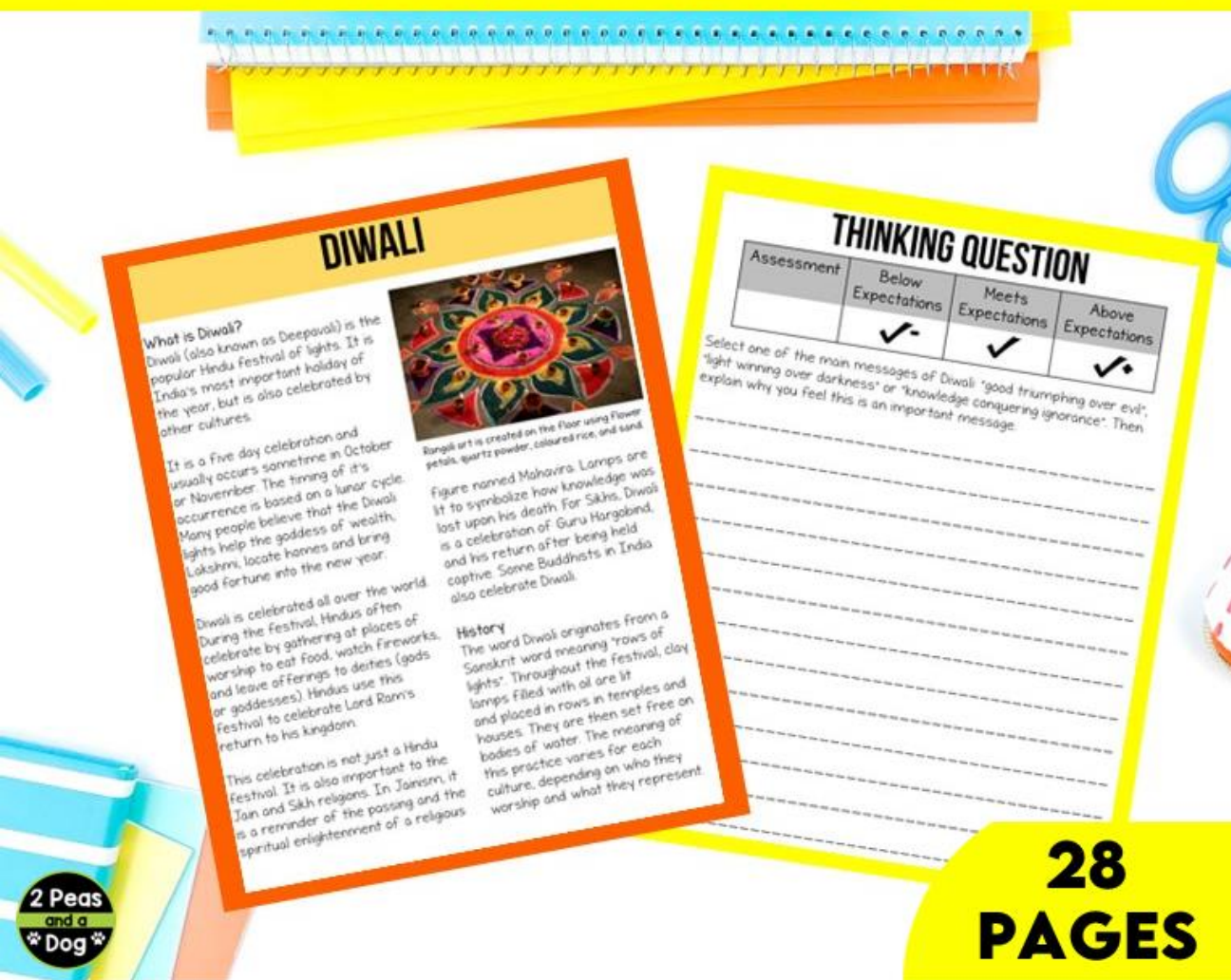


# DIWALI ARTICLE PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS

# RESOURCE INCLUDES



- ✓ 1 Non-Fiction Article
- ✓ Regular & Modified Version
- ✓ Teacher Instructions
- ✓ MP3 Audio Files
- ✓ 3 Post-Reading Activities
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ Print & Digital Formats

  
**2 Peas and a Dog**

Middle School Teaching Resources

# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## SAMPLE ANSWERS

1. What is Diwali?

Diwali (also known as Deepavali) is India's most important festival.

2. How many days is Diwali celebrated?

Five days.

3. Explain how Diwali is celebrated.

Many people believe in the goddess of Wealth, Lakshmi, and light. People clean their homes and wear new clothes.

4. How is Diwali celebrated in different religions?

Hindus living in the north of India worship the goddess of wealth and prosperity. They light lamps and offer prayers to the deities.

