

**Teacher's Guide
To**

**Festivals of
India
(Part 2)**

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(Part 2)

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Introduction

“Festivals of India -- Part 2” is a session full of fun and activity. The Vedic culture is notable for its abundance of festivals and celebrations. Each occasion has a deep, spiritual meaning behind it. It’s important that we know *why* we are celebrating along with *how* we celebrate.

This session takes a look at four well-known Vedic festivals. The background, or story, which led to the festival is learned along with the traditional ways of celebrating each event.

Two class periods are spent on each festival. In the first period, the story is told and the preparations for the celebration are made. In the second period, the children actually celebrate the festival. In a normal two-month session, four festivals can be covered over eight weeks.

Some festivals can be performed inside and others will be much more successful outside. Do your best to plan the outdoor ones in weather that will be suitable. You don’t have to go in the order that they are written.

You will need a lot of cooperation and help between the teachers for this session. For best results, meet each week *after* class is finished to confirm what is to be done for the next week and to be sure that everyone knows what their responsibilities are.

This is a wonderful session to involve the parents in. Ask for their help in the preparation lessons. Extra hands in the group activities will make everything run smoother. Consider inviting all parents to the celebration lessons. The children will be more serious if other adults are attending and the parents can experience some of the things that the children are learning. You may want to print a parent handout at the beginning of the session listing the festival schedule and inviting their participation.

Basic Format for all Festivals

Week One:

1. Tell the story that is found in the student booklets.
2. Divide into groups and make the advance preparations for the festival. Each group will have an adult group leader who is responsible for the materials and activities of that group. They should keep all children in their group engaged for the whole class period.
3. Have children record the festival schedule for the actual celebration in their booklets. Write it on the chalkboard and have them copy it. It will be good for them to know what will be happening and will increase their anticipation.

Week Two:

1. There will generally be some preparation for a few minutes before the celebration begins (room set-up, prasadam preparation, etc.).
2. The festival celebration begins!

The teacher's guide for this session will give some ideas for group activities to be performed in the festival preparation. It will also give you some forms to make the organization of children in groups a bit easier. As you plan the festivals in advance with your teachers and volunteers, write people's names down in this booklet to keep track of everyone's duties. Worksheet 1 can be copied and used throughout the session as a reminder to other teachers what their responsibilities are for each class.

If you don't have many children in your Sunday School, do only one or two of the preparation activities and simplify the festival as much as you need to. But let all the children take part and experience first-hand the nectar of our spiritual holy days.

Balaram's Appearance Day

Note: If children in groups are finished with an activity early, there are puzzles in their booklets on Pages 7 - 9 they can work on. Answers to the puzzles begin on Page 24.

Week One:

1. Tell each group the story of Lord Balaram's appearance. You can tell the story to all the children together or, if you have a wide age span, divide the children by age and tell the story more appropriately to each age group.

Storyteller 1 will be:

Storyteller 2 (if needed) will be:

2. Write the schedule for the festival up on the chalkboard so that the children can copy it in their booklets on Page 6. If they are to do anything during the week for preparation, have them write it under "My duties." For example, the children can all bring an unoffered jar of honey from home. The honey will be placed on the altar next week as an offering to Balaram, who was fond of honey. In their books they should write "Bring a jar of honey to class."

3. Divide the children into groups for different activities. You can group the children by age or use the opportunity to mix children up and make new friends. Choose the groups in advance, giving each group leader his list. You can spend the whole class hour letting the children decide which group they want to be in otherwise.

Group leaders are responsible for having the necessary materials for the class and for keeping their students engaged during the class period.

Group 1 -- Decorating a jhulan (swing) for the Deities

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 1: _____

Since the swing festival, Jhulan Yatra, ends on Balaram's appearance day, a swing can be decorated. Next week, your celebration can start with everyone having a turn swinging the Deities. Borrow an appropriate swing if you can and let the children decorate it with silk flowers, crepe paper, etc.

Group 2 -- Making Plows and Clubs

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 2: _____

This is a good activity for the younger children, especially the boys. Clubs and plows can be shaped out of tightly rolled newspaper that is then taped into the desired shape. The plows and clubs can then be painted with poster paints or wrapped in aluminum foil. The children can leave them in the classroom so they can be used next week for dress-up.

Group 3 -- Action Story: Balaram Kills Dvividha Gorilla

Group Leader: _____

Student in Group 3: _____

An action story written about Balaram killing the Dvividha demon can be found on Worksheet 2 of this booklet. You will need at least 5 children in this group to perform the story. This week the story can be rehearsed several times and next week this group will perform the story for the rest of the students.

Group 4 -- Honey Preparations

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 4: _____

Students can make sweets out of honey for the festival next week.
Varuni beverage can also be made.

Group 5 -- Making Altar Decorations

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 5: _____

Tissue paper or construction paper flowers can be made to decorate the altar next week. Small bees can also be made from construction paper or painted Styrofoam balls to be placed among the flowers. Worksheet 3 will give some instructions and ideas for paper flowers or origami.

Balaram's Appearance Day

Week Two -- Celebrating the festival

Each group from last week will probably have some initial preparation to do today. Keep the children in the same groups for this. Groups who are finished with the activities from last week can do some of the new preparations this week.

