

I should already know:

Who cares for this wonderful world and why.

That there are other religions as well as Christianity

That there are important people for all religions

**By the end of this unit I will know:**

Hindus worship one Supreme Being, Brahman. The different images of gods and goddesses communicate the different attributes of Brahman.

Many Hindus start their prayers with the Aum sound which was the first sound that began the creation of the universe.

Many Hindus worship at a shrine in the home and at the mandir.

The Ganges river is an important pilgrimage site in India.

Key Vocabulary**Aum**

The sound that began the creation of the universe, used by Hindus in worship.

Aarti

An offering of light to the deity by moving lighted oil lamps in a circular motion on a plate in front of the murti and then offered to devotees.

Brahman

The one supreme being

Mandir

Hindu Temple/place of worship

Shrine

A special holy place, where a deity or pictures of gods are kept

Murti

Image of a god or goddess

Mantra

Chants or prayers to God; repeating holy sounds or words

Puja

The Hindu word for worship

Prasad

Blessed food that has been offered to the deity and then shared among devotees

The three forms Brahman called the Trimurti.

Brahma is the **creator** of the world and all creatures.

He is usually shown with four heads.

Vishnu is the **preserver** of the world.

His role is to return to the earth in troubled times and restore the balance of good and evil. He has blue skin and four arms.

Shiva is the **destroyer** of the universe.

He destroys the universe in order to re-create it. Shiva has blue skin, a third eye and carries a trident.

