



FMWW

GLOBAL ADVENTURES

2025

CAMBODIA



GLOBAL ADVENTURES!

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GLOBAL ADVENTURES!

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Thanks for joining the adventure!



THEME VERSE

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Psalms 96:1-3



Explore the Country

General Information, Interesting Facts and An Up-Close Focus



Explore God's Work

Learn about Free Methodist Ministries



Adventure Story

Enjoy a Story from the Field & Explore More



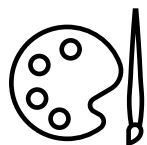
People on Adventure

Meet the Missionaries or Country Leaders



Adventure in Prayer

Walk Through a Prayer Activity



Adventures in Culture

Participate in Culture Through Language, Music, Games, Crafts and Food



EXPLORE THE COUNTRY



CAMBODIA

Photo: Boudewijn Huysmans/Unsplash

Use the facts and information here to help your students learn about the country. (An accompanying PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website: fmwm.org/resources/children.)

Government: parliamentary constitutional monarchy

Capital: Phnom Penh

Population: 17,063,669

Area: 112,494,293 square miles, slightly smaller than Oklahoma

General Terrain: mostly low mountains, flat plains; mountains in southwest and north

Climate: tropical, monsoons (May-November), dry (December-April)

Major Cities: Phnom Penh (capital, 1.7 million), Siem Reap (139,458), Battambang (119,251)

Languages: Khmer (official language, 95.8 %)

Religion: Buddhist 97.1%, Muslim 2%, Christian 0.3%

Currency: Riel (KHR)



Photo: Sooi Meeus/Unsplash



Photo: Kevin Austin

National Symbol: Angkor Wat (a temple complex at Angkor built for King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century; included on the Cambodian flag)

National Motto: "Nation, Religion, King"

Major Industries: tourism, clothing, rice milling, fishing, wood and wood products, rubber, cement, gem mining, and textiles

Agricultural Products: rice, maize, cassava, vegetables, sugarcane, palm oil, rubber, bananas

Natural Resources: oil and gas, timber, gemstones, iron ore

Major Exports: rice, fish, timber, garments, rubber

Interesting Facts:

- On November 9, Cambodia celebrates its independence from French rule.
- Angkor Wat is a famous monument built by the Khmer kings. It took 37 years to build and is the world's largest religious building.
- Cycles, or bicycle rickshaws, are inexpensive forms of transportation.
- The Mekong River flows through Cambodia, and the Tonle Sap forms the largest inland lake.
- Cambodia's wildlife includes tigers, clouded leopards, elephants, monkeys and bears.



