



India: Diwali

Post-visit Activity: Quick Write

Name: _____

Date: _____

Use the word bank to produce a Quick Write describing the significance of the Diwali celebration in India and how it is celebrated.

diyas

rangoli

sari

fall

harvest

Lakshmi

family

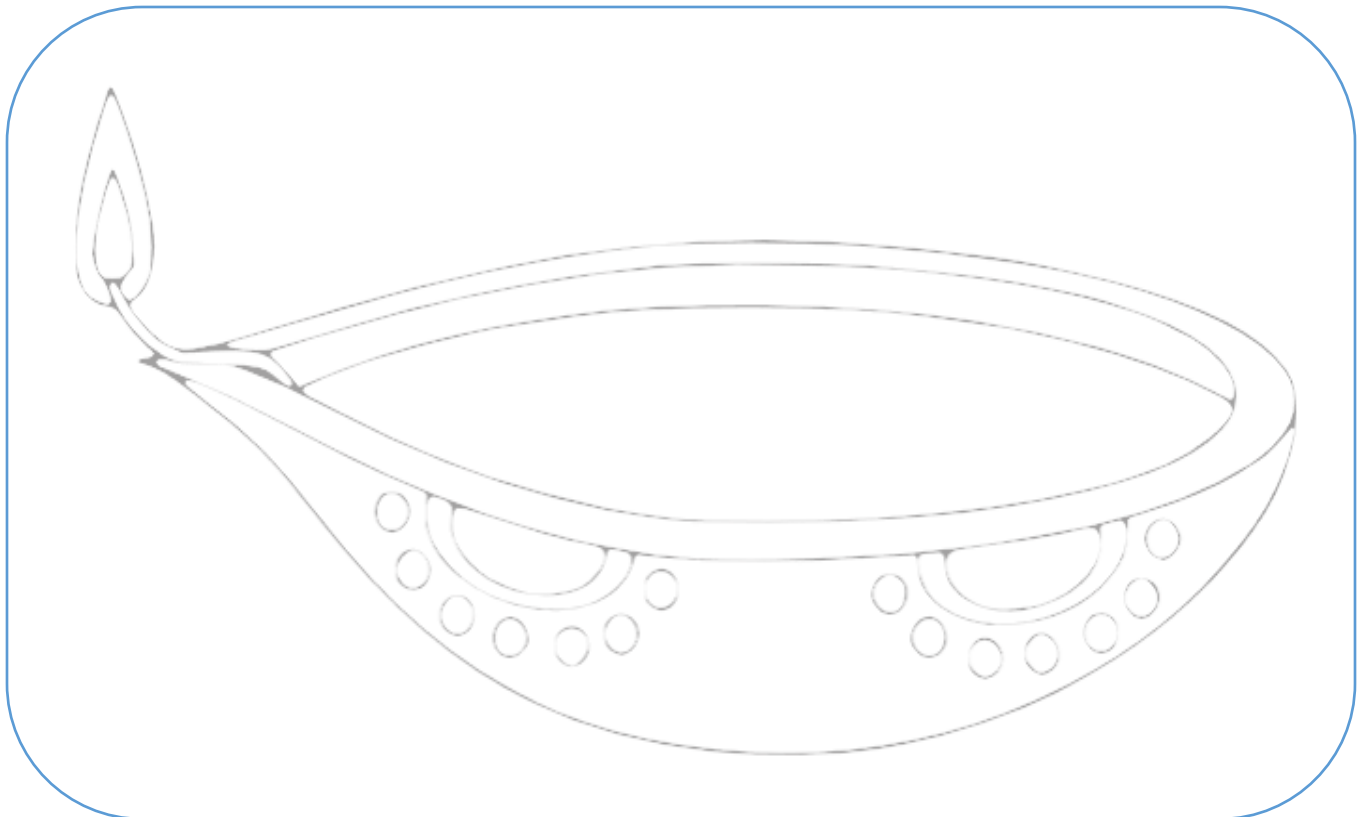
business

food

lights

temple

festival





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While student's writings will vary, the Quick Write should include most of the vocabulary words from the word bank and describe the following basic ideas from the celebration:

- Diwali was traditionally celebrated as a **harvest festival** in the **fall** during October or November.
- Family celebrations include eating traditional **food**, going to the **temple** to worship, and buying a new colorful **sari** to wear.
- **Diyas** are small clay lamps that are used during the **festival**. The **lights** represent good over evil. The goddess **Lakshmi** is also honored by lighting a pathway into homes. She is the goddess of prosperity and encourages devotees to work hard, give to others, and enjoy life.
- Today, the **festival** signifies the beginning of a new **business** cycle. The last day of Diwali kicks off the new business year. They celebrate hoping for a new and prosperous year.
- They also decorate by creating colorful **rangoli** designs outside of their front doors and places of business. The **rangoli** is a traditional welcome mat made from colored sand, rice, or flower petals. It welcomes gods, goddesses, and friends during the festivities.