

Week # 20 – India (New Delhi)
Asian vs. African Elephants / Indian Cobras (Reptiles)

“An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind.” - Gandhi

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”
- Mahatma Gandhi

Teaching Objectives:

- **Locate India on the map.**
- **Find photos of Taj Mahal online.**
- **Discuss caste system and how it has affected Indian people.**
- **Identify differences between Asian and African elephants.**
- **Write Gandhi’s quotes and discuss meanings.**

One Grain of Rice – Demi

*Vocabulary – province, famine, raja, ministers, modest

*Verbs – decreed, implored, exclaimed, presented, believed (-d, -ed past tense)

*Nouns – thief, collectors, people, feast, elephant

*Adjectives – royal, clever, honest, wise, single

*Adverbs – safely, plentifully, truly, quickly, badly (-ly means ‘in a ____ way’)

Writing Prompts:

- ❖ Rani asked for one grain of rice doubled each day for 30 days as her reward. If you could ask for a penny a day doubled each day for 30 days as payment for a chore, which chore would be worthy of such payment? How much money would you earn on the 30th day? If you saved every penny earned, what would your total savings be? How would you use the money?
- ❖ Rani gave the rice to the hungry people. She balanced ‘the scales of justice’. Explain how she made things right for the people and the raja.

Each day different animals delivered the rice to Rani. Count the number of animals on the pages throughout the book.

Map: Color and label India. Label the capital city, New Delhi. Draw route of Ganges River. Notice its position near the equator. It is hot and humid most of the year. Label site of Taj Mahal and Outb Minar.

The Ganges River is considered sacred by the Hindu people. Write about some of the ceremonies and traditions performed at the Ganges. What is a major problem with the river?

Flag: Draw and color.

Structure: The Taj Mahal was built in 17th century. Who had it built and why? It is symmetrical in design and reflects perfectly into a pool. Draw it. *Figure 8.*



Structure: Another important structure is Outb Minar, built in New Delhi during the 12th century as a victory tower. It stands 240' high and has a spiral staircase with 379 steps.

The game of chess originated in India about 1,500 years ago. Learn how to play it.

The Indian people love movies. 'Bollywood' makes more movies than Hollywood.

The greeting "Namaste" means "I bow my head to you."  symbol 'om'

Bharat Natyam is a 2,000-year-old classical dance where women use finger/hands gestures, eye movements, and neck positions to tell a story.

Listen: The sitar is a traditional instrument of India. Ravi Shankar was a master sitar musician. He gained worldwide fame playing with the Beatles.

Recipe: Chicken Coconut Curry

Dine at an Indian restaurant.

Grandfather Gandhi – Gandhi / ***Who Was Gandhi?*** – Rau 5 (read aloud)

Find five of Gandhi's quotes and copy them in your best handwriting.

The Blind Man and the Elephant – Quigley

The blind men described the elephant using similes i.e. "An elephant is like a rope." Write five similes to make a comparison using the word 'like'.

Wear a blindfold and try to describe an unknown object.

Compare/contrast African and Asian elephants using a Venn diagram.

Rikki-Tikki-Tavi – Pinkney / Kipling (read aloud)

Nag and Nagaina are cobras trying to harm the British family. A single bite of a king cobra can inject enough neurotoxin to kill 20 people or one elephant. Learn more about cobras. Why would a British family live in India?

Collection of Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories – Corr (read aloud)

Based on Hindu law, the **caste system** locks a person into a permanent social class regardless of changes in education or wealth. This designation determines who one can marry, what careers can be chosen, and where one lives. The Brahmins are the priests and teachers; the Kshatriyas are the rulers and warriors; the Vaishyas are the merchants and farmers; the Shudras are the laborers; and the Dalits are the untouchables. A child inherits his/her position in life 'caste in stone'.

Watch:

Aladdin (1992) Disney

Jungle Book (1967) Disney

Jungle Book (2016)

Internet Search: book titles with activities/lessons, rules for chess, Taj Mahal, Asian elephant, Gandhi quotes, Ganges River traditions, facts about India for kids, freerice.com (math, science, geography games)

Additional Titles:

Anklet for Princess – Brucker (Cinderella)

Beautiful Blue Jay and Other Tales of India – Spellman (read aloud)

The Conch Bearer – Divakaruni (read aloud)

The Jungle Book: Mowgli's Story – Kipling / Bayley (read aloud)

The Monkey and the Crocodile – Galdone

Monkey: Trickster Tale from India – McDermott

Mystery of Suspicious Spices: Greetings – Paris

Once a Mouse – Brown (Caldecott)

Gather materials for next week and research online videos, lessons, and resources.

Notes: