

# LET'S LEARN ABOUT HARI RAYA SONGS

HERITAGE RESOURCE FOR  
TEACHERS, PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

# ABOUT YOUTH INVASION BY RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL (RVHS)



- Ever wondered what it would be like when youths take over the museum? Youth Invasion-is an initiative by the Malay Heritage Centre where students get to put on the hat of a programmer/educator by working with the museum staff and their school teachers to conceptualise and facilitate their own programmes.
- This programme inculcates a deeper appreciation and understanding of Singapore's multi-cultural society and enable students to be more informed and sensitive individuals. At the same time, students will gain a variety of soft skills including leadership, research, public speaking and project management skills.
- In our 2020 collaboration, the programme objective was for the RVHS students to design experiences in MHC for lower primary and pre-school students to learn about Hari Raya Puasa. Due to COVID-19, the activities were adapted into this deck of resource instead.
- We hope this resource will be helpful for you to facilitate your Home-Based/Classroom-Based Learning.

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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES



By the end of the programme, children should be able to...

- Recognise 2 songs commonly played during Hari Raya Puasa - *Balik Kampung & Selamat Hari Raya*
- Understand a part of the lyrics from the songs
- Know why Muslims visit each other during Hari Raya
- Understand the importance of Hari Raya Puasa and how Muslims celebrate it

# ACTIVITY 1: SING-ALONG

This activity involves the use of two songs, *Selamat Hari Raya* and *Balik Kampung* to teach children some basic information on Hari Raya Puasa.

Time needed to facilitate the activity	20 – 30 minutes
Resources required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speakers</li><li>• Lyric sheet</li><li>• Projector (optional)</li><li>• Laptop</li><li>• Links to YouTube videos to sing-along with <i>Upin &amp; Ipin</i> and 'Let's Learn about Ramadan and Hari Raya' (Refer to Slide 16)</li></ul>
Preparation required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Familiarise yourself with the songs</li><li>• Familiarise yourself with the fun facts</li><li>• Print out the lyric sheets</li></ul>

# INSTRUCTIONS



1. Play the video 'Let's Learn about Ramadan and Hari Raya' to introduce Ramadan and Hari Raya Puasa to the students/child. You may play selected segment relevant to this activity.
2. Pass out the lyric sheets
3. Reiterate the learning to Hari Raya Puasa by playing the following songs.
  - a. Play *Selamat Hari Raya* (starts at 0:14)\*
  - b. Play *Balik Kampung* (starts at 0:15)\*
4. Replay the verses that you would like to emphasis on and introduce fun facts that corresponds to *Selamat Hari Raya*
  - For example, you can replay the last few verses of *Balik Kampung* (starts at 3:11)
  - Explain the meaning of the songs with reference to the English translation

\* Links on Slide 16

# ACTIVITY 2: ORIGAMI HOUSES

This activity is a follow up to the first activity. It involves the making of origami houses to let children understand why they visit or host their relatives during festive occasions.



Time needed to facilitate the activity	15 minutes
Resources required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Origami Paper (15cm x 15cm)</li><li>• Coloured Markers</li><li>• Decorative stickers (optional)</li></ul>
Preparation required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Familiarize yourself with the steps to make the origami houses</li><li>• Prepare origami paper and coloured markers</li></ul>

# INSTRUCTIONS



1. Give out origami paper to students (15cm x 15cm).
2. Teach them how to fold a paper house with reference to the online video (Slide 16)
  - a. Students/child can decorate their “house” with colours and stickers
3. Fill in worksheet provided (Refer to Slide 16)
  - a. Write down, or draw what “home” means to them
4. Using the origami house, you can Link the origami house they have created back to the song *Balik Kampung* and how it feels to finally go home and be united with your family after such a long time

# PROMPTING QUESTIONS



- Why do you think Muslims gather to celebrate the Hari Raya Puasa?
- Is it different or similar to how you celebrate Chinese New Year/ Deepavali/Christmas?
- Do you think visiting your relatives is important?
- Why do you think the songwriter wrote the following in the lyrics of “*Balik Kampong*”?
  - “I don’t seem to feel this long journey”
  - “This longing in my soul will surely be cured”
- Why do you think the songwriter wrote the following in the lyrics of “*Selamat Hari Raya*”?
  - “Please forgive any wrongful words, I hope you don’t take it to heart”.
- Do you know of any other Hari Raya Puasa songs? Share with your family/classmates.
- What does “home” mean to you?
- Do you visit your relatives during special events? What do you do?