Photo: Christo Ras/Pixabay



Photo: Kevin Austin

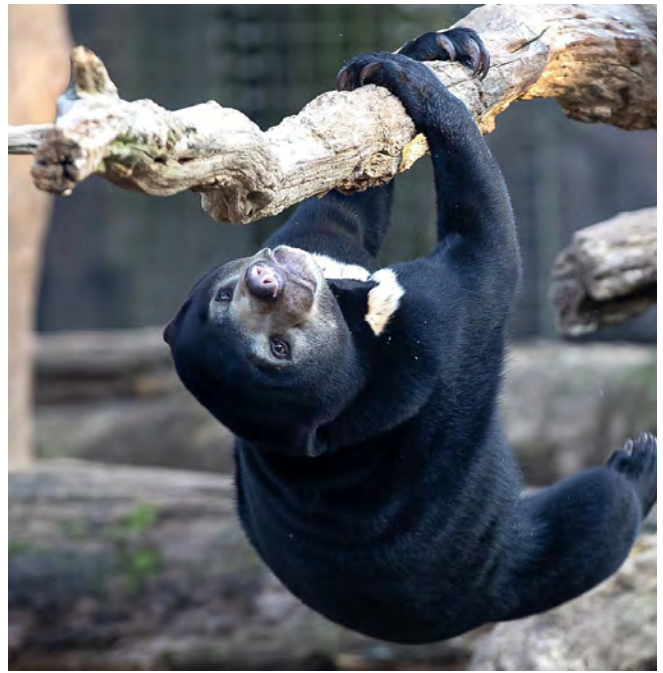


Photo: Theo Kruse/Wikimedia Commons

- The sun bear is endangered and has a yellow crescent on its chest.
- The Khmer alphabet has 33 consonants and 23 vowels. It's written left to right, sometimes with no spacing between words.
- There are as many as 100 words for "rice."
- Cambodians only have dessert for special occasions.
- While sitting on the floor or in a chair, it is considered rude to point your feet.
- Tarantula kabobs are a popular delicacy.
- Cambodia has no McDonald's restaurants.

Up Close – Cambodia

Special Days

Unlike in the U.S. – where we get excited about our birthdays, plan special activities, and celebrate with family and friends – birthdays in Cambodia are noneventful. The day often slips by without notice. Funerals, however, are of great importance. A family will often gather all of its money and even sell possessions to cover the cost of a loved one's funeral. It is no wonder how costly this is when you understand that funeral activities sometimes last as long as 49 days.

The New Year's celebration in Cambodia is an interesting experience. First, it's usually celebrated on April 13 or 14 instead of January 1. This is the end

of the harvest season. The holiday lasts for three days. On the first day, people dress up and then go to light candles or burn incense at shrines. Another part of the first day entails a ritual of cleaning the body. In the morning, people wash their faces with holy water, and then their chests at noon; in the evening, before bed, they wash their feet. On the second day of celebration, people give to the poor and attend ceremonies honoring their ancestors. The celebration on the third day is a water festival; they wash their Buddha statues and elders with perfumed water. They may even become quite enthusiastic and douse each other with buckets of water, hoses or water guns. This supposedly washes bad deeds away and brings good luck and prosperity. Since New Year's is a time when families gather, there are special foods and games. At the end of the third day, the country celebrates with street parties and fireworks.

Things to do if you visit:

- Try a tarantula kabob.
- Visit Angkor Wat.
- Take a ride in a rickshaw.
- Visit the Kulen National Park and see some of the wildlife.

Note for teachers: Between 1975 and 1979, the Khmer Rouge regime killed more than 1.3 million men, women and children. Professionals and those with education were primary targets. Disease and starvation during those years increased the number of deaths to around 2 million. This represents a significant part of Cambodia's history. This information may not be appropriate for the age of your students. However, we suggest teachers read some information to give a backdrop to where the country and the church are today. Visit <https://www.britannica.com/event/Cambodian-Genocide>.



Photos: Kevin Austin



EXPLORE GOD'S WORK



The Free Methodist Church in Cambodia

Photo: Asia Area Director Eric

*Use the facts and information found here to help your students learn about the church in Cambodia.
(An accompanying PowerPoint presentation can be found on our website: fmwm.org/resources/children.)*



Photo: Kevin Austin

How the Free Methodist Church Began

The Rev. Sok Em and his wife, Savy, became Christians while living in a refugee camp in Thailand. Sok received Bible training there. In the late 1980s, the Ems and their three children immigrated to Canada. In 1992, Rev. Em, an ordained member of the Canadian General Conference and supported by the Canadian Free Methodist Church, returned to his village of Prek to begin work in Cambodia. The Cambodian Free Methodist Church officially began in 1994 as a project of the Asia Pacific Free Methodist Missions Association (APFMMA), with the Free Methodist Church in Creative Access-HK responsible for supervision. Several missionaries have been assigned to Cambodia by the Asia Pacific Free Methodist Missions Association (APFMMA), including missionaries from the Philippines, Creative Access-HK and the U.S., serving through medical and evangelistic ministry.

Present Ministries

The FM work in Cambodia became a mission district in 1995 when missionaries were sent from Creative Access-HK. Growth has continued, and Cambodia become an annual conference in December 2022.

