THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Let's go to...Cambodia!

In This Issue

Palmer Parrot is back to take your students to Cambodia. There's lots of information and plenty to do inside Mission Friends. The goal is to get your students involved in God's mission! By learning, praying, giving, sending, telling, going, and celebrating, they are partners in God's mission! Visit www.lcmsworldmission. org/international to learn more about Cambodia and LCMS World Mission's work there.

Also, if possible, get these missionaries' prayer card on the LCMS World Mission Web site. Go to **www.lcmsworldmission.org/prayercards** to download and print prayer cards. Make enough for your students and encourage them to take them home and pray for the missionaries and God's mission in Cambodia.

More Class Activities

1. The riel is the official currency of Cambodia. It is used mostly for buying local produce and for change. The exchange rate for riel is about 4,000 riel to 1 U.S. dollar. Most Cambodian riel are in amounts under 20,000 (5 U.S. dollars). Interestingly, the US dollar is the unofficial currency and is used widely all over Cambodia for all purposes. Using the

riel, figure the United States cost of things like an apple, a pencil, a bike, or a soft drink in riel.

- 2. www.einaudi.cornell.edu/SoutheastAsia/outreach/resources/CambodiaWebUnit/culture.html is a good Web site to find out about Cambodian holidays and culture. Do you know why Cambodia has a "Day of Hatred?" (to remember the crimes of the Pol Pot regime)
- **3.** Here are two Cambodian proverbs. Can you guess what they mean? Make up a proverb of your own and illustrate it.
 - "Don't take the straight path or the winding path. Take the path your ancestors have taken." (follow your traditions and ways of doing things)
 - "Don't let an angry man wash dishes; don't let a hungry man guard rice." (An angry man will break the dishes. A hungry man will eat the rice instead of guarding it.)
- **4.** Rice is the main agricultural crop in Cambodia. Find out how farmers grow rice there. What are the difficulties? Learn more about the growing of this important food. What other crops are important to Cambodian farmers?

- 5. Because Cambodia has a history of three decades of war, a big problem today is landmines. Research landmines in Cambodia and find out about what agencies are doing to help eliminate this problem. Here are some Web sites to get you started:
- www.mekong.net/cambodia/mines.htm
- www.un.org/works/goingon/mines/ goingon_mines.html
- **6.** Cambodia has animals like elephants, wild oxen, rhinoceroses, and several species of deer. Find out where these animals live. What are the dangers that these animals face?
- 7. Dance is an important part of Cambodian culture. Look for pictures of Cambodian dancers. Find out how dancers are trained and the origin of classical Cambodian dance. Can you pose like a Cambodian dancer? How could you use dance to tell the story of Jesus?
- 8. Cambodia has beautiful "bas reliefs" on temples and historic buildings. Look up pictures of these bas reliefs—especially the ones on Angkor Wat. Find relief art like this in your neighborhood and ask for permission to make a rubbing of it or copy the Angkor Wat drawing from the flag on to a piece of heavy cardboard. Using white glue, attach string to the shape. Let this dry. Then put a thin sheet of paper over this and do your own bas relief rubbing of the wat.
- **9.** Study more about the genocide in Cambodia under the Pol Pot regime. How has that affected the age of people in this country and the educational situation in the country?

More about the Lutheran Church in Battambang

Our missionaries use this city as a base to work with other local Christians, but they also travel to other provinces to share Jesus with the people there. Although the missionaries live in modern housing, they often shop at local markets, filter all their water, and see ox-drawn carts bringing supplies to the city. Across the city, cell phones are an important part of the communication structure. City parks are important gathering places as here families fly kites, play games like badminton, or just enjoy time together. The city has many Buddhist worship places called wats, many schools, and many government offices.

Battambang is the second-largest city in Cambodia. It is surrounded by small villages and is the center of Cambodia's rice bowl. This city is extremely important to our missionaries because of the Lutheran church and English language school there. Lutherans in the United States helped make this church and school possible. A small congregation of believers worship. It is interesting that while the adults number about 20, there are often 80 or more children at worship. Sunday school is on Sunday afternoons and youth activities are on the weekend.

