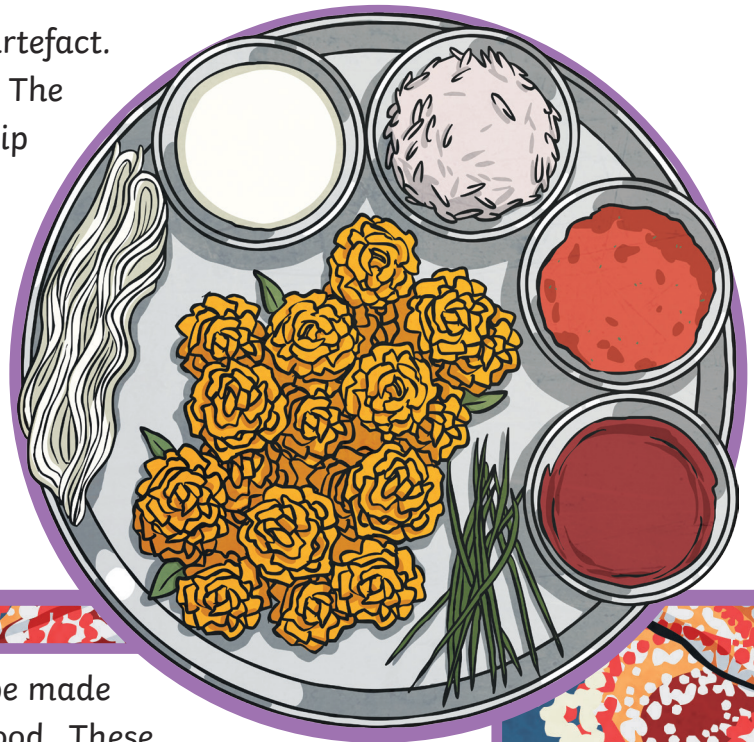


# Puja Tray Fact File





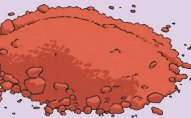
A **puja tray** is a Hindu religious artefact. In Hinduism, **puja** means worship. The **puja tray** is used in Hindu worship and usually holds these objects:

- a bell
- a pot of water
- an incense burner
- a pot of kum kum powder and a spoon
- a diva lamp



The tray may also hold objects to be made as offerings, such as flowers or food. These offerings are made to the Hindu gods. Puja trays are found in many Hindu homes, so that worship can take place every day.

Each shrine contains a puja tray, which holds several important items:

	<b>Bell</b>	The worshippers ring the bell to let the gods know that they are ready to worship.
	<b>Incense and incense holder</b>	The incense burns and gives off a pleasant aroma, which purifies the air around the shrine.
	<b>Diva lamp</b>	The lamp is lit as a symbol of the gods' presence.
	<b>Water containers and spoon</b>	To show respect, water is offered to the gods on a spoon.
	<b>Kum kum powder</b>	When mixed with water, this powder makes a red paste. Hindu worshippers use it to mark their foreheads as a sign of respect to the gods. They also mark the foreheads of the gods on their shrine.