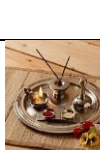




2

Key Vocabulary:

Hindu	A follower of Hinduism.	
Aum	is one of the most sacred Hindu symbols, Aum means "to sound out loudly."	
God	a superhuman being or spirit worshipped as having power over nature or human fortunes; a deity	
Deity	A deity or a god is a hypothetical supernatural being who is considered divine or sacred	
Ganesh	an elephant-headed deity, son of Shiva and Parvati	
Murtis	A murti is itself not a god in Hinduism, but it is a shape, embodiment or manifestation of a deity.	
Sacred	regarded with great respect and reverence by a particular religion	
Belief	a religious conviction	
Shrine	a place regarded as holy because of its associations with a divinity	
Puju	Puja is an act of devotion which can be carried out at home or in the Mandir	

Core Four

3

What is Hinduism? Hinduism is the world's third-largest religion (after Christianity and Islam). Hinduism believes in only one god, but one that can appear in many forms	Aum symbol It is a symbol used in Hinduism, which is the religion that pupils will be studying in this unit. It is called 'Aum' and made up of 3 sounds: 'A', 'U' and 'M'. It is sometimes written as 'OM'. Many Hindus believe that it was the very first sound out of which the universe was created. It is a symbol and sound that is used by many Hindus to represent Brahman (God), the ultimate being, whose spirit is	Puju Tray In the puja ceremony flowers and water are used not only for decoration and ritual cleansing respectively but also as offerings, while prayers and God's names are chanted. Therefore, we may say that puja is a devotional service, in which water and flowers are offered to God, along with the recitation of His names.	Hindu Gods Hindus believe that gods live in heaven, and heaven has unlimited capacity. Therefore, these 330 million Hindu gods could be the divine beings living on that planet. In practice, Hindus worship more than 33 gods but not 330 million gods.
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Hinduism

What do Hindus believe God is like?



Key facts/stats:

4

- Ninety per cent of Hindus live in India
- Sikhism and Buddhism are both derived from Hinduism.
- Most Hindus are vegetarian.
- Hindus believe in one God called Brahman but worship many gods because they think they are manifestations of Him.

5



Puju Tray



Ganesh



Brahman