Another Mission Story

When Steven and his sister were eight and ten years old, they lived with their abusive father. Their mother had left them. One day, as they approached their house from doing an errand, they saw that there father was not there and soldiers were in their house. They knew if they entered their home, there was a good chance that they would be killed, so they ran to the forest. In order to survive, they ate roots, bugs, leaves, or anything edible to stay alive. They stayed in the forest for two years.

When they left the forest, the war was over and they were able to get some education. Stephen was taken in by Christians and had a job. Soon, the people at the job site made fun and tormented Steven because he lived with Christians. The people on the job said that this was not the Cambodian way and that Steven ought to leave and live among Buddhists. Finally, their tormenting became so strong that Steven knew he had to make a choice, quit his job or move. Steven chose to leave his job.

He made this decision because he said that the Christians were so loving toward himperhaps the first love he had really felt. As the Christians loved Steven, he became a Christian, too. Now Steven leads his people in learning about Jesus through several house churches in rural Cambodia.

More Fun Facts about Geckos

Geckos have millions of microscopic hairs called **setae** on the bottom of their feet. These tiny setae are only as long as two diameters of a human hair. Each seta ends with 1,000 even tinier pads at the tip. These tips, called **spatulae**, are only 200-billionths of a meter wide. The gecko foot hairs split and allow a billion spatulae to increase surface density and come into close contact with the surface, which creates a strong adhesive force. A single seta can lift the weight of an ant. A million setae, which could easily fit onto the area of a dime, could lift a 45-pound child. If a gecko used all of its setae at the same time, it could support 280 pounds!

Vocabulary

- **1. Buddhism:** followers of Buddha, the "enlightened one."
- 2. Gecko: a small, insect eating lizard
- 3. Hinduism: Hinduism includes many religious beliefs, traditions, practices, and denominations. Most Hindus believe in a One Supreme Cosmic Spirit called Brahman that may be worshiped in many forms, represented by individual gods such as Vishnu, Shiva, and Shakti. Hinduism centers around a variety of practices that are meant to help one experience the Divinity that is everywhere and realize the true nature of the self.
- **4. Monarch:** someone who reigns over a kingdom; a king or queen
- **5. Monsoon:** a wind pattern that reverses direction with the seasons.
- **6. Parliamentary:** is distinguished by the **executive branch of government** being

- dependent on the direct or indirect support of the **parliament**, often expressed through a **vote of confidence**
- 7. Representative democracy: founded on the exercise of popular sovereignty by the people's representatives. The representatives supposedly act in the people's interest, but not as their proxy representative—i.e., not necessarily always according to wishes, but with enough authority to exercise initiative in the face of changing circumstances. It is often contrasted with direct democracy, where representatives are absent or only proxy representatives. The representatives are chosen by voters in free, secret-ballot, multi-party elections.
- **8. Rural:** having to do with the countryside
- **9. Setae:** microscopic hairs on the underside of a gecko
- **10. Spatulae:** tips of the hairs setae of the gecko
- 11. Wat: a Buddhist temple

Answers to Matching Game

- 1. D
- 2. E
- 3. B
- 4. C 5. A
- 6. F

How to Take a Walk

Taking a walk with good manners is important in Cambodia—let's talk about these manners.

- Tell people where you are going and when you are coming back. (This is important to show respect to others and to keep them from being embarrassed if someone asks and they don't know where you are.)
- If someone of higher status is passing you, bend lower (from the waist) than that person.

- Don't make sounds with your skirt when you walk.
- Don't wear shoes or hats when you enter a house or temple.
- Close doors softly when you go through them
- When you meet someone on the street, ask where they are going.



Mission Friends LCMS World Mission 1333 S. Kirkwood Road St. Louis, MO 63122-7295 www.lcmsworldmission.org



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Let's go to...Cambodia!

Hey, mission friends, gather your traveling stuff! We're off to Cambodia, on the continent of Asia. While the country's official name is Cambodia (cam-BO-dee-ah), many people choose to emphasize the French involvement in the country by calling it Kampuchea. Because of its troubled history, the

country's name has changed many times. The origin of the name Cambodia emphasizes the country's power and

royal rule.