1. Preparation for festival 30 minutes

A. Rehearse action story

Leader _____

B. Set up jhulan for Jhulan Yatra

Leader _____

C. Decorate altar with tissue paper flowers and bees

Leader _____

D. Dress-up Younger boys can dress up like Balaram, carrying the clubs and plows made last week. Have sashes, turbans, chadars, crowns, etc. on hand for dressing up.

Leader _____

2. Celebrating the festival

Here is a basic schedule for the celebration:

A. Swing Deities and kirtan -- Allow all children to swing the Deities
10 - 15 minutes

B. Action story is performed (preferably in another room)
10 - 15 minutes

C. Children offer their bottles of honey on the altar, one by one, and then offer obeisances.
5 minutes

D. Arati and kirtan -- One child can perform simple arati (incense, lower and chamara).

10 minutes

E. Prasadam -- the honey preparations made last week are served out now. Varuni beverage should also be there for the children to try.

Sri Krishna Janmastami **The Appearance of Lord Krishna**

Note: If children in groups are finished with an activity early, there are puzzles in their booklets on Pages 19 - 21 they can work on. Answers to the puzzles begin on Page 24.

Week One:

1. Tell each group the story of Lord Krishna's appearance. You can tell the story to all the children together or, if you have a wide age span, divide the children by age and tell the story more appropriately to each age group.

Storyteller 1 will be:

Storyteller 2 (if needed) will be:

2. Write the schedule for the festival up on the chalkboard so that the children can copy it in their booklets on Page 6. If they are to do anything during the week for preparation, have them write it under "My duties." Next week for the celebration they will be chanting japa. They should write a reminder to themselves here, "Bring japa beads."

3. Divide the children into groups for different activities. You can group the children by age or use the opportunity to mix children up and make new friends. Choose the groups in advance, giving each group leader his list. You can spend the whole class hour letting the children decide which group they want to be in otherwise.

Group leaders are responsible for having the necessary materials for the class and for keeping their students engaged during the class period.

Group 1 -- Making Gifts for Krishna

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 1: _____

Gifts that your local temple Deities can use can be made by the children. Decorated towels, embroidered handkerchiefs, plate covers, necklaces and bracelets, painted jars for sugar, ghee or honey, are ideas of simple things the children can make. Focus on items that can actually be used at the temple.

Group 2 -- Making Birthday Cards for Krishna

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 2: _____

This is a good activity for the younger children. You can have some basic cards ready for them to add some details to. You can also have letters precut out of construction paper so the children can choose what they want to say and glue it on. Worksheet 4 has some other ideas for different types of cards. Make it interesting and not just a coloring session.

Group 3 -- Abhiseka

Group Leader: _____

Student in Group 3: _____

A small Gopal Krishna Deity would be good for this festival. This should be a small group of older children who will be sure to come next

week. They can learn to do a simple abhiseka, assemble the ingredients and get the paraphernalia together. Perhaps one of the pujaris would be willing to take charge of this class. These students can also be in charge of bringing necessary items next week, like yogurt, ghee, honey, etc. If they are supposed to bring something, have them write a reminder in their booklets under "My Duties."

One or two of the children can be chosen to dress the Deities after the abhiseka. They can choose the dress and jewelry this week.

Group 4 -- Cooking

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 4: _____

Students can make sweets or snacks that will keep.

Group 5 -- Room Decorations

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 5: _____

Decorations can be made to put up around the room next week. Paper chains, colored pictures of Krishna, illustrations of Krishna's pastimes, a mural of His appearance, etc. are some things that could be done. Students could also blow up balloons and write or draw a message on it, like "Happy Janmastami!". The balloons can be deflated and saved to be blown up again next week for decorations.

Sri Krishna Janmastami The Appearance of Lord Krishna

Week Two -- Celebrating the festival

Each group from last week will probably have some initial preparation to do today. Keep the children in the same groups for this. Groups who are finished with the activities from last week can do some of the new preparations this week.

1. Preparation for festival 30 minutes

A. Wrap gifts if you haven't done so yet.

Leader _____

B. Decorate room and altar (cards can be used on the altar)

Leader _____

C. Prepare for abhiseka

Leader _____

2. Celebrating the festival

Here is a basic schedule for the celebration:

A. Abhiseka with kirtan -- The older children will perform this and other students can have a chance to pour a conchshell of water over the Deities.

15 - 20 minutes

B. Chant one round of japa together (while Deities are being dressed)

10 minutes

C. Opening the gifts

5 - 10 minutes

D. Arati and kirtan -- One child can perform simple arati (incense, lower and chamara).

10 minutes

E. Prasadam -- If sweets or snacks were made last week they can be served. It may be good to have drinks and other special prasadam for the children.

Radhastami

The Appearance of Srimati Radharani

Note: If children in groups are finished with an activity early, there are puzzles in their booklets on Pages 25 and 26 they can work on. Have them do Page 26 first, so the puzzle will already be finished if they cut Page 25.

Week One:

1. Tell each group the story of Radharani's appearance. You can tell the story to all the children together or, if you have a wide age span, divide the children by age and tell the story more appropriately to each age group.

