might help others.</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p><b>Manners</b></p>	<p>Develop a respect and understanding for the views and opinions of other people and share ideas about our own ideas and thoughts in a respectful manner. We will celebrate good work, value others' contributions, and discuss and debate opinions.</p>	<p><b>Aspiration</b></p>	<p>Learn by being challenged in a series of well-designed and interesting activities designed to deepen our understanding of the world and broaden our horizons. We will be aspirational in developing knowledge and conceptual understanding through practical activities and discussions.</p>	<p><b>Nurture</b></p>	<p>To recognise that we live in a wonderful world made up of many different people and ways of living. We will develop an appreciation and respect for the diverse world and environment in which we live, showing care and compassion for the people and beliefs around us.</p>	<p><b>Open-Mindedness</b></p>	<p>We will be open-minded so that we can learn more about others and the way in which they live their lives. We will listen respectfully to each other and not laugh at or make fun of what other people say.</p>	<p><b>Resilience</b></p>	<p>Engage confidently with the RE curriculum and learn that anything is possible and failure is not something to fear but to learn from. We will support each other to learn new things and share what we know so that we might help others.</p>
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<p><b>At the end of the unit, I will be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tell the difference between different types of religious literature – sacred text and religious text - and explain why they are important to believers at different times in their lives.</li> <li>Identify stories and other texts that are important to me, and can talk about the impact these have had on my life.</li> <li>Identify the moral and hidden meaning within a sacred writing, and represent (aspects of) a religious story in a creative way.</li> <li>Suggest reasons why religious stories are represented in different ways.</li> <li>Explore Hindu faith stories and investigate the meaning they have for Hindus.</li> <li>Suggest how religious stories have an impact on the way believers live their lives.</li> </ul>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Krishna</b></p>													

## Krishna

Hindus believe Brahman is a universal soul that can take on many forms. Brahman has three main forms, Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. They are called the Trimurti. Krishna is the eighth avatar of Vishnu. He delivered a famous message known as the Baghavat Gita which asks people to act selflessly. Krishna features in several Hindu stories and poems, including 'Lord Krishna the Butter Thief', 'Lord Krishna and Kaliya the Snake' and 'Lord Krishna and Lord Brahma'.

### Krishna and the Butter Thief

When Krishna was a child he loved butter. He would go into the houses in the village with his friends and eat any butter, yogurt or milk he could find. To try to stop the boys from eating the food, his mother, Yasoda, hung it from high places. One day Krishna threw stones at the hanging milk pots, damaging them. Krishna drank the milk that spilt. Then he took the butter and fed what he couldn't eat to the monkeys. Krishna became worried that his mother would be cross, so he ran and hid. When Yasoda saw the mess she picked up a butter churning stick and began to look for Krishna to teach him a lesson. When she found him his face was wet with tears. She was overcome by motherly love and her anger faded away.



## Krishna and Sudama

Krishna and Sudama were good friends. Krishna had everything he needed and more, but Sudama was very poor. One day Sudama's wife told him they did not have enough food to feed their children. Sudama was sad but he did not want to ask favours from anyone. His wife suggested he visited Krishna, so he did. Sudama took the last of the food they had in a small package to give to Krishna as a gift. When he got to Krishna's palace everyone was surprised that the great king ran to meet such a poor man. Upon seeing Krishna's wealth Sudama became embarrassed about the small gift he had brought. Krishna snatched the present and exclaimed he had never tasted such good food. Sudama stayed with Krishna for three days. They ate from plates made of gold. Sudama thought often of his hungry children but he could not bring himself to ask Krishna for any favours. When he left the palace Sudama worried about his family. He wondered how he would explain to his wife that he wasn't bringing anything back. As he approached the place his home had been, he realised it had gone. In its place there was a magnificent palace. His wife came out from it dressed in elegant clothes. She told Sudama that Krishna had ended all their miseries.



