

Hinduism Glossary

Write a description for each word below *in your own words*.

Aum or Om _____

Gods _____

Hindu _____

Mandir _____

Offering _____

Shrine _____

Worship _____

Use these words to help you!

Pray building symbol Ganesh

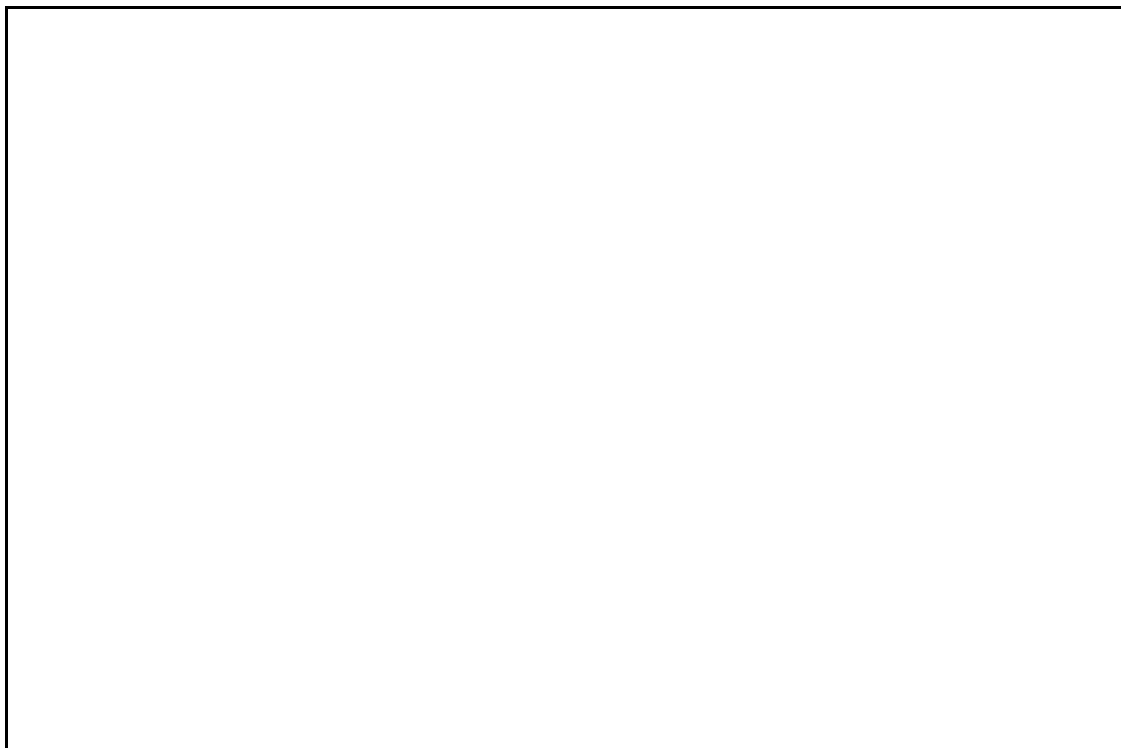
Shivafood and drink table pictures statues

Sing dance

Date _____ Name _____

What is a Hindu Shrine?

1. Draw a picture of a typical Hindu shrine.



2. Complete these sentences.

Hindus have a shrine in their homes as a special place to w_____. The shrine is usually a table covered in a cloth, with _____ or pictures of Hindu G_____, such as Ganesh , _____, or _____.

The Hindus treat the gods like a special guest, offering them _____ and drink.

Religion

There are many different stories about creation contained in the Hindu [scriptures](#)

Hindus believe that **Brahman** (the one God) has three functions and these are shown by the three gods, **Shiva**, **Brahma** and **Vishnu**.

These three are sometimes shown as three heads merging into one and are known as the **Trimurti**.

Brahma is the **Creator** and source of all creation.

Vishnu is the **Preserver** and responsible for keeping all good things on earth.

Shiva is the **Destroyer** and is needed because some things are harmful and because change is necessary for the creation of new things.

The sacred sound **aum** is believed to be the first sound at the start of creation.

Vishnu:

In most Hindu temples there will be a statue of the Hindu god, Vishnu. Vishnu is known as the Preserver. The name Vishnu means 'one who has entered into everything'. He is the power and the cause by which all things exist. His partner is Lakshmi, the goddess of good fortune.

Vishnu is usually shown sitting on a large snake with many heads.

The snake is called Ananta, which means 'endless' or 'eternal'.

He can be recognised by the following symbols:

- He carries a lotus flower, a symbol of beauty and purity,
- His skin colour is often shown as being blue,
- He has four arms to show that he is ruler of all four corners of the universe,
- He holds a conch shell, which Indian warriors used to blow as a battle signal. The conch represents the five elements of earth, water, fire, wind and air.
- He carries two weapons, a club or mace and a discus;
- He also carries the sword of wisdom, and
- Sometimes he has a bow, which represents the cosmic senses.

Name of Hindu God: _____.

Names of children in group:

What does the god represent? What is their role?

What do they look like in paintings/ sculptures?

What objects/flowers/colours are associated with them?

Write down anything else you found out about this god.