Storyteller 1 will be:

Storyteller 2 (if needed) will be:

2. Write the schedule for the festival up on the chalkboard so that the children can copy it in their booklets on Page 6. If they are to do anything during the week for preparation, have them write it under "My duties."

3. Divide the children into groups for different activities. You can group the children by age or use the opportunity to mix children up and make new friends. Choose the groups in advance, giving each group leader his list. You can spend the whole class hour letting the children decide which group they want to be in otherwise.

Group leaders are responsible for having the necessary materials for the class and for keeping their students engaged during the class period.

Radhastami

The Appearance of Srimati Radharani

Note: If children in groups are finished with an activity early, there are puzzles in their booklets on Pages 25 and 26 they can work on. Have them do Page 26 first, so the puzzle will already be finished if they cut Page 25.

Week One:

1. Tell each group the story of Radharani's appearance. You can tell the story to all the children together or, if you have a wide age span, divide the children by age and tell the story more appropriately to each age group.

Storyteller 1 will be:

Storyteller 2 (if needed) will be:

2. Write the schedule for the festival up on the chalkboard so that the children can copy it in their booklets on Page 6. If they are to do anything during the week for preparation, have them write it under "My duties."

3. Divide the children into groups for different activities. You can group the children by age or use the opportunity to mix children up and make new friends. Choose the groups in advance, giving each group leader his list. You can spend the whole class hour letting the children decide which group they want to be in otherwise.

Group leaders are responsible for having the necessary materials for the class and for keeping their students engaged during the class period.

Group 4 -- Learn song about Radharani's qualities

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 4: _____

On the cassette tape, Songs for Krishna's Kids by Mahatma das, there is a song called "The 25 Qualities of Srimati Radharani." The tape is available from Krishna Culture (1-800-829-2579). On the tape there is an adult singing part of the song and children singing part of the song.

Divide the children into two groups and have one group sing the adult part and one the children's part. Or if your group is small, simply have the children singing the children's part as the tape plays the other parts. (If you hear the tape, these instructions will make a lot more sense.) The words to the song are on Worksheet 7 and should be copied and passed out to all the children.

This can be practiced until the children know it well. Next week it will be sung before the rest of the students as part of the celebration.

Group 5 -- Cooking

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 5: _____

Plum chutney and fried cracker snacks? Or any other snacks that will keep.

Radhastami

Week Two -- Celebrating the festival

Each group from last week will probably have some initial preparation to do today. Keep the children in the same groups for this. Groups who are finished with the activities from last week can do some of the new preparations this week.

1. Preparation for festival 30 minutes

A. Rehearse song once or twice

Leader _____

B. Wrap gifts if you haven't done so

Leader _____

C. Place papers showing Radha's qualities around the room

Leader _____

D. Face Painting -- the older girls can paint gopi dots on the younger girls (and themselves, if they wish). If you don't have the gopi dot paint, start with a base of tilak and add food color. It should come off with cold cream (no promises).

Leader _____

2. Celebrating the festival

Here is a basic schedule for the celebration:

A. Read Radharani's pastimes

10 minutes

B. Sing song of Radharani's pastimes

10 minutes

C. Offering of gifts.

5 minutes

D. Arati and kirtan -- One child can perform simple arati (incense, lower and chamara).

10 minutes

E. Prasadam

The Disappearance of Srila Prabhupada

Note: If children in groups are finished with an activity early, there are puzzles in their booklets on Pages 32 - 35 they can work on. Have them do Page 33 first, so the picture will already be finished if they cut Page 32.

Week One:

1. Tell each group the event of Prabhupada's disappearance. You can tell the story to all the children together or, if you have a wide age span, divide the children by age and tell the story more appropriately to each age group.

Here are some additional thoughts and concepts you may want to consider.

- Explain thoroughly the concept of "separation." You can begin by discussing separation on a material level which they can relate to, such as, moving away from friends or a family member dying.
- The concept of associating with the spiritual master's person (vapu) or the spiritual master's instructions (vani). Vani is more important and we have the instructions of Prabhupada which keep us in his association. By reading his books we are in contact with him, also.
- Service can continue even though the physical form is not present. Many have deities of Prabhupada and he can still be cooked for, dressed, offered flowers, etc. in this way.
- Great souls often come here with a "mission." Just like the sun rises and sets to our eyes but is always shining somewhere, the great souls may continue their mission in another place. To our eyes it appears they are gone, but they are elsewhere preaching the same message.
- Older children can discuss the quote from Bhaktivinoda Thakur:

*"He reasons ill who tells that Vaishnavas die
When thou are living still in sound!
The Vaishnavas die to live, and living try
To spread the holy name around!"*

Storyteller 1 will be:

Storyteller 2 (if needed) will be:

2. Write the schedule for the festival up on the chalkboard so that the children can copy it in their booklets on Page 6. If they are to do anything during the week for preparation, have them write it under “My duties.” Next week for the celebration they will be chanting japa. They should write a reminder to themselves here, “Bring japa beads.”

3. Divide the children into groups for different activities. You can group the children by age or use the opportunity to mix children up and make new friends. Choose the groups in advance, giving each group leader his list. You can spend the whole class hour letting the children decide which group they want to be in otherwise.

Group leaders are responsible for having the necessary materials for the class and for keeping their students engaged during the class period.

Group 1 -- Write Poems in Honor of Prabhupada

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 1: _____

With a little background work and some effort from the teacher, this can actually be a very fun and rewarding activity even if children are not so enthusiastic about writing. You’ll find some ideas on Worksheet 8 but it may be worth a trip to the library to get some different ideas for types of poems.

To encourage writing, place a variety of pictures of Prabhupada at the front of the room where everyone can see. Have everyone look at the pictures for a minute and think about Prabhupada. Ask the children to brainstorm for 5 minutes and call out words that come to mind when they think of Prabhupada. Write the words on the chalkboard. This will help the children form ideas and give them a word bank to use.

Group 2 -- Decorate Vyasasan

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 2: _____

If you have a small Deity of Prabhupada to use for the festival, a small vyasasan can also be decorated. If you don't have a Deity, have the children rig up some sort of vyasasan and decorate it. Next week a picture of Prabhupada can be placed upon it.

Group 3 -- Puspa Abhiseka

Group Leader: _____

Student in Group 3: _____

One or two students can be chosen to lead the chanting of the mantras for a puspa abhiseka. A simplified version of the mantras can be found on Worksheet 9. They should have the procedure explained to them and practice the chanting of the mantras. Next week they should be in charge of cutting up flower petals for the rest of the children.

Group 4 -- Cooking

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 4: _____

Students can make sweets or snacks that will keep.

Group 5 -- Room Decorations or Coloring

Group Leader: _____

Students in Group 5: _____

Younger children can do the activity listed in their booklets on Page 35. The decorated vyasasans, with pictures of Prabhupada on them, can be cut out and saved to be used as room decorations next week. Other room decorations could also be made.

Disappearance Day of Srila Prabhupada

Week Two -- Celebrating the festival

Each group from last week will probably have some initial preparation to do today. Keep the children in the same groups for this. Groups who are finished with the activities from last week can do some of the new preparations this week.

1. Preparation for festival 30 minutes

A. Cut up flower petals

Leader _____

B. Decorate room and altar (cards can be used on the altar)

Leader _____

C. Prepare for abhiseka

Leader _____

2. Celebrating the festival

Here is a basic schedule for the celebration:

A. Reading of poems and Prabhupada pastimes -- The children who wrote poems will read them to the others. If you can, arrange for some Prabhupada disciples to relate some nice stories about their association with Prabhupada.

10 - 20 minutes

B. Sing the song "Je anilo prema-dhana" which can be found in the student booklet on Page 30. Have students take turns reading the translation.

10 minutes

C. Puspa abhiseka

5 - 10 minutes

D. Arati and kirtan -- One child can perform simple arati (incense, lower and chamara).

10 minutes

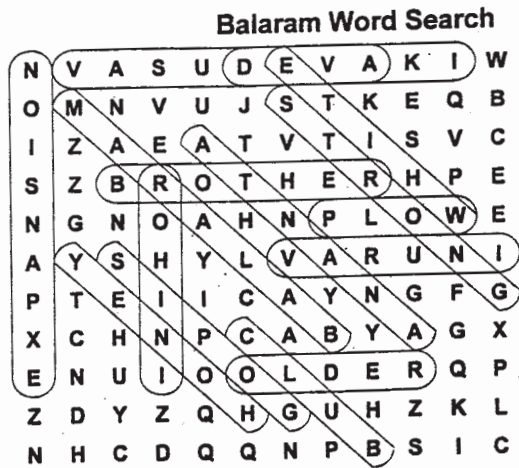
E. (Optional) Portions of the video, "Your Ever Well-wisher" or another appropriate video can be shown. Choose something that will show Prabhupada in his last days so they can appreciate the sacrifice he was making to continue his service.

F. Prasadam -- If sweets or snacks were made last week they can be served. It may be good to have drinks and other special prasadam for the children.

Answers to Puzzles in Student Booklets

Page 7 -- #2 and #4 are the same

Page 8 -- Word Search



Page 9 -- The coded message is: Lord Balaram is the older brother of Krishna and He is very strong. Krishna is blue and Balaram is white.

The code is:

