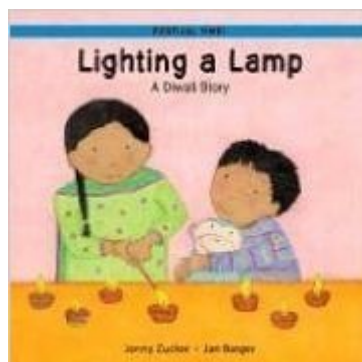


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# Lighting A Lamp: A Diwali Story (Festival Time)



## Synopsis

Books in the Festival Time series describe the activities of typical families as parents and children celebrate some of their culture's major holidays. Attractive color illustrations on every page will appeal to younger children. The simply yet delightfully told stories describe the festivities while giving children background information about holidays in many different cultures. A two-page spread at the back of each book contains information for parents, and includes suggestions on ways to communicate the holiday's meaning to kids. Diwali is the Hindu five-day festival of lights that welcomes in the lunar new year. It is celebrated on the 15th day of the dark fortnight of the Hindu month of Ashwin, or Aasho, which occurs in October or November, depending on the lunar calendar. During the festival, parents tell stories that relate to the holiday, exchange gifts of sweets, light candles, and attend elaborate fireworks displays. The holiday is marked by an abundance of lights displayed in homes and businesses.

## Book Information

Age Range: 3 and up

Series: Festival Time

Paperback: 24 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series (September 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764126709

ISBN-13: 978-0764126703

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.8 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #66,541 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Religious #40 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Other Religious Fiction #576 in Books > Children's Books > Religions

## Customer Reviews

I really am pleased how it approaches its subject matter. Most children's books about international holidays are too technical and long to be used as a read aloud. This book can be useful and provide useful information. If a student wants more they can read a more complex book later. It also helps include an ESOL child's holiday in class, even young kids.

We've been reading to our now 7 month-old since she was a week old, and this book was way too short, and lacking any sort of depth at all. As a practicing Hindu, it was also a completely glossed over version of Diwali, with no coverage of the actual religious meaning of it! Very disappointed. A wonderful alternative is "Rama and the Demon King" - wonderfully illustrated, and captures the depth of the religious and moral parts of the story, while not being too long for a young one to handle.

I purchased this book because our daughter married a young man from India whose family celebrates Diwali. This festival is as important to his family as Christmas is to ours. I wanted a simple, basic understanding of the celebration and so purchased this book. My son-in-law read it and pointed out some errors in fact in the Southern India tradition explained in the book.

Geared for younger children (4-8), this book introduces the Hindu festival of Diwali by walking through one family's celebration of the day. It is part of the Festival Time series, a collection of books introducing holidays from all the major religions. Good for introducing this age group to Hinduism.

I was a little disappointed when I received this book. I was expecting something better after all the positive reviews. It is fine perhaps for some very young children but it is very "boring". I don't mind that it doesn't have lots of details but there is nothing engaging about it. It is "flat" - there's nothing interesting going on - it either needs a plot or else more detail - it fails as a fiction book and as a non-fiction book: it's a very short and boring synopsis of Diwali. My 2 and 4 year old were not engaged in it and they normally love to read and listen to stories.

This book is a wonderful reference. My kids, 2 and 4 years old, teachers asked me to do a Diwali presentation for their respective class. How do you present such an intricate holiday to such young minds and keep their attention? With this book! I read it as a supplement to other activities. The kids loved the simple narration and the beautiful pictures. Dimple - Florida

This book tells the basic story of Diwali and it's great for toddlers. I was hoping for more of a simplified religious story to describe the actual reason for Diwali, so that's why I've given it 4 stars.

Being a 1st Generation American Desi, I treasure the moments when I can enrich my daughter's life

with both of her cultures. This book is great introduction to those that are curious and to those that would like to introduce India's and Hindu's most treasured celebration.

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