
Lord Ganesha

ॐ गणेशाय नमः



Hari Om, my name is Ganesha.

I am also known with many other names.

I have an elephant head, big pot belly, huge ears and big teeth.

I loooove to eat sweets and ride a mouse.

I am always remembered at the start of something new and am also known as the beater of obstacles.

Learn prayers to Lord Ganesha (2)

Stories of Lord Ganesha

How to draw Lord Ganesha

Word puzzles relating to stories of Lord Ganesha

Ganesha's birth



One day, Mother Parvati wanted to refresh Herself by taking a cool bath in a large bathing pool in Kailasa. She rolled out of her some dust and out of it created a handsome and powerful male form, and enlivened it with Her power.



"You are My son," She said to him, "and extremely dear to Me! Please stand guard for Me at the entrance of this bathing pool and allow none to enter without My permission." She gave him a stout stick and endowed him with Her powers.



After some time, Lord Shiva came by. The guard stopped Him. The Lord said, "What a fool are you! I am the Lord of Parvati. Who are you to refuse Me to enter My house?"

The guard said, "You may be anyone but I have instruction to allow no one to enter here."

They fight. Lord Shiva cuts off the head of the guard with His trident. They fight. Lord Shiva cuts off the head of the guard with His trident.



Mother Parvati comes and finds Her son lying on the floor headless. She is angry. She says, "I will be happy only if my son comes to life again."



It was not possible to stitch back the head smashed by Lord Shiva's trident. So Shiva sent out His ganas with an instruction that they should cut and bring the head of the first living being they see lying with its head towards the North. During their search, they found an elephant sleeping with his head towards the North. They cut the head of the elephant and brought it to Lord Shiva. He joined the elephant head with the truncated body of the guard and imparted life to it. Thus, the elephant-faced Ganesha was born.



How Ganesha's got His Modaka



Once all the Devas decided to visit Kailasa to pay their respects to Lord Siva and Parvati. They took with them a specially prepared sweet, Modaka, and presented it to Mother Parvati.

Both Ganesha and Kartikeya

demanded the sweet, whereupon the Mother said: "First, listen to the glory of this Modaka. It is prepared with rare ingredients and dipped in nectar. One would attain immortality by merely smelling this sweet. And he who eats it will become greater than gods in all respects - in arts, literature and knowledge. Therefore, between you two he who can prove his worth as the best and righteous one, can have the Modaka."



Kartikeya, to prove his sense of righteousness, immediately took off on his peacock and dipped himself in all the sacred ponds and rivers of the world and worshipped all the gods and goddesses and returned to Kailasa within a Muhurtha*.



But by that time, Ganesha had already acquired the Modaka by simply going round Lord Siva and Parvati with a heart full of devotion and humility.



The argument was that he who is devoted to his parents is sixteen times more meritorious than one who leaves them at home and goes about dipping in all sacred ponds and worshipping the various gods. Pleased with Ganesha's brilliant intelligence. Mother Parvati gave him the Modaka and made him the leader of the Ganas.

KUBERA'S PRIDE HUMBLLED

Kubera, the Treasurer of the Heavens, was proud of his riches. He had all the comforts and conveniences of the heaven at his command. He once paid a visit to Kailash and had the 'darshan' of Lord Shiva and the whole family.



In his vanity, he thought he would show-off his glory to the Lord and so invited Him to his city, Alakapuri, for a lunch.



The Lord smiled and said: "I am not coming. You can take Ganesha along, and mind you, he is a voracious eater!" "Oh,

that's nothing," said Kubera, "I can easily feed him to his heart's content." And so, the little child Ganesha, caught hold of the little finger of Kubera and walked and walked down to the magnificent "Pushpaka" (the celestial aircraft of Kubera) and took off to Alkapuri.



He was given a ceremonial bath with , and dressed in costly and beautiful clothes.



Then they all settled down for lunch. Kubera had already ordered a great meal to be prepared; and then, one by one the items started arriving. Ganesha, comfortably seated, went on eating all the items served to him. And as he ate on, His appetite grew more and more and He started eating faster and faster.



The army of servants had a tough time serving the Child, because the moment an item was put on the plate, it disappeared straight into His stomach. Ganesha started becoming impatient at the slow pace of serving, so now He started taking the food straight from the serving dishes of the servants.

He started eating the dishes also, and then he got up and went straight to the kitchen and ate all the cooked and uncooked food. The cooks and servants were aghast at the hunger of Ganesh. They screamed in horror. Kubera was struck with fear. Ganesh went on eating everything that came on his way-the furniture the decorative pandal, the gardens and trees and all. Then he started for Kubera's apartments. Kubera with his folded hands appealed to him not to destroy his palace. "I am hungry", said Ganesh. "If you won't give me food, I will swallow you also."



The terrified Kubera flew down to Kailas and implored Lord Shiva to appease Ganesh.



"I warned you he is a voracious eater", said the Lord. "Lord, please forgive me for my foolishness and vanity. If you won't rescue me now from the situation, I will be eaten up", cried Kubera. "All right, give this to him" said the Lord, giving Kubera a handful of roasted rice. "This will satisfy his hunger". Kubera prostrated at the feet of the Lord, took the puffed rice and rushed back to his city.



The city was almost eaten up by Ganesh. With all humility, he offered the puffed rice to Ganesh, and eating it, he became calm and contented. Kubera took Ganeshji back to Kailas and entrusted him to Lord Siva

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Kubera has learn his lesson. Pride always takes a fall.

Learn to draw Lord Ganesha



Colour Lord Ganesha



FILL IN THE BLANKS

STRIKE THE WORD WHEN YOU HAVE USED IT

KUBERA SWEETS PARVATI EAT MOUSE HELP PROUD

SHIVA FEAST GANESHA ELEPHANT KUBERA NEW FOOD

SHIVA START RICH

LORD _____ HAS AN _____ HEAD AND LOVE TO EAT

_____. HE RIDES A _____. HE IS SON OF LORD _____

AND _____. WE WORSHIP HIM AT _____ OF SOMETHING

_____. HE IS ALSO KNOWN AS A GOD WHO REMOVES _____

ONCE _____ INVITED HIM FOR A _____.

KUBERA WAS VERY _____ AND ALSO VERY _____.

CLASS ACTIVITY: FIND THE WORDS

WORLD MODAKA PEACOCK KARTIKEYA PARENTS AROUND SOLUTION
DEVOTION MOUSE KAILASA SHIVA PARVATI

W	O	R	L	D				M							
O					P	E	A	C	O	C	K		S		
R					A				D		A	R	O	U	N
S					R				A		R		L		E
H		S	H	I	V	A			K		T		U		V
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