(May to November) and dry season (December to April). Maximum temperatures are high throughout the year, ranging from about 82° F (28° C) in January, the coolest month, to about 95° F (35° C) in April. The country has natural resources of oil and gas, timber, gemstones, some iron ore, manganeses, and phosphates. Most of the **rural** population does not have access to water that is safe for drinking. The land itself is mostly low, flat plains, but there are mountains in the southwest and north.

Land and Climate

Cambodia is located in Southeast Asia. It is about the size as the state of Oklahoma. Cambodia is bordered by the countries Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam and the

Gulf of Thailand. It has a **tropical** climate with two seasons, **monsoon** season



History

Between the 11th and 14th centuries, Cambodia was part of the largest empire in Southeast Asia, the Khmer empire. During this time, the religions of **Hinduism** and Buddhism influenced Cambodia and the important religious structure, the Angkor Wat. After a long series of wars with neighboring kingdoms, Angkor was taken over by the Thai until 1432. In succeeding years, Cambodia was taken alternately by Vietnam and Thailand with periods of self rule between these powers. Finally, in 1863, Cambodia became a protectorate of France. After occupation by the Japanese empire from 1941 to 1945, Cambodia gained independence from France on November 9, 1953. It became a constitutional monarchy under King Norodom Sihanouk. Cambodia attempted to remain neutral during the Vietnam War. Eventually, the communist Khmer Rouge took over in 1975. It is estimated that one to three million Cambodians lost their lives under this oppressive government. Violent occupation and warfare between the Vietnamese and Khmer Rouge continued throughout the 1980s. A peace settlement involving the United Nations was achieved in 1991, and a parliamentary, representative democratic monarchy is currently in place.

Cities in Cambodia

Phnom Penh is the capital and largest city in Cambodia. Presently, more than one million people live there. The city takes its name from the Wat Phnom, or Hill Temple, built in 1373 to house five statues of Buddha. It was named after Daun Penh (Grandma Penh), a wealthy widow. Phnom Penh was also previously known as Krong Chaktomuk meaning "City of Four Faces." This name refers to the junction where th Mekong, Bassac, and Tonle Sap rivers cross to form an "X". In the past, the city was also sometimes called the "Pearl of the Orient."

Because Phnom Penh is the capital city, there are embassies of many countries, as well as buildings important for the national Cambodian government. The palace and the silver pagoda are important sites for visitors. There are also

museums and monuments to help people learn about the difficult times during the Pol Pot Regime and understand this time of suffering for the Cambodian people. The riverside provides opportunities to view the city from the water and to see the contrasts of poverty and wealth. While there are beautiful homes and shops, there is also poverty, beggars, slums, and street people.

People

More than 13 million people live in Cambodia. The population is made up of 90 percent Cambodians, who also refer to themselves as Khmer, 5 percent Vietnamese, 1 percent Chinese, and 4 percent other. Because of the killing and devastation during the Khmer Rouge regime, the average age of the people in Cambodia is 20 years. There are many, many young Cambodians who are interested in the development and progress of their country. Presently, Buddhism is the state religion and 95 percent of the people are Buddhists. Other religions of the people there are Islam and Christianity. In the rural areas, most people are farmers or fishermen.

Can you match these people with their pictures?

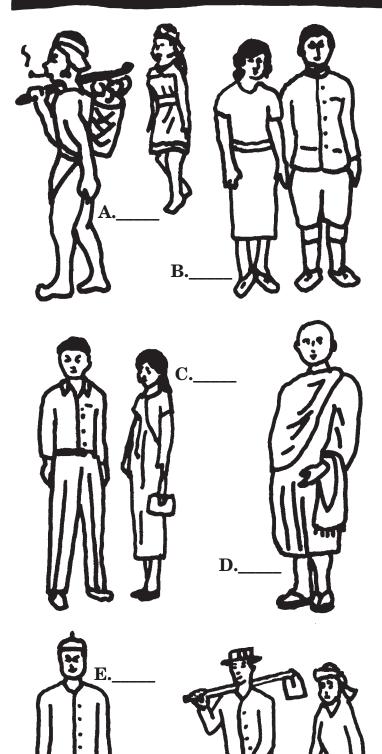
- 1. A monk with orange robe
- 2. A man dressing in chum cloth
- 3. A couple from the Khmer Ler like the mountain people
- 4. A couple dressed in city clothing
- 5. A couple dressed in traditional clothing, normally with lots of shining gold leaves
- 6. A couple dressed as farmers

Did you know that Cambodians often dress or pick different colors for the different days of the week?

