

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

## Krishna and Balaram

### The Eight Incarnations of Lord Krishna



Krishna and Balaram are original form of the Lord. They appeared on the earth about 5000 years ago. Krishna actually appears to show His Vrindavan pastimes and to attract all of us to go back home, back to Godhead. He also killed many demons while on the earth.

Lord Krishna appeared as the son of Devaki and Vasudeva. Because they were imprisoned by King Kamsa, Vasudeva exchanged Baby Krishna with Mother Yasoda and Nanda Maharaj's child. Mother Yashoda and Nanda Maharaj didn't know this and raised Krishna as their son.

Balaram was the son of Rohini and Vasudeva. Rohini was another wife of Vasudeva. Rohini and Balaram were put under the care of Nand Maharaj also.

Even though Krishna is the Supreme Personality of Godhead and Balaram is His first expansion (Balaram has all the potencies of Krishna), They played just like little children. They would play games with their friends and take the cow to pasture everyday. But at the same time, they showed Their wonderful strength in killing many demons. How many demons can you think of that Krishna killed?

Krishna also reestablished religion by speaking the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna. When they were just about to begin the Battle of Kurukshetra, Arjuna became confused and didn't want to fight. He asked Krishna to pull his chariot up between the armies so he could see both sides. Then Krishna spoke Bhagavad Gita to His friend, teaching Him that we are not the body, but eternal spirit soul. Because of the greatness of what Krishna spoke, the Bhagavad Gita is still studied and heard today as a great scripture. It means "song of God" and is a very special scripture because the Lord spoke it Himself.

There are many, many stories about Krishna and Balaram's pastimes. We will read some of the stories that are told in Krishna Book rather than writing them here.

Parent's Sign: \_\_\_\_\_