

Diwali Door Decor

Make a grand entrance with festive and traditional décor from India

(art + social studies)

Diwali, or Deepvali, is an official holiday in many countries and celebrated across the globe. It began in ancient India as a harvest celebration and Hindu holy festival, marking the start of a new year. Rituals, customs, and spiritual significance vary from region to region, but the basis of Diwali is a celebration of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. Families gather for feasts, gifts are given, and millions of lights are displayed while fireworks illuminate the skies.

A Hindu tradition for Diwali, weddings, and any celebration is a “Toran” or “Bandanwar” decorative door hanging. These are garlands or valances that are displayed over doorways and windows to welcome guests with a bright and beautiful entryway. Toran are made with a variety of materials: some are made with fresh flowers and mango leaves to add a delightful scent, some are decorated with small mirrors to reflect the candles and lights used during Diwali. Other materials include beads, bells, macramé, and embroidery.

Materials (required)

Twisteez, 30" coated wires, pack of 50 (33407-1050); need one per student

Felt Swatches, 9" x 12", Red (63201-3003); share one between two students

Snippy Scissors, sharp (57040-2005); need one pair per student

Blunt Tapestry Needle #13, 12-pack (65104-1009); need one per student

Elmer's Glue-All, 4 oz (23886-1004); share one between two students

Prang Classic Markers, set of 8 (21267-1089); share one set among three students



Materials (optional)

Roylco Felt Shapes, package of 500 (65308-1500); share one across class

Hygloss Metallic Foil Paper package of 24, assorted, 8-1/2" x 10" (11205-1002); share one across class

Artstraws, box of 1800 white (60903-1004); share one across class

Wooden Barrel Beads, package of 100 (60702-1000); share one among 10 students

Pony Beads, package of 1000 multicolor (60772-1030); share one across class

Creativity Street Craft Stems, 12" Tinsel, package of 100 (60923-0009)

Creativity Street Acrylic Gems, 1 lb assortment (60722-0001)

Creativity Street Sequin Mix, 9 oz (60718-1002)

Smart-Fab Fabric, package of 45, 12" x 18" (62130-1006)

Hygloss Book Rings, silver tone, 1", package of 50 (64203-1001)

Creativity Street Embroidery Floss Set, 24 skeins (63100-1009)

Creativity Street Glitter Poms, package of 80, 1/2" Dia (61750-1005)

Elmer's Glitter Glue, assorted colors, 6 oz (65304-)