E=A	M=B	C=D	Q=E	T=F
W=G	V=H	X=I	Z=K	K=L
Y=M	O=N	P=O	D=R	G=S
J=T	L=U	A=V	R=W	N=Y

Page 19 -- Telephone Scramble

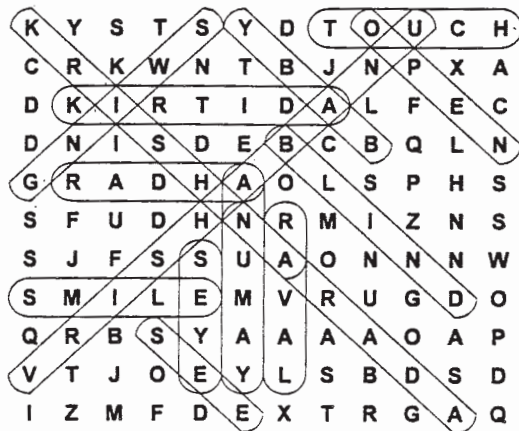
b	e	l	t											
ABC	DEF	JKL	TUV											
2	3	5	8											
c	r	o	w	n										
ABC	PRS	MNO	WXY	MNO										
2	7	6	9	6										
e	a	r	r	i	n	g	s							
DEF	ABC	PRS	PRS	GHI	MNO	GHI	PRS							
3	2	7	7	4	6	4	7							
f	l	o	w	e	r	s								
DEF	JKL	MNO	WXY	DEF	PRS	PRS								
3	5	6	9	3	7	7								
f	l	u	t	e										
DEF	JKL	TUV	TUV	DEF										
3	5	8	8	3										
g	a	r	l	a	n	d								
GHI	ABC	PRS	JKL	ABC	MNO	DEF								
4	2	7	5	2	6	3								
p	e	a	c	o	c	k	f	e	a	t	h	e	r	
PRS	DEF	ABC	ABC	MNO	ABC	JKL	QZ	DEF	DEF	ABC	TUV	GHI	DEF	PRS
7	3	2	2	6	2	5	0	3	3	2	8	4	3	7
r	i	n	g	s										
PRS	GHI	MNO	GHI	PRS										
7	4	6	4	7										

Krishna's Appearance



- | ACROSS | | DOWN |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Ugrasena was Krishna's | 2. used his hoods to cover baby Krishna | 8. this child of Devaki's was predicted to kill Kamsa |
| 3. Krishna's real father | 5. Yashoda's baby daughter | |
| 4. Kamsa's relation to Devaki | 6. the "home" of Vasudeva and Devaki when Krishna appeared | |
| 9. the real mother of Krishna | 7. the river that Vasudeva crossed carrying Krishna | |
| 10. they slept while Vasudeva escaped | | |
| 11. the evil king | | |

Radhastami Word Search



Page 34 -- Word Scramble

ATE	eat
C PAL	clap
DEAOTERC	decorate
EDAR	read
FSAT	fast
FSF RREWOLEFO	offer flowers
GNIS	sing
NECAD	dance

Page 34 -- Cryptogram

The coded message is: Just try to learn the truth by approaching a spiritual master. Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. It is Bhagavad Gita verse 4.34.

The code is:

W=A	Z=B	P=C	X=D	I=E
D=F	K=G	G=H	C=I	S=J
J=L	V=M	H=N	M=O	Y=P
B=Q	F=R	R=S	E=T	L=U
O=V	A=Y			

Worksheet 1

My Group: _____

Children in my group: _____

Schedule for the festival:

Activities my group will do:

Preparations I need to make or bring:

Worksheet 2
Action Story: Dvividā Gorilla

Instructions: *Choose children for this group who will not be afraid to act the story out in front of a small audience next week. The story is written with suggested actions below. You will see a *** where the reader should stop and pause for the actors to act the part out.*

Practice several times so the actors will get used to listening and acting out their parts at the correct time. The narrator must also be attentive and tune his reading in with the actors. It should be practiced with the props. If you have time, practice once the next week, right before the celebration begins.

Cast:

Narrator (an older child who reads well or a teacher)

Dvividā Gorilla

Balaram

two sages

A small group of girls

Props:

a stick with red crepe paper on the end to resemble a torch

a box or trash can for a mountain

club

crumbled newspaper in different sizes for rocks and stones

flowers

a conch shell

The Story: Once upon a time there was a terrible gorilla demon named Dvividā. *** *(The two sages are sitting on the side of the room, the group of girls on the other side. A fierce-looking Dvividā comes out, growling.)* He was as powerful as 10,000 elephants. When he heard about some of his demon friends getting killed by Krishna, he decided his main job would be to make trouble in the area around Dwarka.

First he set fires in village, town, farms and mining areas. *** *(Dvividā grabs the torch and runs around as if setting fires.)* Sometimes he would uproot a big mountain and tear it to pieces. *** *(Dvividā picks up the box or trash can and pretends to rip it ferociously. The girls scream loudly.)* He

would often go to the places where great sages lived and smash their beautiful gardens and orchards. *** *(Dvividā goes over to the two sages, who are chanting, and pretends to smash everything around them. The girls scream loudly again.)*

He kidnapped men and women, stealing them from their homes. Dvividā Gorilla would then shut them inside the caves of the mountains. *** *(He grabs the sages and the girls and shoves them over to a corner of the room. Girls scream loudly, of course.)*

He was one...*(growl)*...mean...*(growl)*...gorilla...*(growl and another loud scream from the girls)*.

