



the money raised. Ask him or her to talk to the children about how the charity uses these donations to help others.

- ▶ Ask a Muslim to speak to the children about how collecting zakat at Ramadan makes them feel.

Id-ul-Fitr cards



Id-ul-Fitr is the day which marks the end of fasting after the month of Ramadan. It is a joyful occasion when families will wear their best clothes, go to the mosque for prayers, have special celebratory meals with their families and friends and give greetings cards and presents. The picture shows some Id greetings cards. The cards display a range of designs including flower and leaf designs, geometric patterns, images of mosques and minarets (including the Ka'bah in Makkah) and Arabic script. The special greeting is 'Id Mubarak' meaning 'Id blessings' or 'a happy Id'.

Discussing the photograph

- ▶ As a whole group, talk about the special times when the children send greetings cards to their friends.
- ▶ Talk to the children about the celebration of Id at the end of Ramadan.
- ▶ Look at the range of designs on the Id cards. Ask the children why they may think certain pictures or symbols are special.

Activities

- ▶ Use photocopyable page 56, 'Design an Id-ul-Fitr card' to create a collection of Id cards for a class display.
- ▶ Learn the Id greeting: 'Id Mubarak'.
- ▶ Gather the children's own cards and collect other Id cards to make a display on the theme of 'Celebrating Id-ul-Fitr'. This can be part of a display about Ramadan.
- ▶ Have an Id party with special food (there must not be any pork products). Muslims might have a sweet lamb curry and sweets such as those bought from Asian food shops.
- ▶ Make uncooked coconut sweets for the party – see the recipe resource, page 58 for Divali.

DIVALI

Rama and Sita



Divali is a Hindu New Year festival which occurs in the autumn – the precise date changing each year. Divali is celebrated in different ways in different parts of India, but in this country most Hindu communities will retell the story of Rama and Sita, and

worship the goddess Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity (for further information, see 'Lakshmi' below'). This is a celebration of Rama's rescue of Sita after she was captured by Ravana, the ten-headed demon.

This picture shows Lord Rama, the central figure with the bow, and his wife, Sita, the figure on his left. The figure on Lord Rama's right is that of his brother, Lakshman, also shown with a bow and arrows. At Lakshman's feet is the Monkey General, Hanuman, who helped Lord Rama to find Sita and to fight Ravana. The story of Lord Rama and Sita is told on photocopyable page 80 in Chapter 4 'Special books and stories'.

During Divali, Hindu families send each other Divali cards, give each other gifts and light divas, the small clay lights. In the business world, new accounts books for a new financial year are started at Divali.

Discussing the picture

- ▶ Invite the children to talk about the characters shown in the

