

Remember, remember to stay safe this November!

CELEBRATION TIME

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service is asking residents to remember to stay safe when planning their Bonfire Night and Diwali celebrations this year. With many events cancelled due to the ongoing pandemic, emergency services are preparing for a busier period than usual, as many more celebrations are expected to take place at home.

Fireworks

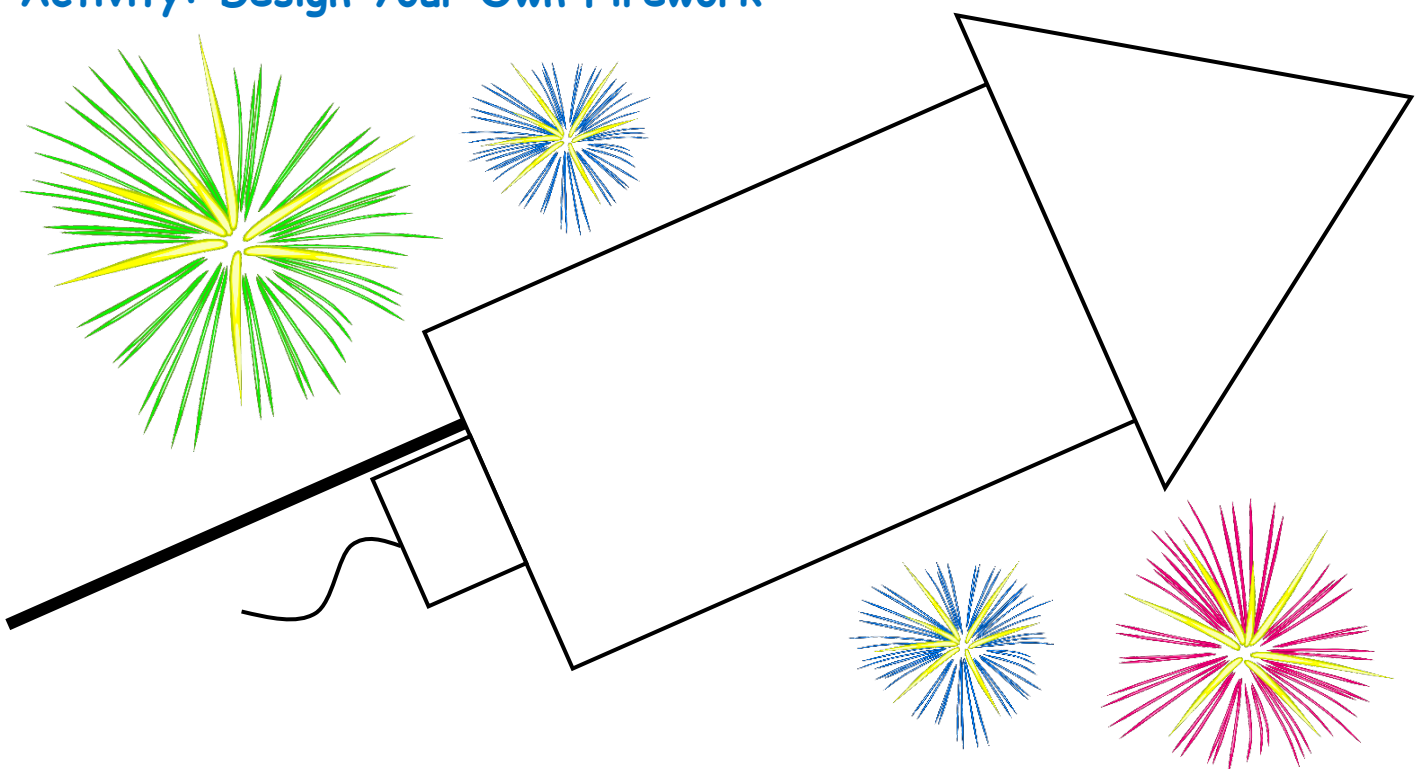
If using fireworks as part of your festivities, please stay safe and follow the Firework Code:

- Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable and ensure it finishes by 11pm, except for Bonfire Night, when the cut off is midnight and Diwali, when the cut off is 1am
- Only buy fireworks which carry the CE mark, keep them in a closed box and use them one at a time
- Read and follow the instructions on each firework using a torch if necessary
- Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back
- Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit
- Do not put fireworks in pockets and never throw them
- Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators
- Make sure that the fire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving



We hope that residents are able to plan a firework display that is both safe and enjoyable but remember, fireworks can be frightening for people and animals. Tell your neighbours if you are planning to let off fireworks and ensure your display is over by the cut off time.