Ministries include International Child Care Ministries (ICCM) child-development centers with 510 sponsored children, 77 children and five widows sponsored with In Better Hands, Set Free Movement, Alongsider, Kurmul International School, Shine School and Pleroma School for Girls, Shared Sustainability microenterprise projects, and church-planting initiatives. Superintendent Daniel has the vision to see 336 FM churches by 2030. There are now 27 Free Methodist churches and more than 1,200 members.

Ministry to Children

Cambodia has a strong ministry to children through the House of Love, House of Joy and House of Peace. The House of Love is located on Garchloiah Island, in

the middle of a river. This house provides children with a shelter and study center before and after school. These children help care for animals, including pigs, chickens, roosters and turkeys.

Like the House of Love, the other two houses provide tutoring in school subjects, but the children also participate in playing games, doing chores and singing. The teachers also share Bible lessons and are teaching students to understand how much Jesus loves them. The children in these three houses are sponsored through International Child Care Ministries.

Pray

- Pray there will be more churches started and more people coming to know Jesus.
- Pray for the pastors and leaders.
- Pray for the three ICCM houses and the children learning about Jesus.
- Pray for the development of new leaders through Gethsemane Leadership Training.



Photo: FMWM Asia Leader



Photo: Daniel Sar



Photo: FMWM Asia Leader



Daniel's Amazing Journey

Daniel was born in a small village in Cambodia and had a loving family. They were Buddhists. Daniel's father was a teacher and a farmer, and his mother sold vegetables in the market. But life wasn't always easy for Daniel.

Before Daniel was born, his country went through a terrible period called the genocide. During this time, Daniel's father had to hide because he used to be a navy officer, and it was a dangerous situation for him. Many families, including Daniel's, lost loved ones. His parents lost one son and one daughter before Daniel was born.

As Daniel grew up, the love and care he had experienced from his parents seemed to fade. His father became very strict and sometimes extremely harsh. One day, when Daniel made a mistake, his father got very angry. He took a small, thorny branch and beat Daniel until his back began to bleed. He only stopped because the neighbor stepped in to help Daniel. This incident made Daniel very sad and scared.

Several months later, Daniel's father sent him to the forest to collect firewood. He met some friends along the way and began to play games. At sundown, Daniel realized he had not collected the wood like his father had told him to, and now he was also late getting home. Because he was so afraid of what his father might do, Daniel decided not to return home. He and his cousin ran away to find their uncle in the city. They got lost in the city and had no money to buy food. They were tired and very hungry.

At home, Daniel's mother and grandmother became very angry with Daniel's father. They were scared of losing Daniel, so they told his aunts and uncles, who came to the city to look for him and bring him home. One of Daniel's uncles was a taxi driver in the city. Late one afternoon, Daniel and his cousin were walking down the street when their uncle happened to pass them. He recognized them and turned around. Daniel's uncle took him home, and his mother and grandmother welcomed him.

Sometime later, another of Daniel's uncles, Pastor



Photo: Asia Area Director Eric

Sok Em, came to visit from Canada. He told Daniel's family about Jesus and how He could bring peace and love into their lives. Daniel's family decided to follow Jesus, and something amazing happened. Daniel's father changed completely! He stopped smoking and drinking. He stopped being angry and became a kind and loving dad. He even became a pastor to help others.

Even though his father had changed, Daniel still felt hurt from the past. But he worked hard and studied a lot. He went to Bible School and became a pastor, too. Since his father now knew Jesus, his family lived in love and happiness, but Daniel still struggled with pain and bitterness from his past experiences. While pastoring the Free Methodist Church in Phnom Penh, Daniel attended a Christian training course

on conflict counseling. He began to learn about forgiveness and reconciliation and how important it is to let go of past hurts.

