



Hindu Council of Australia
Special Religious Education
Scope & Sequence
Year 1-6

Hindu Council of Australia Special Religious Education Program

Hindu Council of Australia's Special Religious Education (SRE) Program provides the opportunity for students to connect with their rich spiritual and cultural heritage in a way that is both deeply meaningful and relevant to their lives in modern Australia. A focus of Hindu SRE is to provide a supportive environment for students to experience the benefits of Hinduism.

Hinduism has innumerable benefits for students, helping to promote increased well-being, better social skills and greater academic skills. From a spiritual perspective, it provides students the opportunity to develop a deep and fulfilling relationship with God and experience the sacred connection between themselves and others. Hinduism fosters the positive values of respect, tolerance, empathy, determination, resilience and service to others and encourages a healthy, balanced and meaningful life in harmony with community and the natural world.

HCA's SRE Program repeats the same themes for years 1 to 6 with lessons successively building upon what was learned at previous year levels. The program will continue to evolve over time based upon our review process which includes interaction with students and their needs.

HINDU COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA: SRE SCOPE AND SEQUENCE YEARS 1-6

TERM ONE - Festivals

First week (Festivals) - Briefly explain the festivals we have celebrated during the holidays (Sankranthi and Vaikunta Ekadashi) and encourage the students to share with the class any religious places they have visited in their holidays, especially to India.

Second, Third and Fourth week (Lord Shiva) - Tell the students different stories of Lord Shiva as part of Shivaratri.

Fifth, Sixth week (Holi) - Discuss Holi and how it's celebrated in different regions of India, the precautions to be taken while playing with holi colors.

Seventh week (Ugadhi) - Tell the children about Ugadhi, Tamil New Year and New Year celebrations in different states of India.

Eighth, Ninth and Tenth week (Ram Navami) - As Ram Navami festival comes during this time, we will briefly discuss the story of Ramayana and what we learn from it.

Outcome : The student becomes familiar with the significance of Hindu festivals and celebration of some of the festivals falling during the term.

TERM TWO – Gods and their stories

First, Second and Third week (Ramayana) - Continue with Ramayana story and talk about children's favourite, Hanuman and his adventures.

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth week (Helpful God) - Tell small stories about greatness of God, how he helps his devotees when they are having troubles.

Seventh, Eighth week (Symbols and Vahans of God) - Talk to children about the different symbols of Hinduism and the different vehicles of the Gods.

Ninth and Tenth week (Quiz and Games) - Conduct quizzes and guess the missing alphabets games by dividing the class in two groups.

Outcome : The student learns stories and icons associated with some of the Hindu Gods.

TERM THREE – Festivals and Gods continued

First week (Shravan festivals) - The Festivals we celebrate in Shravan Maas, what we do on these festival days and how we celebrate it.

Second week (Independence struggle) - Indian Independence Day, a brief summary of the independence struggle of India.

Third week (Raksha Bandhan) - Story of Raksha Bandhan, how and why its celebrated. Distribution of Rakhis to the children.

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth week (Krishna) - Krishna is the topic. Simplified version of Krishna's life story for children according to their age.

Seventh, Eighth and Ninth week (Ganesha) - Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations and the stories behind the emergence of the festival.

Tenth week (Navratri) - Discuss how children celebrate Navratri and different traditions that we follow.

Outcome : The student learns about struggle of India, the place of origin of Hinduism and learns more about Gods and festivals.

TERM FOUR

First week (Dasara celebration) - How did the children celebrate Dasara and what did they do at home.

Second week (Dasara stories) - Different stories related to the festival Dasara.

Third week (About Deepavali) - Talk to children about the Deepavali celebrations at school and encourage them to participate.

Fourth, Fifth week (About Deepavali continued) - Deepavali festival and how its celebrated in different parts of India.

Sixth week (Devotional Hymns) - Getting children to practice their singing of bajans for the school Diwali get together.

Seventh week (Get together) - Giving final instructions to the students about the get together.

Eighth week (Celebrate Deepavali) - DEEPAVALI CELEBRATIONS and the last day of scripture for the year.

Outcome : The student learns about festivals of Dasara and Deepavali and associated bhajans (hymns)

ANNUAL OUTCOME

Year 1 : The students learns about the concept of Hindu festivals, Hindu Gods and their significance.

Year 2 : The student learns stories of Hindu Gods, their icons and how some of the festivals are celebrated.

Year 3 : The student learns about the significance of Hindu Gods, significance & meaning behind their icons and Hindu festivals.

Year 4 : The student learns about Hindu Gods, how to participate in festivals and hymns associated with some of the Gods.

Year 5 : The student learns about Hindu Gods, the inner meaning of their stories, how festivals are celebrated in different regions and about place of birth of Hinduism.

Overall Outcome : The student learns about Hindu festivals, how they are celebrated, stories of Gods & their icons, a brief history of independence of its country of birth and they also learn to sing some bhajans (hymns).