One time he came upon Lord Balaram in the middle of many beautiful girls. They were singing and dancing. *** *(The girls surround Balaram and dance in a circle. Music can be played.)* Lord Balaram seemed to be intoxicated from drinking the Varuni beverage. ****(Balaram picks up an imaginary bowl and drinks from it, rolling his eyes.)*

Dvividā jumped to the top of the trees and make a sound to scare the gopis. *** *(Dvividā jumps and shouts, "KILA, KILA, KILA!!)* But the gopis weren't scared, they only laughed at him. *** *(Dvividā shouts, girls laugh and laugh.)*

Dvividā kept on being rude so Lord Balaram took a stone and threw it at him. *** *(Balaram does that -- from here on out, just pause at the *** and let the actors act out what is being read.)* Dvividā took away Balaram's pot of varuni and started to grab at the gopi's and Lord Balaram's clothes. *** *(He grabs after them and the girls scream loudly.)* Balaram became sooooo mad! He took up His club and got ready to attack that nasty gorilla. He had enough of Dvividā's monkey business! ***

Dvividā tore up a big tree and rushed over to smash Balaram on the head. *** *(The tree can be imaginary or you can use a prop.)* Lord Balaram caught hold of the tree, threw it down and began to hit the gorilla with his club. ***

Blood poured from his head, but even THAT didn't bother him. He pulled up another tree and began hitting Balaram on the head again. *** Balaram used his club and tore the tree to pieces. ***

Dvividā tore up tree after tree but Balaram smashed each tree in his hands. *** Finally, not a tree was left in the forest.

Dvividā began to throw rocks and stones. *** *(Use the crumpled newspaper which has been placed in designated spot in the room.)* Balaram crushed the stones into little pebbles with His club. ***

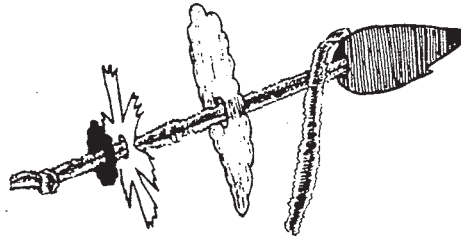
Then the great gorilla began waving his fists and began beating Lord Balaram on the chest. *** Balaram used His fists, too and hit the demon near his neck. *** This was the fatal blow and Dvidida fell down dead on the ground. ***

After this horrendous battle, the great sages and devas began showering flowers on Lord Balaram. *** *(The girls and the 2 sages can throw flowers on Balaram.)* They chanted, *** *(Girls and sages shout, "Jaya Balaram, Jaya Balaram!" One can blow a conchshell and they continue showering flowers.)* And that was the end of Dvidida Gorilla.

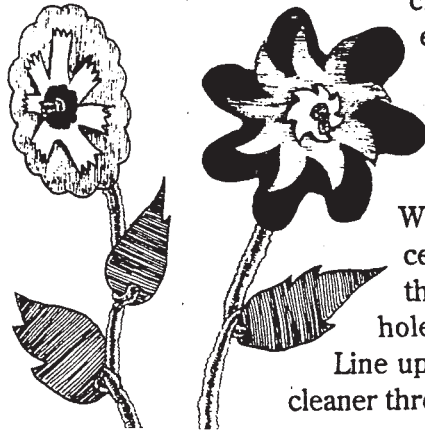
***** THE END *****

Flower Decorations

What you need:
Construction paper
Green pipe cleaners
Scissors
Hole punch



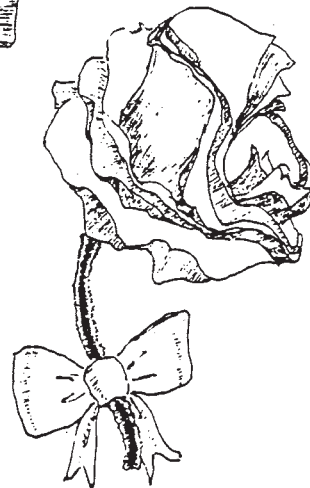
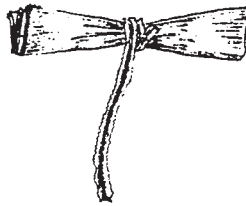
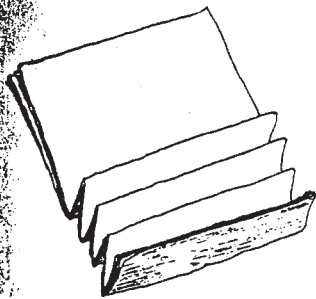
For the flower petals, cut 4-inch and 3½-inch circles from construction paper. Use 2 different colors or 2 different shades of 1 color. On the larger circle cut shallow petals around the edge. On the smaller circle cut deep petals, making them pointed or rounded or with fringed edges.



For the center of the flower, cut a 1½-inch circle in a contrasting color. With a hole punch, punch a hole in the center of each piece. (If you can't reach the center of the larger circle, punch a hole gently with the tip of the scissors.)

Line up the layers and put 1 end of the pipe cleaner through the holes. Twist the pipe cleaner

and around itself to hold the paper layers. Cut tree-form petals from green construction paper. Punch a hole at the base of a leaf and slip it on the free end of the pipe cleaner. Twist the pipe cleaner around the leaf hole to keep it in place. Do the same with each leaf.



A Bouquet of Flowers

What you need:
Tissue paper
Pipe cleaners
About 2 feet of ribbon
Scissors

Cut four 8 x 12-inch pieces of tissue paper, mixing colors or using all one color. Holding the 4 pieces of paper together and starting at one short edge, accordion-fold them. Wrap a pipe cleaner around the center of the folded paper. Gently open up the folds on either side of the pipe cleaner stem so the flower is round, and separate the layers of paper slightly. Put several flowers together to make a bouquet and tie it with a ribbon bow.

