

TITLE: Diwali Diya Paper Craft

OBJECTIVE: To learn about Diwali and make a paper version of their traditional lantern and learn the history of it.

TIME: 20 - 30 minutes

MATERIALS:

- Paper plates
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue stick, tape or stapler
- Diya template (page below)
- Construction paper in different colors



INSTRUCTIONS:

Pre-work – Have a sample ready to show how an accordion folded paper looks. Have trash bins readily available for scraps.

1. **2 min.** - When ready, ask for 2 volunteers to read the promise and law.
2. **7 min.** – Ask group if anyone has heard of the Diwali festival then explain what it is:
Every year around October and November, Hindus around the world celebrate Diwali, or Deepavali—a festival of lights that stretches back more than 2,500 years. In India, the celebration traditionally marks the biggest holiday of the year. It celebrates good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. People light small oil lamps called diyas and candles to represent this inner light.
3. **15 min.** – Cut out the diya (template provided below) and color and decorate to your liking. With a piece of construction paper, fold it accordion style along the long edge. This makes 2 candles. After folding is complete, fold in half and cut so it makes the 2 backings. Take one of them, fold it in half again, apply glue on the side, and stick them together. Spread the folds to form a semicircle. Glue or tape the diya to the folded paper and you're done!
4. **10 min.** – Ask some of the discussion questions below. Then have the girls clean up their stations and line up to go back to their teacher or caregivers.

Discuss: What is a holiday tradition your family does? How do you decorate your home for the holidays? Describe your favorite ornament? Describe a triumphant moment you've had?