Sunday: Red Monday: Orange Tuesday: Purple Wednesday: Green

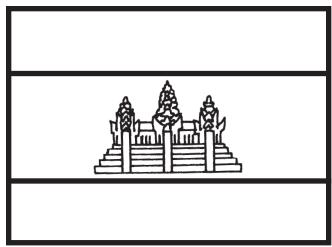
Thursday: Color of the clouds

Friday: Blue Saturday: Black



Flag and National Anthem

The Cambodian flag has three bands: a band of blue at the top and bottom with a band of red in the middle. In the middle of the flag is a white temple representing Angkor Wat. Because of the many political changes in the country, this is the seventh flag Cambodia has had since 1948. The blue represents royalty. The red symbolizes the nation. The white symbolizes the religion. These colors reflect the motto of the Khmer king, "Nation, Religion, and King." Notice what religion is reflected on the flag. Did you know that the flag of Cambodia is one of the only flags to have a building as part of its symbolism? What does this tell you about bringing the Gospel to people in this country?



Now, look at this last verse of the Cambodian National Anthem. What might be some of the challenges in sharing Jesus in this country? Pray for these challenges, for the hearts of the people in Cambodia, and for the missionaries working there.

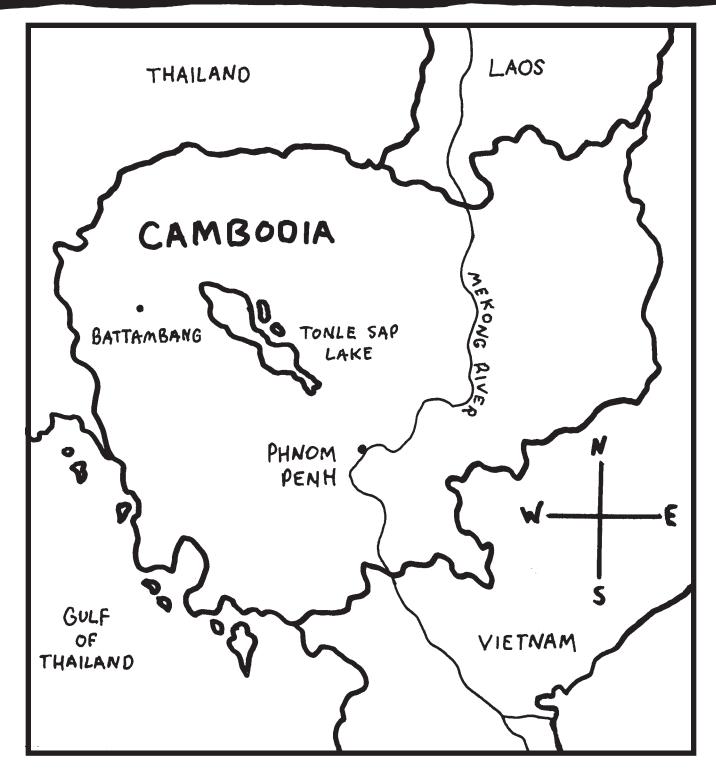
Songs rise up from the pagodas

To the glory of holy buddhistic faith.

Let us be faithful to our ancestors' belief

Thus heaven will lavish its bounty

Towards the ancient Khmer country, the Moah Nokor.