## Why We Speak the Truth

Kabir was weaving and humming in his home, while thinking divine thoughts. Suddenly the front door was flung open by an intruder. The intruder demanded Kabir helped him hide from the police. Kabir pointed to some bales of cotton and said, "There you will be safe." A little while later a policeman came to his door and said, "I am trying to arrest a thief. I saw him come this way. Did you see him?" Kabir silently pointed towards the cotton. The policeman looked at Kabir and decided he was lost in his own world. The policeman did not take him seriously and he hurried on. After some time the thief emerged and confronted Kabir, "You are a saint. You are supposed to protect people, even sinners! Why did you tell the police where I was? What if I had been found?" Kabir said, "My dear friend, I spoke the truth since I was sure only the truth was capable of protecting you. If I had lied we would have both been in trouble. The truth alone saves us in the long run. Falsehoods lead to ruin and sorrow." The thief then stopped breaking the law and became Kabir's disciple.



## The Fruit of Service

There was once a kind and generous woodcutter who worked hard. He always did his best to help people and share what he had with others. One day he lovingly fed a Sadhu (holy man). The Sadhu was so touched by the man's selfless kindness that he gave him a Parasmani as a gift. The Sadhu told the man that the special stone would convert metal into gold, however it would only work once and it had to be used before sundown. The man rushed to his house and began hunting for the largest metal item he could find. He decided everything was too small so he went to the town to buy something bigger. Eventually he found a large metal pot.



"This is perfect," he thought, "I will become the richest of the rich!" As he returned he noticed that the sun had almost fallen below the horizon. Quickly he grabbed the Parasmani and began rubbing it against the pot he had bought. Alas, it did not work! With a sinking heart he realised he had been too greedy. He had ignored the rules of the Parasmani. When his wife saw how devastated he was she said, "I noticed the sun was setting and you were not back, so I turned this axe to gold. The gold on this axe will make us plenty rich. We do not need more than this. Let us make our life on our own efforts. If we keep serving people, we will be blessed."

## Ajamil

Once there was a priest called Ajamil. He had studied the scriptures and spent his time with good people. As he grew older he started to spend time with people who liked to do the wrong thing. He started lying, eating meat, drinking alcohol and stealing money from his home for gambling. Many years passed like this until he had a son. He named his son Narayan, after a god, and he loved spending time with him. When Ajamil was old his health began to fail. He would lie in his bed all day and all night, waiting to die. All he could think about was his son. He would say his son's name over and over again. As time passed he started to see change in his life. He remembered praying to Narayan when he was younger and he thought about how he had spent his life. He began to regret all of the bad things he had done. He knew he was suffering because of his bad decisions. He spent his last few days chanting 'Narayan'. Due to God's grace his health returned and he was allowed to live much longer. He devoted the rest of his life to being a good person. Many years later when he died, God came to take him and he washed away all of Ajamil's sins.

## Vocabulary

Sanskrit	an ancient Indo-European language of India, in which the Hindu scriptures and classical Indian epic poems are written and from which many northern Indian languages are derived.
Vedas	The Vedas are a large body of religious texts originating in ancient India. Composed in Vedic Sanskrit, the texts make up the oldest layer of Sanskrit literature and the oldest scriptures of Hinduism.
Symbolism	the use of symbols to represent deeper meanings or themes. Symbols are usually objects or pictures - which are easy to understand - but they represent something more complex. In Hinduism, murtis used in worship represent a key form of symbolism in faith.
Parasmani	the Indian name of Philosopher's stone. It is said to be a legendary alchemical substance said to be capable of turning base metals (lead, for example) into gold.
devotion	deep love or loyalty
avatar	a deity which comes down to earth in a human form, an animal form or a partly human and partly animal form.
transformation	major change in the form, shape, character, or nature of something or someone.
virtue	morally good behaviour or character

## Sacred Writings – Hinduism Quiz

- 1). Who is Krishna?
- 2). True or False, Hindus believe that telling the truth is a great virtue.
- 3). What is the moral of the story 'The Fruit of Service'?
- 4). What foods does the child Krishna like to eat?
- 5). Does the story Krishna and Sudama remind you of any other faith stories? Think about one you may have heard of in our work on Sikhism for example.