# ACTIVITY 3: MUSICAL CHAIRS

This activity involves the popular game “Musical Chairs” to familiarize children with the two songs.

Time needed to facilitate the activity	15-25 minutes
Resources required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chairs</li><li>• Speakers</li><li>• Links of YouTube videos to sing-along with Upin &amp; Ipin (Refer to Slide 16)</li></ul>
Preparation required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set up the chairs and speakers</li></ul>

# INSTRUCTIONS



1. Arrange (let  $n$  be no. of students)  $n-1$  chairs in a circle.
2. Ensure that there are no obstacles blocking students' path.
3. Start playing the songs *Selamat Hari Raya* OR *Balik Kampung* (Refer to Slide 16)
  - a. Students to walk around the chairs
  - b. Student who fails to find a seat when music stops is disqualified
  - c. Remove one chair from the circle and repeat until only one student is left
  - d. Remaining student receives a prize (optional)
  - e. Repeat whole game until end of lesson (optional)

# TEMPLATE OF WORKSHEET TO BE USED WITH ACTIVITY



Please see attached for the documents.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## BALIK KAMPUNG

Sudirman Arshad



Perjalanan jauh tak ku rasa Kerna hati ku melonjak sama Ingin berjumpa sanak saudara Yang selalu bermain di mata	The journey is long but I don't feel it Because my heart is jumping Longing to see my family & relatives Who seem to be in front of my very eyes already
Nun menghijau gunung ladang dan rimba	In the distance, see the green mountains, fields and forest
Langit nan tinggi bertambah birunya	The sky so high seems to be bluer than ever
Deru angin turut sama berlagu	Even the blowing of the wind sounds like music to my ears
Semuanya bagaikan turut gembira	As though, everything is as happy as me
Balik kampung oh oh... (x3) Hati girang Ho ho... Balik kampung (x3) Hati girang	Back to my hometown oh oh... (x3) My heart is happy/elated Ho ho... Back to my hometown (x3) My heart is happy/elated
Terbayang wajah-wajah yang ku sayang Satu-satu tersemat di kalbu Pasti terubat rindu di hati	I can imagine the faces that I love Each one of them in my heart The longing in my heart will surely be cured
Menyambut kepulangan ku nanti (x2)	They will welcome my return (x2)

Source:  
<https://lyricstranslate.com/en/balik-kampung-back-my-hometown.html>

## SELAMAT HARI RAYA

Salmah Ismail



Selamat Aidil Fitri Kepada saudara serta saudari Setahun hanya sekali Merayakan hari yang mulia ini	Happy Aidil Fitri To all my brothers and sisters Once a year We celebrate this glorious day
Di masa bulan Ramadan Kita berpuasa hingga sebulan Pabila Syawal menjelma Hari Raya disambut dengan gembira	During the month of Ramadan We've spent a whole month fasting When Syawal arrives We joyfully celebrate Hari Raya
Miskin kaya memakai baju baru warna-warni Mengunjungi sanak kaum famili Sungguh hebat pemandangan di Hari Raya ini Tua muda wajah berseri-seri	The rich and poor all wear colourful clothes To go out to visit their family and relatives What a wonderful sight during Hari Raya Both young and old looking charming
Selamat Hari Raya Pada saudara saudara semua Maniah dengan gembira Merayakan Aidilfitri yang mulia Bermacam kuih ketupat dan rendang Mintak bu kuih sepotong Di sana kelihatan	Happy Hari Raya To all my relatives Come, let's joyfully Celebrate the glorious Aidilfitri
Saya mahu makan kerna perut kosong	We can see over there Many kinds of ketupat and rendang Mum, please give me a piece of cake I'm hungry and would like to eat
Dam dam dum bunyi meruncun Kanak-kanak segera datang berduyun Dam dam dum meruncun berdentum Semaraklah Hari Raya ini tahun	The fireworks go "Bang, bang, bang" Gathering all the children together "Bang, bang, bang", the fireworks explode Hari Raya this year is joyful
Maafkanlah jika ada terlanjur perkataan Diharap supaya jangan disimpan Kuberdoa selamat panjang umur murah rezeki Semoga Tuhan akan memberkati (x2)	Please forgive any wrongful words I hope you don't take it to heart I pray that you have a long life and are Prosperous May God bless you. (x2)