Map Activities

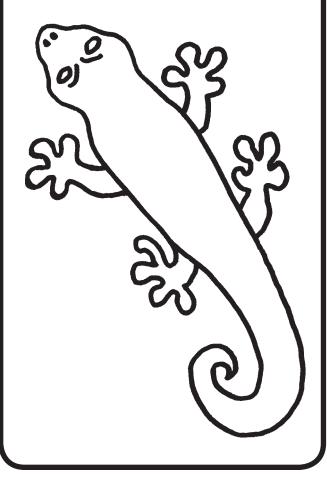
- Color the country of Cambodia green.
- Color the countries surrounding Cambodia: color Laos brown, color Thailand pink, and color Vietnam purple.
- The Gulf of Thailand makes one border of Cambodia. Color it blue.
- Locate the city of Phnom Penh. Put a star there for the capital city.
- Color the Tonle Sap Lake blue.
- Locate the city of Battambang. Put a cross there—that is where the Lutheran church in Cambodia is located.

Geckos In Cambodia

It is impossible to travel or live in Cambodia without seeing the lizards called **geckos**. Some people say that the green color of the geckos stands for harmony, peace, family, life, and renewal. The geckos are helpful because they eat insects especially mosquitoes. Did you know . . .

- geckos are the only lizard with a voice?
- geckoes hunt their prey at night?
- when geckos are caught, they can let go of their tail to escape?
- geckos require no parental care?
- some people in Cambodia eat geckos?

Can you color and dress this gecko?



A Mission Story

During the time of the Pol Pot regime, nine young men decided that the only way they would stay alive was to escape to the refugee camps in Thailand. They began their journey hiding and sleeping in the forest during the day and moving carefully toward the Thai border at night. Moving through the forest in the dark and surrounded by gunfire was frightening. In the course of this escape, five of the men were killed. The others reached Thailand and were initially put in a Thai prison for screening. While in prison, a missionary gave Peter a Bible. When he was released from the refugee camp, he began to lead Bible studies there.

In the United States, churches were involved in resettling Cambodian refugees coming to the United States. A Lutheran church in Colorado and Peter's sister sponsored Peter Sok, one of the four men who had successfully escaped the war in Cambodia. Then Peter moved to live with his brother in Boulder and became involved with the Lutheran church there. One Sunday Peter pointed to the pastor and said, "I want to be a Pastor like him. I want to take the Gospel to my people in Cambodia." The pastor saw Peter's leadership skills and love of the Lord, and sent him to study at the LCMS' lay training program in Wisconsin. After graduation, he served the Colorado congregation and did cross cultural ministry with fellow Cambodians who had settled there.

Then one day, Peter received a call from a congregation of Cambodians in California to be their pastor. The Holy Spirit helped Peter decide that this was where he and his family should serve the Lord. All the time, Peter and his family kept praying for their family and friends in Cambodia. When Cambodia opened up to visits from the outside, Peter and his family visited to share Jesus with their family and friends. It took time for people to understand Peter's message of salvation in Jesus. Sometimes people took the Bibles Peter had brought them and threw them away. Finally, one young man Kosal, became a Christian. Soon, he was the leader of a small group of Christians there. That group of Christians formed the base for the Lutheran Church and the English and Bible School in Battambang, Cambodia.

- 1. How did God use a difficult time in Cambodia to bring people to Jesus?
- 2. Can you think of Bible stories where what seemed to be bad was turned to good because of God's plan?
- 3. What people from other countries are in your city or neighborhood?
- 4. How can you reach out to help and love these people in the name of Jesus?

Religion

Around 95 percent of the Cambodian people are Buddhist. The religion Buddhism began in India more than two thousand years ago from the teachings of a man called the "enlightened one," or

The Buddha taught that there are Four Noble Truths:

- 1. Life is suffering.
- 2. Suffering comes from desires.
- 3. Suffering can end.
- 4. There is a way people can stop suffering.

If people have learned how to live correctly, they can stop suffering. Buddhism teaches that people must do good actions to bring happiness. According to Buddhism, if a person dies before they stop suffering, the person will be reincarnated. This means that a person can be reborn as a different person or even as an animal in another life in this world; reincarnation can happen over and over again until a person stops suffering and then reaches nirvana— "the Buddhist heaven." Reincarnation is different from a Christian's body being resurrected on the last day. The Bible teaches that Christians will live again with Jesus in heaven, but not as a different person in this world.