Then, on a Father's Day, during a celebration at church, the pastor invited people to come forward and present a gift to their father, giving words of gratitude. Daniel gave his father a gift – a shirt and a photo of his father standing with him when he was 4 years old. They both cried and hugged. Daniel's father knelt and said, "My dearest son, please forgive me for all the evil things I did to you when you were young." Daniel hugged his father and said, "As our Heavenly Father forgives us, I forgive you, Dad, and I love you. I am thankful to Jesus for

saving our family and transforming (changing) you." This was when Daniel found healing from his pain and could begin to "sing a new song" of praise to the Lord.

Daniel wanted to help other families find peace and love like his family. He started working in a special peacebuilding ministry, teaching people about forgiveness and reconciliation. In 2018, he became the leader (superintendent) of the Free Methodist Church in Cambodia. Daniel's dream is to help more people know Jesus and find true peace.

Daniel's story reminds us that Jesus can heal and bring peace to our hearts, giving us a song of praise we can share with others.

EXPLORE MORE



Before class, set up an area with a small cross. It could be a wooden or metal cross, or simply a cross made of paper and attached to a wall or bulletin board. Also, have a supply of sticky notes on hand.

Have students think of someone who has hurt them or someone difficult to love. Perhaps it is a family member like Pastor Daniel, or maybe there is someone at school who bullies them. Discuss forgiveness. Talk about how difficult it is to forgive when we are hurt.

Have your students read these verses about forgiveness and talk about offering forgiveness to those they find difficult to forgive. Also, talk about situations where they might need to ask another person for forgiveness.

Matthew 6:14-15

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Ephesians 1:6-10

... to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the

mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment — to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

Colossians 3:12-14

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Have students take a sticky note and write the name of a person they may need to ask forgiveness from or someone they need to forgive.

Those students who are too young to write may draw a picture to represent the person. Have students place their sticky notes on the cross, reminding them of how Jesus forgives them and that they should forgive others. Pray together.





PEOPLE ON ADVENTURE

Three Important Leaders in Cambodia

Daniel Sar Sokhapong



Daniel serves as a pastor and the leader (superintendent) of the Free Methodist Church in Cambodia. He lives in Phnom Penh with his wife, Thy Sreynoch, and their four sons.

Sokleap Tray



Sokleap lives in Phnom Penh and assists with ministry to young people. Her other important role is educating children and young people about online safety from people who might want to get them involved in activities that would take them away from their

families and lead them into harm. She leads a team of people who work to end "human trafficking." We call it the Set Free Movement.



Phearak Nak Philip



Philip is a pastor and Cambodia's International Child Care Ministries (ICCM) coordinator. Three ICCM houses serve children in Cambodia – the House of Love, House of Joy and House of Peace.

Pastor Philip helps support the staff working in these three places

and coordinates the sponsorship of children in need. He is married and has two sons.



Photos: An FMWM Asia Leader



ADVENTURE IN PRAYER



HANDS UP, HANDS DOWN PRAYERS

Have students hold their hands out with their palms toward the ceiling. Then, they will practice turning their hands over, with a dumping motion, turning their palms to the floor.

Talk about things they might need to turn over to God. Let them share, but use these examples if needed.

- Something that disappointed them
- Anger or bad feelings toward a friend or family member
- Something they are worried about
- A hurt they have experienced
- Sadness

These things can cause us to feel like we are carrying weight around. If we give them over to God, He will care for them. Have students think of one thing they need to give to God. Ask the students to hold palms toward the ceiling and then turn them over, saying, "God, I give this to You."

Have them hold their hands out again with palms up, asking God for His help. They can ask Him to help them receive what He wants.

- Joy
- Special love for another person
- A good attitude
- Willingness to make things right with a friend
- Strength for a difficulty

Close this prayer time with thanksgiving for God taking away our burdens and giving us all we need.

*This activity was adapted from *The Secret Weapon* by Tina Houser.



