## Eid ul-Fitr (Islam)

Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar that comes before the festival of Eid ul-Fitr. Ramadan is a time of fasting and during this month Muslims do not eat food during daylight hours. Ramadan does not start on the same date each year because Muslims follow the lunar calendar. It usually falls between August and October. The festival of Eid starts with the first appearance of the new moon and is a festival of fast breaking. It is a family celebration where people go to the mosque and say special prayers. New clothes are worn, gifts are exchanged and money is given to charity. Children exchange gifts of sugar almonds in decorated boxes. The festival lasts for three days.

## **Decorated Boxes**

## Resources

- Ready-made boxes (or card and nets)
- Coloured paint and brushes

## Approach

- 1 Talk to the children about the celebration of Eid and how people prepare special meals and take gifts of sweets and sugared almonds in decorated boxes to their friends.
- 2 If using a net, make up the boxes and leave to dry. Paint the background of the boxes.
- 3 When dry, decorate the boxes in Islamicstyle patterns.