Activity: Design Your Own Firework



Bonfires

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service is asking residents to be considerate to their neighbours and, if possible, avoid putting additional pressure on emergency services and the NHS by having a bonfire. However, if you do decide to have a bonfire, please stay safe by following the advice:

- Build bonfires well away from buildings, fences, trees and garden structures
- Do not use petrol or paraffin to get the fire going, as it could quickly get out of control
- Never leave a bonfire unattended
- Never burn aerosols, tyres, canisters or anything containing foam or paint - many produce toxic fumes and some containers may explode causing injury
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose nearby in case of emergencies

Candles

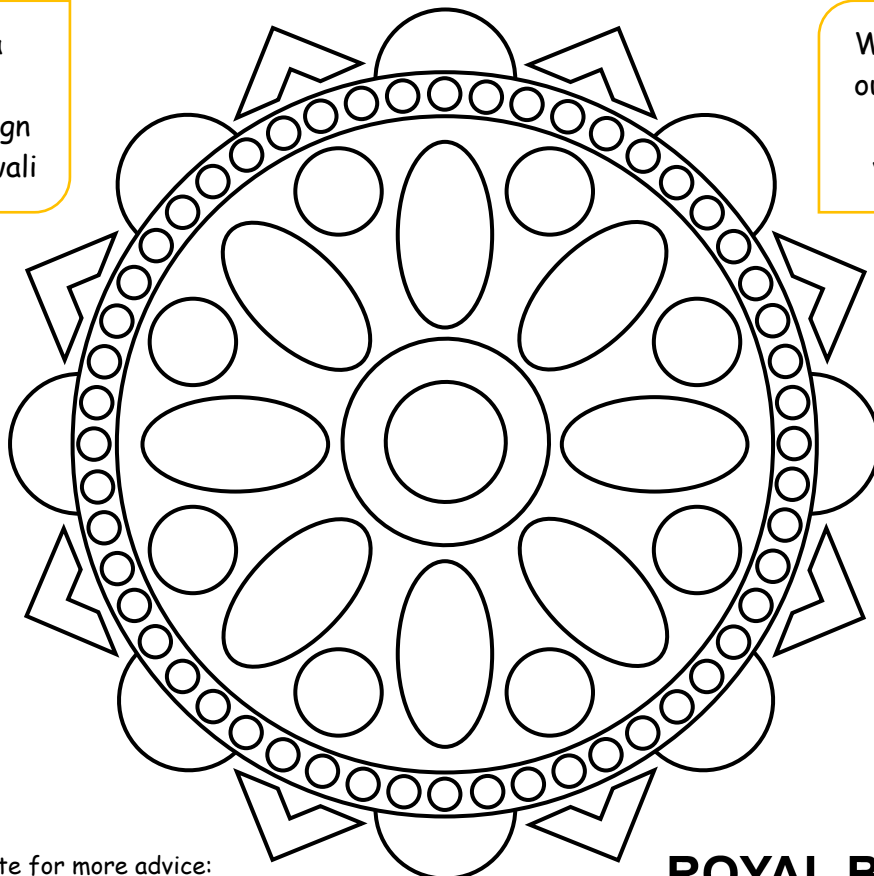
During Diwali, the festival of light, candles are an essential part of the festivities. To help keep you and your family safe whilst celebrating, please following the following safety advice:

- Always place candles in proper holders and on heat resistant surfaces
- Make sure you keep the flame at a safe distance from curtains, furniture and decorations
- Keep long hair and clothing away from naked flames
- Children and pets should be supervised at all times

Additionally, sky lanterns are often used for a number of different occasions but please do reconsider this. Sky lanterns are a fire hazard and pose a significant risk, not only to properties but to crops, livestock and the wider environment.

Activity: Rangoli Pattern

A rangoli is a colourful patterned design used during Diwali



Why not colour in our rangoli design with bright, vibrant colours