



READ YOUR WORLD



Themes

- holidays
- Hindu festival
- cultural awareness
- cultural traditions
- community

Cross-Curricular Connections

Geography
India

Language
holiday-specific
vocabulary

Reading
mythology
using picture clues

Writing
rhyming
poetry

Social Studies
cultural celebrations

Celebrate Durga Puja With Me!

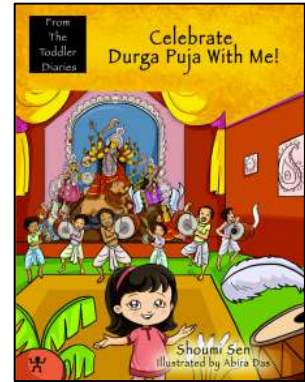
Celebrate Durga Puja with Me!

is a delightful book in which a young Indian girl shares how her family anticipates and celebrates *Durga Puja*, one of India's most cherished Hindu festivals.

The young Riya, takes us on a journey of traditions through crowded shopping malls, family gatherings, and lit up neighborhood streets adorned with colorful pandal structures.

Throughout the journey, we see how Riya and her family prepare to worship Ma Durga, the mother goddess who defeated the demon, Mahisasur, in a battle of good over evil.

Through the eyes of a child, this colorful book illustrates the beauty and excitement that festivals, holidays and celebrations bring to people all over the world.



Activities

➤ Create Your Own Goddess

Ma Durga is a powerful figure in Hindu mythology. She is a warrior goddess with 108 names and many hands. She rides a lion and provides protection from evil.

Every goddess has her own unique characteristics. Brainstorm a goddess you would like to create.

What is your goddess' name?

What are her strengths/characteristics?

Draw a detailed picture and write a description or story about your goddess.

➤ Read *Celebrate Holi With Me!* Compare the two holidays.