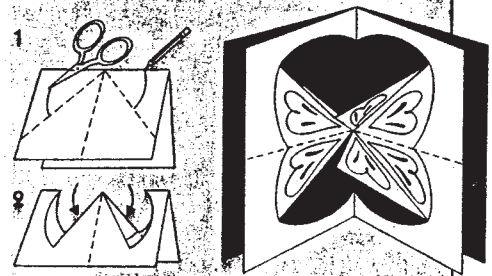
Worksheet 4

Pop-up flowers

Here's another Mother's Day card your students will enjoy making.

Distribute a sheet of $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ -inch white drawing paper and a same-size sheet of construction paper to each student, then follow these steps:

- Fold the drawing paper in half, then in half again, making sure the creases are clearly visible.
- Undo the last fold. Take the top and bottom left corners and fold to the center line.
- Open the paper to the first fold and draw two curved lines (see Illustration 1). Cut along both curves.
- Push the two coned-shaped pieces inside (see Illustration 2) and crease.



Open the paper and two "petals" should pop up.

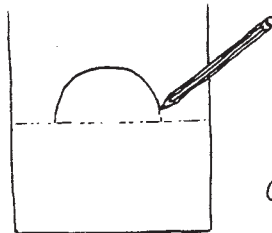
- Draw and color the other petals to complete the flower.
- For the outside of the card, fold the construction paper in half. Then glue the inside (the flower) and outside together. (Do not apply glue in the area of the pop-up petals.)
- Decorate the front of the card, then add a special message or poem.

—Adapted from *How to Make Pop-Ups* by Joan Irvine (Morrow Junior Books, 1987)

A Stand-Up Card

What you need:

- Sturdy construction paper
- Felt-tipped markers
- Pencil
- Glue or glue stick
- Scissors



With the construction paper held vertically, mark the center of the paper. Draw a $5\frac{1}{2}$ -inch half-circle above the center line. Cut out 4 flowers about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches long, four 2-inch-long leaves, and four $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch wide stems from construction paper. Glue these to the paper so that the top flowers fit inside the half-circle. Carefully cut out the half-circle that surrounds the flowers. Fold the card in half, being careful not to fold the flowers. Write "For Mom" on the outside of the card and write your message on the inside.

Worksheet 5
The 25 Qualities of Srimati Radharani

(1) She is sweetness personified; (2) She is a fresh young girl; (3) Her eyes are always moving; (4) She is always brightly smiling; (5) She possesses all auspicious marks on Her body; (6) She can agitate Kṛṣṇa by the flavor of Her person; (7) She is expert in the art of singing; (8) She can speak very nicely and sweetly; (9) She is expert in presenting feminine attractions; (10) She is modest and gentle; (11) She is always very merciful; (12) She is transcendently cunning; (13) She knows how to dress nicely; (14) She is always shy; (15) She is always respectful; (16) She is always patient; (17) She is very grave; (18) She is enjoyed by Kṛṣṇa; (19) She is always situated on the highest devotional platform; (20) She is the abode of love of the residents of Gokula; (21) She can give shelter to all kinds of devotees; (22) She is always affectionate to superiors and inferiors; (23) She is always obliged by the dealings of Her associates, (24) She is the greatest amongst Kṛṣṇa's girl friends; (25) She always keeps Kṛṣṇa under Her control.

Worksheet 6
Pastimes of Srimati Radharani

Radharani's Boon

Once when Srimati Radharani was a small girl she was playing outside with her girlfriends. Suddenly, the powerful sage Durvasa Muni appeared and walked towards the girls. Because of his stern look and serious nature, all of Radha's friends ran away to their homes as soon as they saw him. Only Radharani stayed.

When he came closer, She bowed down before him and offered Her obeisances. This surprised the great sage very much and he was pleased. He blessed Radharani by saying, "Oh Radhe, whoever eats food cooked by You will enjoy the taste of nectar. He will never become ill. One who eats Your food will live a long life and be youthful throughout." After bestowing such a nice boon on Radharani, he went on his way.

Soon everyone came to know about Durvasa's blessing. Mother Yashoda and Paurnamasi came and told Radharani's mother-in-law Jotila that she must let Radharani come every day to cook for Krishna in the home of Nanda Maharaj. Even though she wasn't too happy about this, Jotila allowed Radha to go. In this way, Radha and Krishna were able to see each other every day while Radha cooked His meals.

Radharani, the Wrestler

One time Krishna was bragging in front of the gopis about how He had defeated Sridham in wrestling. He got a little carried away and said, "In fact, I defeated *all* the strongest cowherd boys. Nobody is as strong as Me."

The gopis looked at Him and laughed. "Ha!" they said. "You are a big liar. We already know that Sridham beat you ten times in a row!"

Krishna insisted that He was definitely the strongest. The gopis challenged Him by saying, "OK, if you are so strong, let's see you defeat the strongest gopi among us. If you can beat her, then we will believe that You are really a good fighter. But if she beats You, then You have to stay away from us and stop your useless bragging."

So Lalita devi took Radharani and tied Her hair back. She pulled up Her sari tightly and tucked it into Her waist and got Her all set to wrestle. Radha and Krishna began to wrestle, but Krishna caught hold of Radharani and threw Her to the ground quite easily. The gopis all shouted and cheered and laughed. It seems that Krishna really was the strongest after all.