Many towns in Cambodia have at least one Buddhist temple, called a wat. There are more than 29,000 of them in the country. Many Cambodian boys live as Buddhist monks for several weeks or months at a local wat.

Language

Did you know that Cambodia has the longest alphabet in the world? It has 74 letters compared to 26 in the English alphabet.

Cambodia's national language is Khmer [Keh-MEHR]. The language comes from an Indian alphabet that was brought to Cambodia more than a thousand years ago. Experts say the language is simple because it has no tenses. If you want to say "I go to the market" in the past tense, you say the words "just" and "already." The language has many words for items that Cambodian people use. For example, there are over one hundred words for rice! There are different words for the word you. Your choice depends on whether you are speaking to a child, a parent, someone from the royal family, or a Buddhist monk. It is interesting for you to know that Khmer is number 25 on the top 50 languages spoken in the United States. The complete Bible in Khmer was first published in 1954.

Here are some simple phrases of Khmer for you to practice.

English Khmer

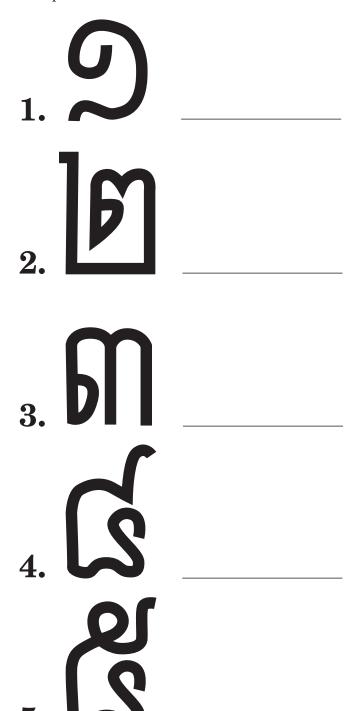
sues'day Hello (informal) chum reab suor Hello (polite) aron sues'day Good morning ret'rei sues'day Good night soksabay che te? How are you? soksabay I'm fine awkun Thank you som tohExcuse me / Sorry maong pon'man hay What time is it? Yes (for men) baat chaaYes (for women) teiNo bong srawlanj oun I love you (male to female) oun srawlanj bong I love you (female to male) louk ayu ponman? How old are you?

Good luck!

samnang laor

Write the Khmer Numbers

Below, you can see the numbers one through five in the Khmer alphabet. You can learn how to write the numbers just like children in Cambodia do! Practice writing each number in the space below.



Let's Eat Num tirk doung!

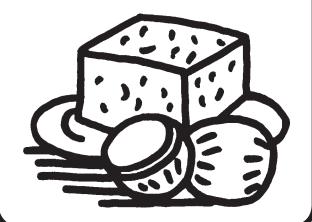
Many Cambodians take Khmer Krom coconut pound cake to the pagoda for a food offering on a Buddhist holiday. Most Khmer do not have ovens, so they bake this cake on the stove top.

What you need:

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups four
- ½ cup melted butter
- ½ cup coconut milk
- ½ cup coconut
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt.

What you do:

- Preheat oven to 325°F.
- In a mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar together. Add eggs one at a time to the butter and sugar.
- Add vanilla, baking powder, salt, and coconut milk.
- Blend in all-purpose flour and coconut.
- Grease a 9 x 13 cake pan with cooking oil and then sprinkle flour over the oil. Shake off excess flour.
- Bake for 20 minutes. Remove from the oven, and wait until the cake cools before removing it from the pan.



God's Wonderful Creation

One day, Vannak and Vaneth decided to go for a walk in the village. They passed a brown *donkey* that the owner said they could use to ride to the *wat* if they were going to make an offering. Vannak and Vaneth told him that they were not going to the *wat*.

A missionary in a *car* invited them to come to his home. They said that because he came from a far away country he was very tall almost like a *giant*. They told their friend that the missionary had told them that God had made the world and all the things in it. As they walked, they started to name the things they saw that were part of God's creation.

Vannak said that he saw a *bee* lighting on a beautiful flower. Vaneth exclaimed that that was indeed a beautiful part of God's work. Next, Vaneth saw a *bird* fly across the sky.

