

# Challenge: Ramadan Lantern

Ramadan remembers the month the Qur'an (the Muslim holy book) was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. The actual night that the Qur'an was revealed is a night known as Lailut ul-Qadr ('The Night of Power'). Most Muslims fast between dawn and sunset.

### You will need:

- a rectangle of card or thick paper (A4 is fine) plus a little extra for a handle
- wax crayons
- watercolour (or watery) paint
- scissors
- sticky tape

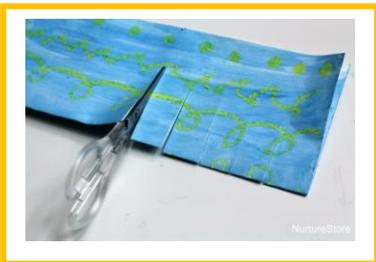
During Ramadan, it is common to have one meal (known as the suhoor), just before sunrise and another (known as the iftar), directly after sunset.

Almost all Muslims try to give up bad habits during Ramadan. It is a time for prayer and good deeds. They will try to spend time with family and friends and help people in need. The end of Ramadan is marked by a big celebration called 'Eid ul-Fitr' (the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast). Some families light lanterns during this time, linking the theme of light to Ramadan. So, now you know a little more about Ramadan, why not get creative and make your own lantern, and explain to an adult what it represents?

**Step 1:** Start by drawing a design on your rectangle of card or paper, using wax crayons. You can make repeating patterns, a traditional Islamic geometric design, crescent moon and stars, or anything other design you like.



**Step 2:** Next, using some watery paint, cover right over the surface of your wax crayon design. Watch how the wax resists the paint and see how your design pops through the paint.



**Step 3:** Once your paint is dry, fold your paper in half, long side to long side. Then use some scissors to make cuts all along the folded length. Just cut half to two-thirds of the way to the other side. Finally, open up your card and roll it so the two longer sides meet to form your lantern shape. Fasten your lantern in place using some sticky tape. The cuts you made will open out to give you a great lantern design.



**Step 4:** Use an extra piece of card / paper to make a handle for your lantern and attach it with some sticky tape.

**Step 5:** You can use a flameless LED candle inside to light your lantern, or string them up across your room like bunting.

## Which skills will I be developing?