Radharani and the Bumblebee

Radha and Krishna would find many places to meet each other so They could be together. One time Radharani was sitting in some flower groves with Krishna. They were talking very sweetly together and Radharani was sitting in Krishna's lap.

All of a sudden a bumblebee came flying by. Radharani is so beautiful that the bumblebee thought Her feet were sweet, fragrant lotus flowers. It started circling Radharani's feet, buzzing around and around.

This frightened Radharani and She was afraid of getting stung. She clung to Krishna and begged Him, "Please, Krishna, make this bee get away from Me!"

Krishna's friend named Madhumangala was nearby and Krishna waved His hand to get Madhumangala's attention. "Radharani and I are trying to talk and this bumblebee is bothering us," He said. "Can you please chase it away from here?"

Madhumangala was happy to be able to do something for Krishna. Without caring whether he got stung or not, Madhumangala ran and shoed the bee very far away.

After getting rid of the bee, Madhumangala came back and told Krishna, "I have gotten rid of *madhu* and he will never return."

Madhu is a name for bumblebees. But one of Krishna's names is Madhusudhana. When Radharani heard that madhu was gone and never coming back, She thought that he was talking about Krishna. Even though Krishna was sitting right beside Her, She was so upset at the news that Krishna was gone that She forgot that He was right there.

She fell to the ground and began weeping and crying, "O, my beloved Madhusudhana is gone, He is gone!" Thinking that She was separated from Krishna, tears flowed like rivers from Her eyes.

When Krishna saw how disturbed Radharani was at the thought of being away from Him, He was overcome with love for Her. He also began crying and tears poured from His eyes. Their tears flowed together and formed the lake called Prema-sarovara. "Prema" means "love." Prema-sarovara was created from the tears of love that Radharani and Krishna shed for each other.

Angry Radharani

Radha and Krishna loved each other very, very much. One of the ways that they showed that love was by teasing each other. One time Purnamasi accused Radharani of going to see Krishna when she shouldn't have. This made Radharani angry and she declared, "What can I say to you? Krishna is so cruel that He often attacks Me on the street, and if I want to cry out very loudly, this boy with a peacock feather on His head immediately covers My face so that I cannot cry. And if I want to go away from the scene because I am afraid of Him, He will immediately spread His arms to block My path. If I piteously fall down at His feet, then in an angry mood, He bites My face! Please try to understand my situation and don't be angry with Me. Instead, please tell Me how I can save Myself from these terrible attacks of Krishna!"

Worksheet 7

Song -- "The 25 Qualities of Srimati Radharani"
from "Songs for Krishna's Kids" by Mahatma das

- 1) She is sweetness personified
And a fresh young girl
She knows how to dress so nicely
And is cunning too
- 2) She can give shelter to all devotees
And is very grave
She is always so brightly smiling
And Her eyes always move
- 3) She is always so merciful
And always gives respect
She can speak nicely and sweetly
And sings expertly
- 4) She is modest and She is gentle
And always patient
She is enjoyed only by Krsna
And is always very shy
- 5) She has all auspicious marks
On Her transcendental form
She can excite Lord Sri Krsna
By Her sweet fragrance
- 6) She is the abode of love
Of the people of Gokula
She is always affectionate
To the elders and the young
- 7) She is always on the highest stage
Of devotion to the Lord
She is obliged by the dealings
Of her associates
- 8) She is the greatest among
Krsna's girl friends
She always keeps Krsna
Under her control

jaya radhe jaya radhe
jaya sri radhe

Repeat

Worksheet 8

Below are two poem “patterns,” one for a cinquain and one for a diamante. These patterns make it easier for children who may have a hard time writing poems. Of course, you should allow those who enjoy poetry to create their own masterpiece, but have this on hand for those struggling with ideas.

Cinquain

Noun

Adjective Adjective

Verb Verb Verb

Verb Prepositional Phrase

Adverb

Diamante

Subject Noun

Adjective Adjective

Participle Participle Participle

Noun Noun Noun Noun (all related to the Subject Noun)

Participle Participle Participle

Noun (opposite of the Subject Noun)

Worksheet 9
Mantras for Puspanjali

The leader should chant each word of the verse responsively. When students chant, "Swaha!" they can throw their flower petals.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

*om ajñāna-timirāndhasya jñānāñjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmīlitaṃ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

*vāñchā-kalpatarubhyaś ca kṛpā-sinḍhubhya eva ca
patitānām pāvanebhyo vaiṣṇavebhyo namo namaḥ*

*tapta-kāñcana-gaurāṅgi rādhe vṛndāvaneśvari
vṛṣabhānu-sute devi praṇamāmi hari-priye*

*(jaya) śrī-kṛṣṇa-caitanya prabhu nityānanda
śrī-advaita gadādhara śrīvāsādi-gaura-bhakta-vṛnda*

HARE KṚṢṆA
HARE KṚṢṆA
KṚṢṆA KṚṢṆA
HARE HARE

HARE RĀMA
HARE RĀMA
RĀMA RĀMA
HARE HARE

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktisiddhānta-sarasvatīti nāmine*

SWAHA! (throw petals)

SWAHA ! "

SWAHA ! "

DO
3
TIMES