

General Ideas

1. ॐ Learn the Sanskrit, word-for-word translation and English of the Nṛsimha prayer (or part thereof) as sung in the temple
2. Learn different tunes for the Nṛsimha prayer as sung in the temple
3. ॐ Learn any other prayer or verse about Lord Nṛsimhadeva (Sanskrit, English, word-for-word) or any part
4. ॐ Take the opening words of Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 5.18.8 (om̐ namo bhagavate narasimhāya) and write them in Sanskrit Devanāgarī, Sanskrit Roman letters, and/or English. Make designs around each letter, create appropriate border art for the words, or make the words into an intricate design
5. ॐ Make the English translation of the Nṛsimha prayer into a song
6. ॐ Make the English translation of any other verse or prayer about Nṛsimhadeva into a song
7. ॐ Make a mime of the meaning of a verse about Nṛsimha. Perform the mime while others sing the Sanskrit
8. ॐ Choose one verse about Lord Nṛsimhadeva and draw a picture of its meaning
9. ॐ Choose 10 Sanskrit words from a verse or song about Nṛsimhadeva that you like the meaning or sound of. On one set of small cards write the Sanskrit words and on identical cards write the English meanings from the word-for-word translation. Shuffle up the cards, turn them over & play the memory game, trying to match the Sanskrit to the English
10. ॐ Make a card for each body part or place mentioned in the Nṛsimha Kavaca (the English word or a picture) and make a card for each corresponding part of the mantra or name of Lord Nṛsimhadeva. Play the memory game
11. ॐ In a group, prepare a performance of any verses or prayers to Lord Nṛsimhadeva to an audience
12. ॐ Study one or more of the verses of Prahlāda's prayers to Nṛsimhadeva (Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, canto 7, chapter 9, texts 8-50. Prabhupāda also gave lectures on each of these verses, and they can be referred to as well.) Make a one-page outline or a mind map of all or part of these prayers, or just one prayer. Alternatively, use Prahlāda's prayers in Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, canto 5, chapter 18, texts 8-14
13. ॐ Create a slide show with one slide for each prayer of Prahlāda to Nṛsimhadeva (from canto 7 or canto 5). Have someone chanting that verse as the sound for each slide. Find or create one or more appropriate photos or artwork for each prayer. Show to an audience
14. ॐ Create a personal prayerbook to Lord Nṛsimhadeva of especially liked prayers or verses. Copy and paste prayers, or write them in the book. Illustrate each prayer. After each prayer, write a personal meditation on the prayer, how that prayer has personal meaning or application
15. ॐ Read Prabhupāda's prayer where he quotes Prahlāda's prayer in Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, canto 7, chapter 9, text 28.1. Compose one's own poetry or prayer that includes this verse. Give a speech explaining the relation of this verse to Prabhupāda's mission

Holy Names



2-4 years:

1. Roar like Nṛsimhadeva coming out of the pillar
2. Bang and/or drop various things (unbreakable!) to meditate on the sound Nṛsimhadeva made when He came out of the pillar. Decide which object makes a sound most like the one Nṛsimhadeva made
3. Learn and chant names of Nṛsimhadeva: Narahari, Narasimha, Nṛsimha. Talk about how “simha” and “hari” mean lion and “nr” and “nara” mean person or man

5-7 years:

1. ॐ Draw the meaning of the Nṛsimhadeva prayer chanted regularly in the temple
2. ॐ Learn verse 30 of the Nṛsimha Kavaca (the sounds and rhythm will be fun for this age)
3. ॐ Choose a verse or prayer to Nṛsimhadeva and write it on a large piece of paper. Cut out magazine pictures that are related to the verse and form a collage around the verse
4. ॐ Pretend to be each of the persons in the story at the time the Lord appears from the pillar, and say, “Nṛsimhadeva!” in the appropriate tone of voice for each person

8-10 years:

1. ॐ Chant the Nṛsimha Kavaca, texts 8-19. For each relevant part/name of Lord Nṛsimhadeva of the mantra, touch the appropriate part of the body, or point to the appropriate direction. Extension: have someone say the appropriate part of the mantra or Nṛsimhadeva's name (in Sanskrit) and the others point to the matching part of the body or space. Whoever gets it wrong is “out” and whomever is left at the end gets to be the leader for the next “round”
2. ॐ Take an outline of the human body and mark “east, southeast,” etc. on the paper. Write the Sanskrit for the appropriate part of the Nṛsimha Kavaca (or the appropriate name of Lord Nṛsimhadeva on each part of the drawing)

11-13 years:

1. ॐ Illustrate any three verses about Lord Nṛsimhadeva
2. ॐ Choose ten verses about Lord Nṛsimhadeva. Rate them as to which is easiest to learn or remember, most fun to say, most likely to want to chant regularly, easiest to remember the meaning of, easiest to form a mental picture of, easiest to create a dance or mudrās for, best to teach or explain to someone who knows nothing about Nṛsimhadeva, and any other categories

14-18 years:

1. ॐ Lord Nṛsimhadeva's first appearance was as sound from the pillar. Prabhupāda explains that Kṛṣṇa is all sounds in ether. Write three poems or songs about this sound—one from the point of view of the demigods, one from Prahlāda's point of view, and one from Hiranyakaśipu's point of view
2. Design an advertisement for people to learn and chant a specific prayer or verse about Nṛsimhadeva
3. ॐ Find pictures of various parts of the body/organs and directions that are listed in the Nṛsimha Kavaca, texts 8-19. Create a piece of art (on a computer, or physically cut as a collage, as a slide show, using the names of Lord Nṛsimhadeva and/or parts of the mantra to label or decorate the pictures. (for private parts one can show a baby in the womb)