



EVENT GUIDE

To prepare for your *Aru Shah and the End of Time* event, use the following tips to get your event prepped and ready.

DECORATING

No Pandava party is complete without the right decor! The lush cover of *Aru Shah and the End of Time* can be your inspiration; use its palette of the artwork to adorn your space. Embellish the art by creating images of mythological animals (such as the tiger, crocodile, ram, three-headed elephant, peacock, swan, and seven-headed horse that pledge themselves to serve Aru and Mini for their battle with the Sleeper).

Alternatively, for a simpler plan, decorate your space with bright, vibrant colors (especially reds and golds) using bright fabric or butcher paper and adorn your space with an abundance of white twinkle lights.

FOOD

The foods of India are as diverse as the people and culture; in that spirit, set up a feast for attendees that offers opportunities to sample a few easy-to-prepare Indian family favorites, such as samosas (often found in the frozen food section of grocery stores), raita (a yogurt sauce; simple recipes available online), and sweet treats such as Kokanaka, Kismi, Poppins, and other Indian candies that can be ordered online.

GETTING INTO THE *ARU SHAH* PARTY SPIRIT

Use the following activities and ice-breakers to get your guests in the *Aru Shah* spirit!

Mehndi Makers: Mehndi or mehendi is a form of art in which decorative designs are created on a person's body using henna. Recruit a local artist skilled in mehndi design to create a mehndi art station for partygoers or alternatively, provide mehndi henna temporary tattoos (many varieties can be purchased online).

Dance: If available in your area, invite a local Indian dance troupe to offer a Bharatanatyam performance for attendees. After an introductory dance with a quick discussion about how traditional Indian dance varies based on the region of the country from where it developed, get partygoers up and moving with some step-by-step instructions on basic elements to Indian dance.

BOO'S NEWS

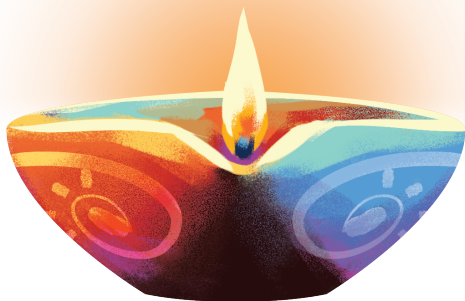
In *Aru Shah and the End of Time*, Boo serves as a messenger, teacher, and guide to Aru and Mini. Have event attendees sit in a straight row and play a few rounds of Boo's News (a variation of the game telephone) where the person at the end of the row quickly and quietly shares a favorite fact about a chosen mythology or why they are excited to read *Aru Shah and the End of Time* into the ear of the person sitting next to him or her. From there, each person repeats this process and passes the information down the line. Once it gets to the end, have the final person share what was said to them to see how close to the original news the "fact" was.

DESIGN A DIYA

Diwali is the five-day Indian Festival of Lights. During Diwali, diyas—a small lamp made out of clay—are lit in the home. Use the following steps to allow your event attendees to create their own diya to take home and decorate. The lamps can be illuminated with battery-operated tea lights to create the perfect ambiance for reading *Aru Shah and the End of Time*.

Materials needed:

- Air-Dry Clay or Play-doh
- Rolling pin
- Plastic knife
- Ink stamp
- Pad
- Small beads
- Small bowl
- Paint or markers
- Battery-operated candle



DESIGN A DIYA (CONT.)

Directions:

1. With the rolling pin, roll out the air clay or Play-doh into a smooth, thin layer.
2. Place a bowl upside-down on top of the clay, and cut around the bowl to create a circle.
3. Press the stamp into ink pad and stamp the clay circle as desired.
4. Take the clay circle and gently set into the small round bowl to form the shape of the diya. Pinch one end to make the diya tear-shaped. With the plastic knife, create small lines around the edge of the diya. Embed small beads or plastic jewels in the bowl of the diya by pressing them into the soft clay.
5. Allow clay to dry overnight. Remove the diya from bowl to complete drying.
6. Once dry, paint the bowl for added decoration (optional).
7. Add a battery-operated candle to the diya and illuminate at night.

CREATE A RANGOLI

Rangoli is an art form, originating in India, in which patterns are created on the floor in living rooms or courtyards using materials such as colored rice, dry flour, colored sand, or flower petals.

Small groups can use colored chalk to create festive rangoli designs on black butcher paper. After the outlines are sketched, pieces of colored tissue paper or construction paper can be used to fill them in like a collage.

1. Choose the design you want to use.
2. Sketch the outline on your paper.
3. Use pieces of colorful paper to collage their rangoli design.

For additional steps and directions, use the resources provided at wikihow:

<https://www.wikihow.com/Make-Rangoli>

MATCH THESE MYTHICAL TERMS!



GANESH	Twin horsemen gods who symbolize sunrise and sunset and are considered the gods of medicine and healing
CHAKORA	A sometimes good, sometimes bad race of semidivine beings
KARMA	A mythical bird that is said to live off moonbeams
DANDA	A giant punishing rod that is often considered the symbol of the Dharma Raja, the god of the dead
ASURA	The Lord of Death and Justice, and the father of the oldest Pandava brother, Yudhistira.
GANDHARI	The powerful queen of Hastinapura
INDRA	The elephant-headed god worshipped as the remover of obstacles and the god of luck and new beginnings
JAANI	The king of heaven, and the god of thunder and lightning
LAKSHMI	A term of endearment that means <i>life</i> or <i>sweetheart</i>
ASHVINS: NASATYA AND DASRA	A philosophy that your actions affect what happens to you next
MAKARA	The Hindu goddess of wealth and good fortune, and the consort (wife) of Vishnu, one of the three major Hindu deities
DHARMA RAJA	The demon king and architect who built the Pandavas' Palace of Illusions



ARE THESE STATEMENTS ABOUT HINDU MYTHOLOGY FACT OR FICTION?

Test for your knowledge of the Hindu mythology by completing this *Aru Shah and the End of Time*-inspired trivia.

1. The Pandava brothers are demigod warrior princes, and the heroes of the epic Mahabharata poem.

FACT or FICTION

2. Makara is a mythical creature that's usually depicted as half crocodile and half fish.

FACT or FICTION

3. Bama is the hero of the epic poem the Ramayana. He was the seventh incarnation of the god Vishnu.

FACT or FICTION

4. Samsara is the cycle of death and rebirth.

FACT or FICTION

5. Astras are supernatural weapons that were usually summoned into battle by a specific chant.

FACT or FICTION

6. Shiva is known as the Lord of Cosmic Dance.

FACT or FICTION

7. Uchchaisravas is a seven-headed flying horse created during the churning of the milk ocean, and the king of horses.

FACT or FICTION

8. Soma is the dessert of the gods.

FACT or FICTION

9. Johnny Raja is the Lord of Death and Justice, and the father of the oldest Pandava brother, Yudhistira.

FACT or FICTION

10. Gunghroo are anklets made of small bells strung together, worn by Indian dancers.

FACT or FICTION