Selamat Hari Raya!  
 Source: Musiomatics

## ORIGAMI HOUSE

Video instructions can be found on [Easy Origami House Tutorial - DIY - Paper Kawaii](#) on YouTube

- Decorate your origami house to make it look like your home. Write down what the word 'home' means to you.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- What do you think the people in the song feel when they think of home?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Why do you think Muslims gather together during Hari Raya?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HARI RAYA SONGS



1. The most popular Selamat Hari Raya song was performed by Saloma. But did you know there are at least 4 songs with the same title? They are performed by Fazidan Joned, Ahmad Jais, Saloma and Miss Aminah which was the first Raya song ever recorded in 1936.
2. Prior to Hari Raya Puasa songs being played on radio, Muslims would hear the *takbir* on radio to mark the coming of Ramadan or Syawal.
3. Hari Raya Puasa songs reached their peak of popularity in the 70s and 80s. This was largely due to increase popularity of television and radio in the household. Artists such as Sudirman started composing songs for a more modern audience. Songs such as *Balik Kampong* expresses the notion of being away from home most of the year and the longing to be with family and loved ones during the festive season.
4. Most Hari Raya Puasa songs are celebratory. But there are also songs that express sadness and longing for loved ones who are far away or has passed on. As such, not all Raya songs are cheerful or happy.

*Takbir* a common Islamic Arabic expression “*Allahu Akbar*” used in various contexts by Muslims. It is played on the radio to mark the end of Ramadan and start of Syawal. Muslims also recite the *takbir* during Hari Raya Haji and the days preceding it.

# MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HARI RAYA



- Fasting during Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars of Islam.
  - Ramadan teaches self-discipline, self-control, sacrifice and empathy for those less fortunate
- Muslims visit their relatives and friends' houses to celebrate the blessed month of Syawal, which marks the end of fasting and bond with their loved ones
  - Most people would dress in traditional outfits.
  - Visitations are a sign of respect and an act of renewing relationships.
- It is a tradition to visit one's relatives during Hari Raya to seek forgiveness from one's elders and be united with one's family
- Did you know that from 1996 to 1998, Hari Raya Puasa and Chinese New Year actually fell on the same week! Double celebrations then occurred amongst the Chinese and Muslim communities, which eventually led to the term "Gongsi Raya" or "Kongsi Raya"

# OTHER SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES



1. Include quizzes as part of your musical chair activity.
2. Use traditional musical instruments to play the songs during musical chair. You can also use the opportunity to introduce some of the traditional musical instruments.
3. Vary the speed or volume of the songs during musical chair to teach different beats, speed and volume.
4. Make your own musical instruments together using dried herbs and spices used in Malay cooking to teach about both food and music.
5. Record your sing-along to the songs and send it to your loved ones as festive greetings. Increase the challenge by involving different students/family members to sing different verses and stitch the video together.
6. Dress up and create your own music video to the songs!
7. Visit the Malay Heritage Centre to see some of the traditional musical instruments on display.

# Links to songs



- YouTube link to *Balik Kampung* (Upin & Ipin Sing-along):  
<https://youtu.be/bJpSikhuMqA?t=15>
- YouTube link to *Selamat Hari Raya* (Upin & Ipin Sing-along):  
<https://youtu.be/XDaj0kMHAL0?t=14>
- YouTube link to folding a **Easy Origami House Tutorial - DIY - Paper Kawaii**  
<https://youtu.be/LQlns2eoSEM>