EXPLORE THE CULTURE

LANGUAGE

Hello (informal)	suasdey	SOO-wer sa-DUH-ee
Goodbye (informal)	lia haeuy	LEE-er HIGH
Good morning	arun suasdey	Arun SOO-we sa-DUH-ee
Thank you	or kun chraeun	or KUN CHRA-ern

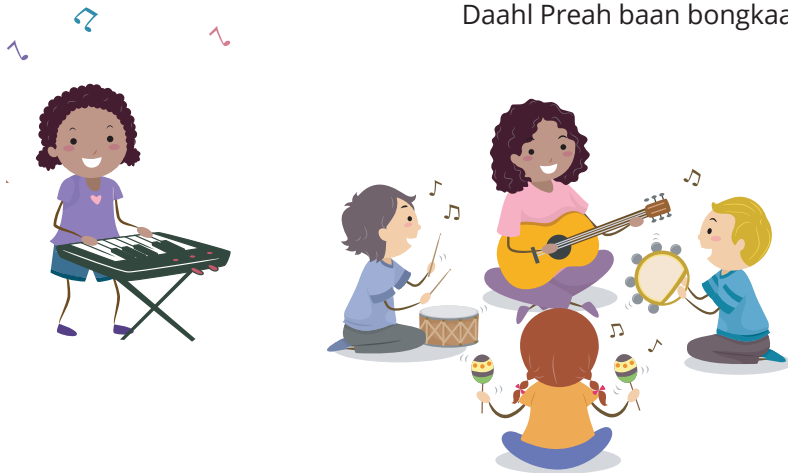
SUASDEY

MUSIC

This Is the Day

Khmer, a language spoken in Cambodia

	Pronunciation:	Translation:
Nee guh-jee-a tngai (echo)	Nee guh-jee-a tngai.	This is the day (echo)
Daahl Preah baan bongkaat. (echo)	Daahl Preah baan bongkaat.	that the Lord has made. (echo)
Yerng mee-un omnor (echo)	Yerng mee-un omnor	I will rejoice, (echo)
Howie yerng aw sup-baai. (echo)	Howie yerng aw sup-baai.	and be glad in it. (echo)
Nee guh-jee-a tngai (echo)	Nee guh-jee-a tngai (echo)	This is the day that the Lord has made.
Daahl Preah baan bongkaat.	Daahl Preah baan bongkaat.	I will rejoice and be glad in it.
		This is the day, this is the day
		that the Lord has made.



Hallelu, Hallelu

Khmer, a language spoken in Cambodia

	Pronunciation:	Translation:
Hallelu, (3x) Hallelujah!	Hal-le-lu, (3x) Ha-le-lu-jah!	Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!
Sor-sah preah ong, ha-le-lu-jah!	Sor-sah preah ong!	Praise ye the Lord! (repeat)
Sor-sah preah ong, ha-le-lu-jah!	Hal-le-lu, (3x) Ha-le-lu-jah!	Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!
Sor-sah preah ong, ha-le-lu-jah!	Sor-sah preah ong!	Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!
Sor-sah preah ong!		Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!
		Praise, ye the Lord!



GAMES

Chasing Game

How you play:

Make a large circle, alternating boy, girl, boy, girl. Everyone in the circle holds hands. One pair (boy and girl) remains outside the circle. They walk around the outside of the circle, holding hands until they choose a pair in the circle. They lightly hit the pair's hands, and then run quickly around the circle in one direction, still holding hands. The pair that was tapped must run in the opposite direction around the circle, holding hands. Whoever returns to the empty space first becomes part of the circle, and the pair left out continues the game.

Powder Game

This game is a favorite at Khmer New Year and other times during the year when there's a group celebration. You may want to play this outdoors or in a space where it is easy to clean up the powder.