It flew so quickly that she could not really see whether it was a *pelican* or a *duck*. Then, Vannak looked down at his feet and saw a tiny *caterpiller* creeping across their trail.

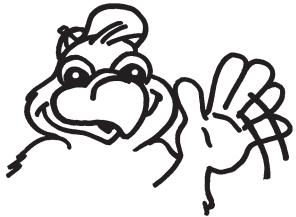
When they reached the missionary's house, they told him the things that they had seen that were part of God's creation. He was glad to hear that they had learned the lesson about God's creation that he had shared with them. He asked them to name other things of God's creation that they knew. They quickly answered, "a fish, a crab, a tiger and an elephant." The missionary smiled. He knew he had many more parts of God's Word to share with them. It was good they knew God made the world. Now he could begin to tell them how God loved the world and gave his Son Jesus for the sins of the whole world as well as everyone in it. They would begin to learn the way to heaven.

Let's Pray

You can be a partner with our missionaries and people in Cambodia through prayer. Remind your class to pray for Cambodia frequently. At home, lead your family in prayers for the people in this country.

- Pray for Pastor Kosal Hun as he leads worship and teaches the people in Battambang about Jesus.
- Pray for the English school at Battambang—that God will use the Bible lessons at this school to bring many children to Jesus.
- Pray for the missionaries in Cambodia as they search for ways to expand sharing the message of God's love.
- Thank God for faithful Christians in Cambodia who take a stand for Jesus and boldly share the message of Jesus in a country where only 1 percent of the people are Christians.
- Thank God for the people who are supporting God's ministry in Cambodia through their offerings and their prayers.

See you next time, Mission Friends!





Send regular mail to: Mission Friends LCMS World Mission 1333 S. Kirkwood Road St. Louis, MO 63122-7295

Or send me an e-mail at mission.info@lcms.org



parent mission

Let's go to...Cambodia!

Your children have been learning about the people God is calling to Himself in Cambodia. They have heard how God is using missionaries and Christian Cambodians to share the Good News of Jesus to people in this country.

Review the student and primary pages of Mission Friends with your children and complete the activities inside. See if your children can answer the following questions based on their study of Cambodia.

- If someone of higher status is passing you, bend lower (from the waist) than that person.
- Don't make sounds with your skirt when you walk.
- Don't wear shoes or hats when you enter a house or temple.
- Close doors softly when you go through them.
- When you meet someone on the street, ask where they are going.

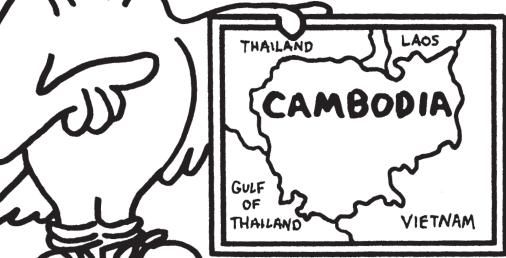
1. Cambodia is located in Southeast Asia. What body of water touches the western border of Cambodia? (Gulf of Thailand) What are some good manners for taking a walk in Cambodia?

THINK ABOUT IT

1. Why is Battambang an important city for missionaries to Cambodia? (*There is a Lutheran Church and English and Bible school here.*)

HOW TO TAKE A WALK

• Tell people
where you are
going and when
you are coming
back. (This is
important to
show respect to
others and to keep
them from being
embarrassed if
someone asks and
they don't know where you
are.)



- 2. What bug eating creature is part of daily life in Cambodia? (*Gecko*)
- 3. Tell some ways the Buddhist religion is part of the life and culture of Cambodia. (*The Buddhist Wat is on the flag, the Buddhist religion is mentioned in the national anthem, 85 percent of the people in Cambodia are Buddhist*) Here are some more activities you can do as a family:

FIND Cambodia on a globe or world map. Use these sites to help you learn more about Cambodia.

- en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cambodia
 Hyperlinked encyclopedia article covers the country's history, government and politics, geography, economy, demographics, language and culture.
- www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0107378.html Information on Cambodia geography, history, politics, government, economy, population statistics ... Kingdom of Cambodia.
- www.mekong.net/cambodia/photos.htm
 This site will give you a picture slide show of Cambodia
- www.cambodia4kids.org An educational Web site for teachers, parents, and especially children who are interested in making connections with Cambodia.

