

Week 11 – The Indian Subcontinent

Project Ideas – Select One for Presentation at the End of Unit 11

1. DANCE AND WARDROBE

Dance and wardrobe are very important parts of Indian Culture. Independently research common traditional dances of India by Internet search, library search, or personal interview.

Then, find your local Indian Culture Council Group. Schedule a time to review a local performance of Indian Dance.

Compose a description of the dance and create an illustration of what you saw. Be prepared to present it to your teacher/family/class at the end of the week. During your presentation, perform some of the dances you saw.

(lower elementary – require one or two short paragraphs for description)

(upper elementary – require 1 page description)

2. HENNA TATTOOS

Henna tattoos are used in many special festivals and celebrations in cultures of the Indian Subcontinent. Research the use of henna tattoos in festivals and create a poster with the following information:

- When are henna tattoos used?
- Who wears henna tattoos?
- What parts of the body are henna tattoos used on?
- How long does a henna tattoo last?
- What is henna? What other things are made from henna?

Present your poster to your teacher/family/class at the end of the week.

For an added activity – research where henna “ink” is sold and purchase a tube. Create your own henna tattoos to show off during your presentation*.



*Please be sure to get your parents' permission and check allergen information before applying henna tattoos.

Week 11 – The Indian Subcontinent (cont.)

Project Ideas – Select One for Presentation at the End of Unit 11

3. BUDDHISM AND HINDUISM

Buddhism and Hinduism are two of the most prevalent religions on the Indian Subcontinent. Independently research what each religion believes and then research a local temple in your area. Schedule a visit to the temple and take a tour. Ask the tour guide any questions you have about their religion.

Create a poster-size chart that has the following categories:

- Beliefs
- God(s)
- Holidays/Festivals
- Traditions

Using these topics, compare and contrast in words and pictures Buddhism, Hinduism, and your religion. Present the poster to your teacher/family/class and discuss the similarities and differences of these religions to your own*.

*If you are Buddhist or Hindi, select another major world religion that is common in the India Subcontinent (Christianity or Islam) and use that as your comparison religion.

