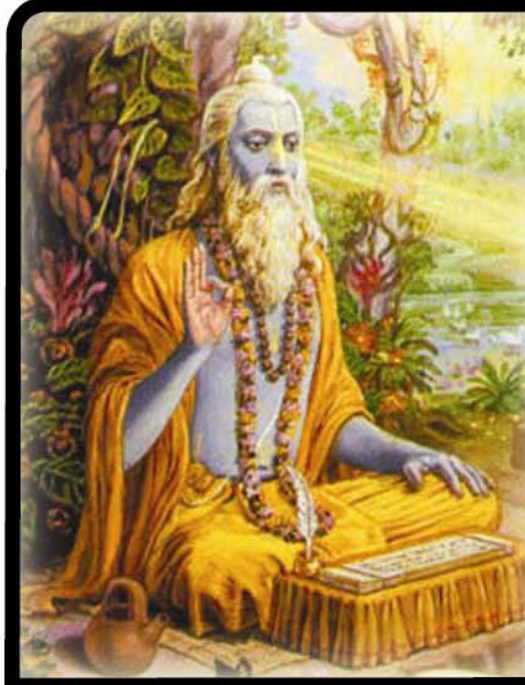
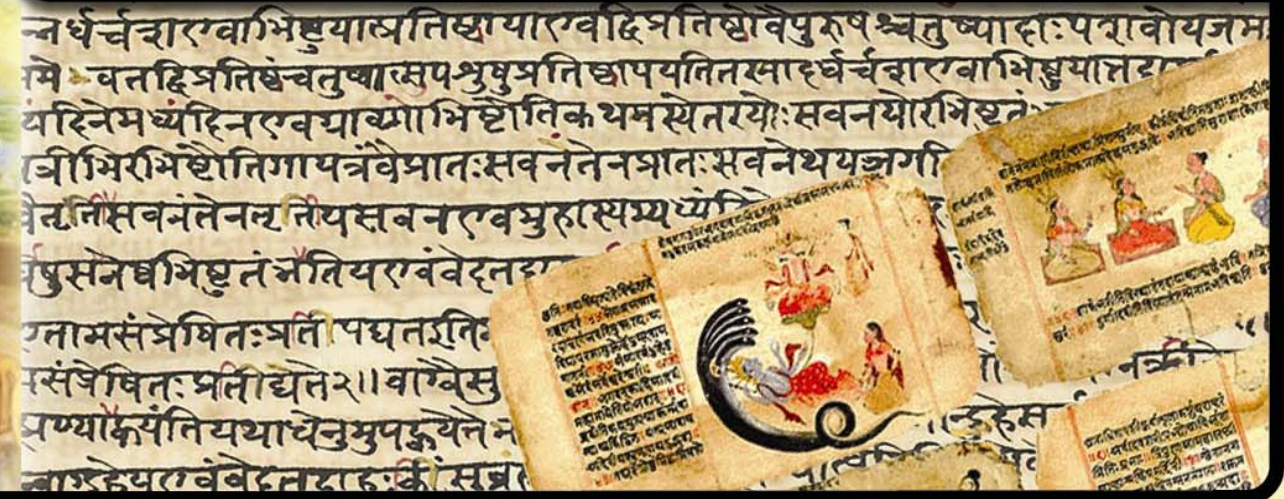


