Festivals

RE and Worldviews

Festivals: How do ancient stories influence modern celebrations? Year 3

Key Vocabulary

Ramayana - A *Hindu epic/*story from a very long time ago e.g. Rama and Sita
Diwali-Hindu festival of lights celebrating light winning over darkness
and good winning over evil
Diva lamp- small oil lamp used by Hindus
Community-ia group of people who care about each other and share things, like where they live or what they believe.
Symbol – something that represents a bigger idea
Traditions- something people always do the same way every year or on special occasions.
Festival- a celebrations where people enjoy sharing traditions
Culture- the way people live their lives. It includes things like the food they eat, the clothes they wear, the music they like, and the way they celebrate things like Christmas.
Religion- what people believe about God or how the world was made. It can also include special stories, places, and celebrations.
Continuity- Continuity means something keeps going and does not change much over time.
Change-things do not stay the same over time
Data-information collected to learn about things

The story of Rama and Sita

The story continues to be shared because it teaches important ideas about good overcoming evil, loyalty and courage. These ideas help explain why the story is still remembered and celebrated today.

Deeper meanings are hidden within the Ramayana

The Ramayana is not only a story but a source of meaning for many Hindus. Different characters and events symbolise bigger ideas such as light defeating darkness and doing the right thing even when it is difficult. These meanings help people apply the story to their own lives.

The story of Rama and Sita is remembered through Diwali today

Diwali is celebrated in different ways in India and the UK, showing both shared beliefs and cultural diversity. Celebrations can include lamps, prayers, food and community events.

What can data teach us about how Christmas is celebrated in the UK today?

Data can show patterns in how people celebrate Christmas in the UK. This might include spending, activities, or who celebrates religiously or non-religiously. Data helps us understand society but does not tell the whole story.

Changes in the way people celebrate Christmas in the UK over time.

Ancient Christian stories remain important for many people, but modern celebrations may focus more on family, gifts or media. Both continuity and change can exist together.

How do ancient stories continue to influence modern celebrations today?

Ancient stories such as the Ramayana and the Christian nativity still shape modern life. Festivals show how beliefs influence identity, behaviour and community life. People interpret and celebrate these stories differently, leading to diversity within shared traditions.