WATCH a DVD or video about Cambodia. Visit your public library or local video store to find a travel video.

PRAY together as a family for Cambodian Christians and for those who do not yet know Jesus in Cambodia. Pray for the missionaries there to have many opportunities to share the Gospel message.

LEARN more about Cambodian exports. Find out about Cambodian silk. Look at clothing labels and see if you can find garments made in Cambodia. Visit your local library, bookstore, or the Internet to find more resources on these and other exports.

CHECK the newspaper for one week and clip any articles you find that mention Cambodia. Subscribe to news updates that mention Cambodia.

COOK rice as the starch for your meal. Remember that this is the staple item for almost all Cambodian meals. You might add star fruit, pineapple, bananas, or fresh coconut to your meal to remind you of fruits eaten by Cambodians. Make the coconut cake in the student page for a special dessert.

VISIT a pet store or the zoo to see if you can observe geckos. Find out why geckos are called masters of disguise. Make a poster or booklet sharing important facts about geckos or make a funny book by using a gecko disguised in a costume on each page.

PRACTICE writing numbers in Cambodian.

១២៣៤៥៦៧៨៩០ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

TAKE a family walk together using your Cambodian manners.

ORDER other resources from LCMS World Mission. Many children's resources are available, including passports with stamps from countries around the world that children can collect as they "visit." Visit the Web at **wwwlcmsworldmission.org/children**, call 1-800-433-3954, or send an e-mail to **mission.orders@lcms.org** to place an order or for more information.



Let's go to...Cambodia!

Leak Dong Saeng a Game

Leak Dong Saeng is a popular game in Cambodia—it means "Hide the Kramah." In Cambodia, there is a common piece of national clothing called a kramah. It is a long cotton scarf, usually in a checked pattern, worn around the neck, over the shoulder or wrapped around the head. When people are working, it is used to keep sweat from getting in their eyes. Some mothers use it as a sling to carry their babies. Cut a piece of cloth approximately 120cm by 52cm (checked cotton if possible). Try different styles of wearing a kramah.. See if you can invent a new use for a kramah. Now play a game using a Kramah. It's called Leak Dong Saeng.

- 1. Twist your kramah into a loop and tie it that way.
- 2. Have players from a circle. Everyone crouches down facing the center of the circle putting the hands on their knees and looking straight ahead.
- 3. One player walks around the outside of the circle with the twisted kramah. Then he drops it behind someone's back and keeps walking.
- 4. When a player realizes the kramah is behind their back they must jump up, pick up the kramah and chase the person around the outside of the circle. If they catch them they

tap them gently on the back with the kramah. If not, the other person sits in their place and the second person must take over as the walker.

Can you think of a game you play that is like Leak Dong Saeng?



Make a Cambodian House

The many of the simple houses in the countryside of Cambodia are built on stilts about 7 to 8 feet above he ground. The house is built on wooden piles to support the floor, walls, and roof. The walls are made of either straw or bamboo and the roof is covered with thatch leaves or coconut palms. There is a wooden ladder to reach the doorway.

You can make a little Cambodian house. You can display your houses to remind your church family to pray for the people in Cambodia who do not know Jesus as their Savior and friend.

What you need:

- Glue
- Small boxes
- Twigs or Popsicle sticks
- Dried leaves or shredded wheat cereal
- Dowels



What you do:

- Find a small box (a small milk carton could work well).
- Cut out windows and a door
- Glue Popsicle sticks or twigs to the carton
- Make a roof from cardboard
- Glue on the leaves or shredded wheat cereal on to the roof and put it on top of the box
- Make the stilts out of sections of ½ inch doweling, sticks or Popsicle sticks and attach them to the box so it can stand.
- Make a small ladder of Popsicle sticks or twigs.

Color-by-Numbers in Khmer

Here you can see how to draw the numbers one through five in the Khmer language. Use this key to see what each Khmer figure means, and color each space the correct color to discover the secret picture.