General Ideas

1. ॐ Hear the story, either a reading from Bhāgavatam (live or from Amala Bhakta's recordings) or from a simplified story
2. Explain why Lord Nṛsimhadeva appeared
3. Retell this story in your own words or in the form of a comic
4. Present the fight sequence between Lord Nṛsimhadeva and Hiranyakaśipu in a flow chart
5. Re-enact the fight between Lord Nṛsimhadeva and Hiranyakaśipu
6. Write a news report: 'Half-man, Half-lion Kills Evil Politician to Save Five Year Old Boy'
7. Design a board game for this pastime
8. Create a word search for this pastime
9. Make a crossword for this pastime
10. Present 3 arguments for and against the statement, 'If you can't see God, it's because He doesn't exist'
11. Discuss: Why can't a demon accept God as the greatest and worship Him?
12. Discuss whether Hiranyakaśipu did the right thing when he demanded to see God
13. Debate the topic, 'The goal of life is money and power'
14. Justify Lord Nṛsimhadeva's decision to kill Hiranyakaśipu
15. Make a list of different relationships teachers & students can have
16. List the six enemies that Prahlāda Mahārāja talks about
17. Discuss about Hiranyakaśipu closing his eyes
18. Retell or enact or draw how Lord Nṛsimhadeva killed Hiranyakaśipu.
19. Discuss why Lord Nṛsimhadeva sat Hiranyakaśipu on his lap to kill him
20. Discuss why the Lord chose to appear with the form of half-man and half-lion
21. What stage of the conflict in this pastime, do you think would have been most challenging for Hiranyakaśipu?
22. Name the sounds that Lord Nṛsimhadeva makes in this pastime
23. How many animals is Hiranyakaśipu compared to in the text? Name them & illustrate
24. Explain how personal challenges can strengthen your faith in God. Give an example from scripture or from your own life
25. What sensations are there for your senses in this pastime? Present this information in a chart.
26. Write a poem or song, draw a picture, or create a dance, to show how you would have felt if you saw Lord Nṛsimhadeva appear from the pillar
27. Find three themes from the story and discuss how they can be applied in one's life
28. ॐ List the various persons in this pastime and describe (essay, poem, song, picture, etc.) how they probably felt when Hiranyakaśipu was killed. Give evidences from the story.
29. Explain why everyone was afraid when they heard the sound coming from the pillar
30. What does it mean, Lord Nṛsimhadeva's arms 'spread in all directions'?
31. Research the sound elephants make when they are afraid. Discuss why all the elephants in the world cried with fear when Nṛsimhadeva appeared. Find or create appropriate music for this moment in the pastime



Scriptures



2-4 years:

ॐ Act out each of the ways in which Hiranyakaśipu tried to kill Prahlāda, and call out, "Kṛṣṇa!" each time

ॐ Listen to a dramatic reading of the story.

An adult tells the story with purposeful mistakes or out of order and the child(ren) have to find the mistakes and say what is right.

An adult tells the story, pausing to have the child(ren) call out the next name or action

5-7 years:

Pick one part of the story and act it out, with simple costumes (or pieces of cloth) and makeup

Pretend to be Hiranyakaśipu and see how long one can stay on tiptoes with hands up

Draw at least five pictures, comic book style, to re-tell the story in order

Have one person pretend to be Nṛsimhadeva and hide. The others are Hiranyakaśipu, looking everywhere for God. One child is Prahlāda who knows where Nṛsimhadeva is hiding, and tells the Hiranyakaśipus if they are getting "hotter" or "colder." When a child finds Nṛsimhadeva, Nṛsimhadeva chases all the Hiranyakaśipus. Whoever finds Nṛsimhadeva is the next Nṛsimhadeva, and whoever Nṛsimhadeva catches is the next Prahlāda

8-10 years:

ॐ Write down the names of each of the chapters in the Nṛsimha/Prahlāda story in order from memory. Explain in one or two sentences, or in a drawing, what happens in each chapter.

ॐ Research what a skeleton looks like, and make one from clay, pretending it is Hiranyakaśipu doing austerities. Discuss how he could live in his bones, and the relationship between body and soul.

ॐ Draw each of the benedictions Hiranyakaśipu received from Brahmā, and then draw the way in which Nṛsimhadeva killed Hiranyakaśipu without breaking the benediction. Label each way of outsmarting the benedictions as the most "funny" "amazing" "surprising" "clever" and so forth.

11-13 years:

ॐ Imagine you are one of the demigods when Hiranyakaśipu takes over the universe. Write a diary of entries for each day of a week right after he comes into power.

Make a list of various types of strength and how we can know they come from Kṛṣṇa.

ॐ Make a list of the topics that Prahlāda taught to his friends. Take one of those topics and deliver a speech or write a short skit to explain it

14-18 years:

List the ways in which Hiranyakaśipu shows that he is not happy, even after he gets his benedictions. Look in the Bhagavad-gītā, especially chapters 2, 12, and 14, for the symptoms of one in transcendental consciousness and compare to the behavior of Hiranyakaśipu.

Create a list of the characters in the story, ranked in order of importance. Next to each, list the greatest impact they had. What would have happened to the story if each of the top four highest ranking characters had done nothing?

ॐ Read about how Hiranyakaśipu forced plants and trees to bear in all seasons. Make a list of the produce at home, school, or temple and mathematically analyze what percentages are locally grown, what percentages are in season, and where the non-local produce comes from