5. What other religions celebrate Diwali?

Jainism, Sikhism and Buddhism.

6. Where does the word Diwali originate from?

The word Diwali originates from the Sanskrit word 'dip' which means 'light' and 'avali' which means 'row'. So, Diwali means 'row of lights'.

7. Explain how Diwali is celebrated in different religions.

Throughout the festival, people light lamps and offer prayers to the goddess of wealth and prosperity. In rows in temples and homes, people light lamps and offer prayers to the goddess of wealth and prosperity.

## ANSWERS

1. Why does the article use subheadings?

- A. To help the reader find different information easier
- B. To let the reader know what each section is about
- C. To make it easier to read
- D. All of the above

2. According to the article, what religions celebrate Diwali?

- A. Christians, Sikhs and Jains

# ANSWER KEYS

3. How is Diwali celebrated in different religions?

- C. To make it match the subtitle
- D. None of the above

4. Which is NOT a Diwali message?

- A. Good food should be shared by friends
- B. Good triumphing over evil
- C. Light winning over darkness
- D. Knowledge conquering ignorance

## REGULAR ARTICLE

## MODIFIED ARTICLE

## DIWALI

### Traditions

Diwali is a time for gift giving, visiting friends and family, lots of food, cleaning and decorating houses, fireworks, and wearing new clothes.



Sweets are a popular treat on Diwali.

Diwali is called Deepavali. During this time, people clean their homes and buy gold or silver jewelry as a way to bring good luck for their homes and families.

On the second day of this celebration, clay lamps called rangoli are made for the floor using powders or sand.

The end of this five day festival is called Bhai Dooj. Love between brothers and sisters is celebrated. Brothers visit their married sisters, and are welcomed into the home with a meal.

On the fourth day of Diwali (Govardhan Puja), family and friends visit each other and offer greetings of luck for the new year.

These traditions are all to celebrate the main messages of Diwali: good triumphing over evil, light winning over darkness, and knowledge conquering ignorance.

## DIWALI

On the second day, decorations are made for the house. Clay lamps are displayed, and colourful designs called rangoli are created on the floor using powders or sand.



Rangoli art is created on the floor using flower petals, quartz powder, coloured rice and sand.

The third day of this celebration contains the main event of food and fireworks.

On the fourth day of Diwali, family and friends visit each other and offer greetings of luck for the new year.

The end of this five day festival is when brothers visit their married sisters, and are welcomed into the home with a meal.

These traditions are all to celebrate the main messages of Diwali: "good winning over evil", "light winning over darkness" and "knowledge conquering ignorance".

### Word Bank

Hindu, Jain, Sikh - religions

Buddhists - people who follow the Buddhism religion

Temples - religious buildings

Rangoli - art created on the floor using flower petals, quartz powder, coloured rice, or sand.

Conquering - to defeat something

# REGULAR & MODIFIED ARTICLES



# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## LESSON PLAN



### Diwali

#### Lesson Overview:

Students will work on their non-fiction reading skills while reading this article.

#### Materials Needed:

Photocopy a class set of the following or use the provided Google Slides version for 1:1 technology schools:

- K-W-L Chart
- **LESSON PLAN** audio file
- **LESSON PLAN** version
- **LESSON PLAN** using Google

#### Video

- Video #1: [What is Diwali?](#)

## ARTICLE QUESTIONS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of lined paper.

#### Comprehension Questions:

1. What is Diwali?
2. How many days is this celebration?
3. Explain how Diwali lights can help.
4. How is Diwali celebrated in other countries?
5. What are the traditions of Diwali?
6. When is Diwali celebrated?
7. Explain the significance of Diwali.
8. Select one tradition of Diwali and describe it on those days. (2 marks)
9. What do all of the traditions of Diwali have in common?

### THINKING QUESTION

Assessment	Below Expectations	Meets Expectations	Above Expectations
	✓-	✓	✓+

Making Connections: What other holidays have similar traditions to Diwali like gift giving, visiting friends and family, lots of food, cleaning and decorating houses, fireworks, and wearing new clothes? Explain.

## POST-READING ACTIVITIES

# TEACHER FEEDBACK



“Great resource! I loved the inclusion of the audio files and the modified versions of the text; this made this article suitable for my range of Grade 8 learners and allowed for an easy reading mark. Students learned a lot about Diwali and the students who celebrate taught us about their traditions as well! Thanks so much; this was exactly what I was looking for!” – Alexandra C.

# LESSON FORMATS



**PDF**

✓ Individual & Whole Unit



**DIGITAL**

✓ Google Slides

**RESOURCE CAN BE USED IN-PERSON OR ONLINE**