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
India: Diwali

Post-visit Activity: Quick Write KEY

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.