

# Hinduism

LO: TO EXPLAIN THE MAIN BELIEFS OF HINDUISM



# The Supreme God



- ▶ Hindus believe in a supreme God, Brahman, and that he is the universe and everything in it.
- ▶ However, they worship many different deities because Hindus believe that these deities represent different aspects of the supreme God.
- ▶ Watch this [BBC video](#) to help you understand this tricky concept.



# Try this...



- ▶ Draw a picture of yourself in the middle of a piece of paper and write your name above your drawing.
- ▶ Around your drawing, write all the different things that you are and what you represent to other people, such as son/daughter, grandchild, student, footballer, dancer etc.
- ▶ Hopefully now you have a better understanding of how one person (or God!) can be many things to different people.

# Deities



- ▶ Use research to find out about some of the different forms of Hindu Gods. You can present this information in any way you choose.
- ▶ From the video, you should have learnt that communities, families and individuals worship specific Gods that they relate to because of the values and characteristics that they represent.
- ▶ Choose the Hindu God/Goddess that you relate to most (perhaps because they represent qualities that you admire or value).
- ▶ Draw a detailed picture of that deity and write a fact file to accompany it.



# Main beliefs



- ▶ Hinduism is a religion that has fused together lots of different traditions and practices. As such, there is no one way to be a Hindu. However, there are some core beliefs that all Hindus share.
- ▶ Click on the ovals to find out more about each one.

Truth is eternal

Reincarnation

Dharma

Moksha

# Truth is eternal



- ▶ Hindus believe that they should pursue knowledge and understanding of the truth.
- ▶ Truth is the only reality.
- ▶ There is only one truth but the wise can express this in many ways.

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# Dharma



- ▶ Hindus believe that there are right and wrong ways to behave.
- ▶ Dharma includes the right behaviour, following the moral law and taking duties seriously.
- ▶ It is a central part to Hindus' daily lives.
- ▶ It is necessary to do the right thing at all times.

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# Reincarnation



- ▶ Hindus believe that all living things have a soul that cannot be destroyed.
- ▶ Reincarnation means that, when a living thing dies, its soul enters a new living thing.
- ▶ Karma (good and bad actions during a lifetime) affects what living thing the soul will be reborn into.

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# Moksha



- ▶ The ultimate goal for all Hindus is Moksha.
- ▶ Moksha means the liberation of the soul from the cycle of rebirth and death.
- ▶ It occurs when the soul is reunited with the god Brahma.
- ▶ There are several ways this can happen, by following the:
  - ▶ Path of Duty
  - ▶ Path of Knowledge
  - ▶ Path of Devotion to God

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