What you need:

- one or more cans of face powder, baby powder or corn starch (more if you have a large group)
- music (someone can play an instrument or play recorded music)
- wet wipes for children to wipe powder off their faces at the end of the game

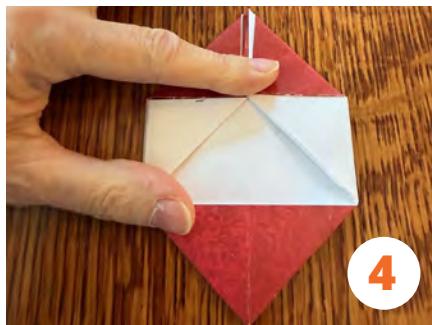
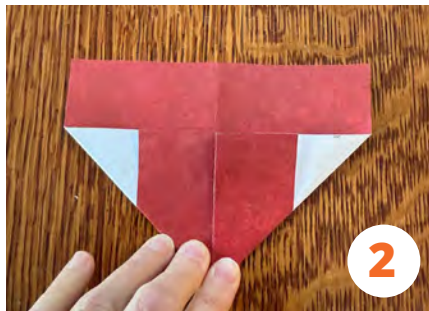


How you play:

All the participants sit in a circle. Start the music. Begin passing the cans of powder around as the music plays. (If using more than one can, start the cans at different places in the circle.) When the music stops, the person holding the can of powder shakes some into one

CRAFT

Cambodians enjoy origami. In 2023, they broke the Guinness World Record for the largest display of origami hearts with nearly 4 million hearts.



Origami Heart

Materials needed:

6"x6" squares of red paper

Instructions:

- Fold the paper in half by folding the right edge over to meet the left edge, then unfold.
- Fold the bottom edge up to meet the top edge, then unfold.
- Fold the bottom edge up to the center crease. (1)
- Turn the paper over, turning from left to right.
- Fold the bottom right corner up, lining it up with the vertical crease.
- Fold the bottom left corner up, lining it up with the vertical crease. (2)
- Turn the paper over. (3)
- Fold both sides into the center crease.
- Fold the top corners in diagonally so there is a point at the top. (4)
- Bring the top point down to the bottom point and flatten it; then tuck the top point into the pocket that has been formed. (5)
- Flatten the top of the heart a bit. (6)
- Fold the top left and right corners diagonally. (7)
- Fold the top two points of the heart down just a little. (8)
- Flip it over, and you have a heart. (9)

FOOD

Cambodian Dessert

Ingredients:

- 1 cup large seed pearl or minute tapioca
- 4-5 cups water (depends on how “soupy” you want the finished product)
- 1 cup coconut milk and 1/2 cup sugar OR one 14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk and 1 cup shredded coconut
- slices of banana

Directions:

Boil the tapioca in the water until it has become soft and transparent (approximately 10 minutes with minute tapioca). Mix in the coconut milk and sugar or sweetened condensed milk and shredded coconut. Add banana slices when ready to serve, and enjoy. It tastes best while still warm. Store any uneaten dessert in the refrigerator. (It will get stickier and thicker when cold.) If you can find large or seed pearl tapioca, it will be closer to the Cambodian dessert but will probably need to be cooked longer.

Simple Snacks:

Dried bananas or packaged rice cakes

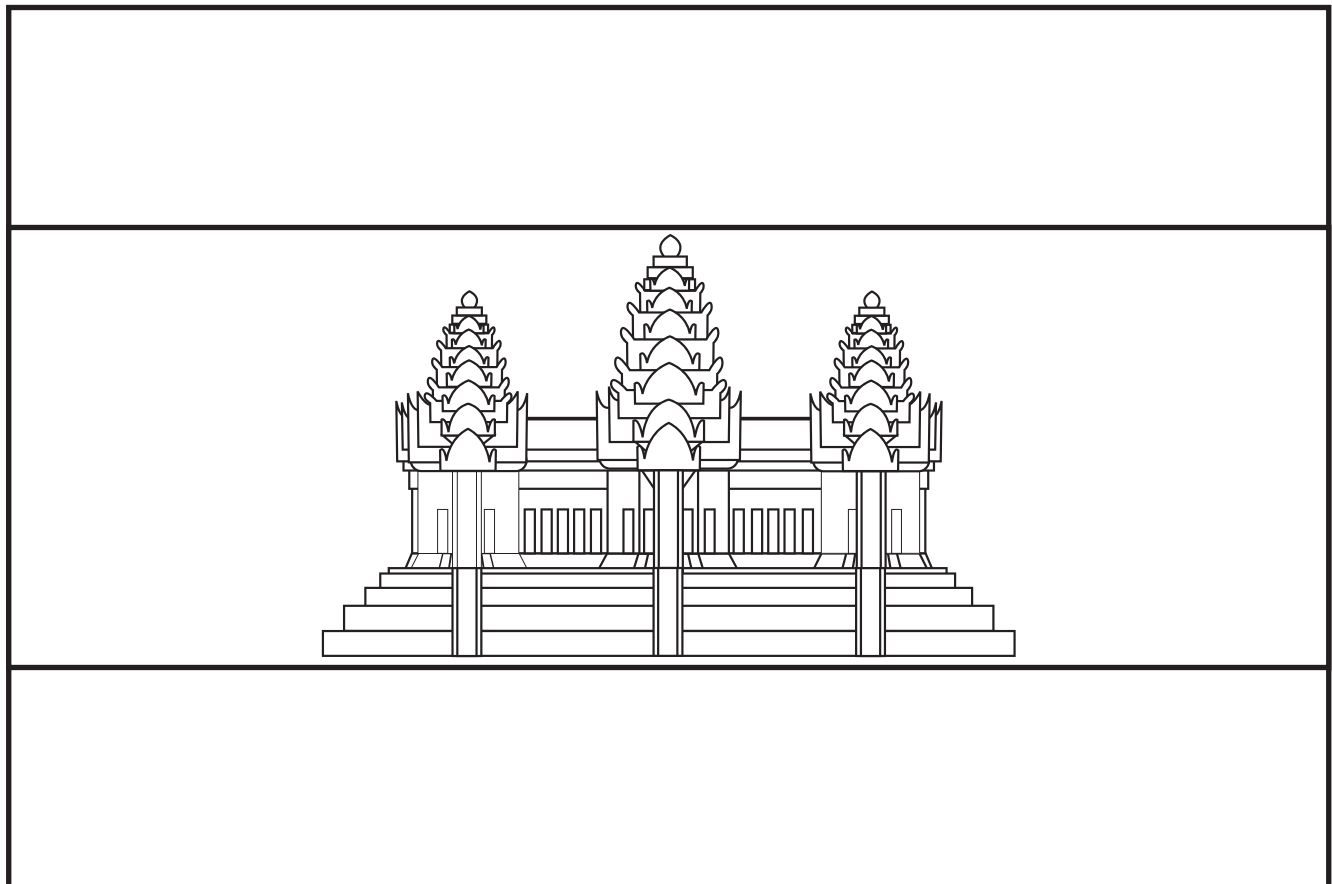


FLAG, MAP AND PUZZLES

Cambodian Flag

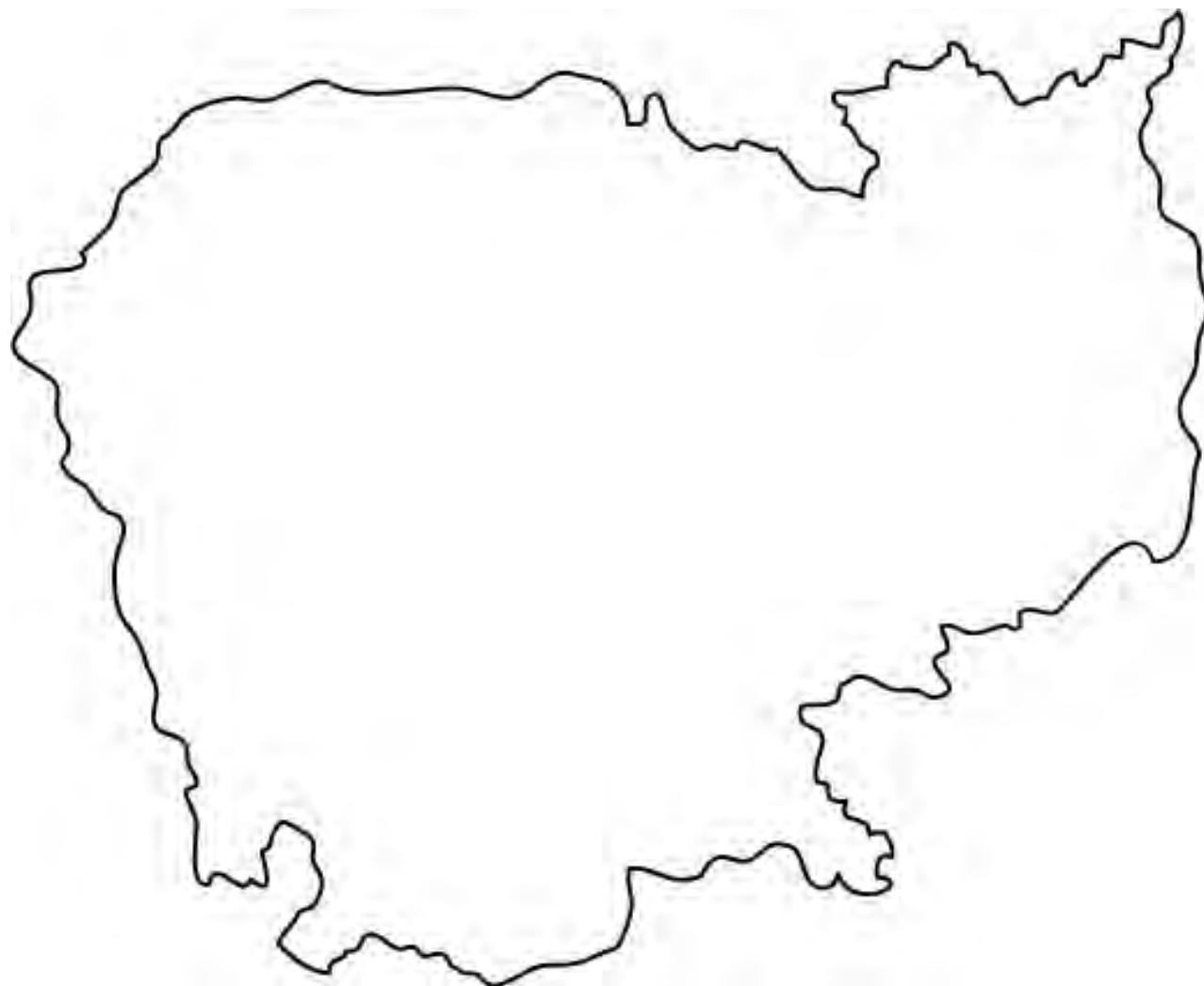


The Flag of Cambodia has Angkor Wat in the center. This design was adopted in 1993. This building is an important symbol of Khmer culture. The bands at the top and bottom of the flag are blue for royalty. The center band is red for the nation, and the Angkor Wat is white, representing Buddhism.



Cambodia Map

Use a pencil, pen or marker to add Phnom Penh (the capital city), Siem Reap, the Mekong River, Cardamom Mountains and Dangret Mountains. Draw pictures of animals found in Cambodia (tigers, leopards, elephants, monkeys and bears) or other things representing the country.



Word Scramble



CAMBODIA

WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the words or names about Cambodia.

GKARON ATW

CIRE

HRKACSWI

LDEANI

MNHOP HEPN

MRKEH

LERI

EKGONM VRRIE

HUEOS FO VELO

HRUCCH

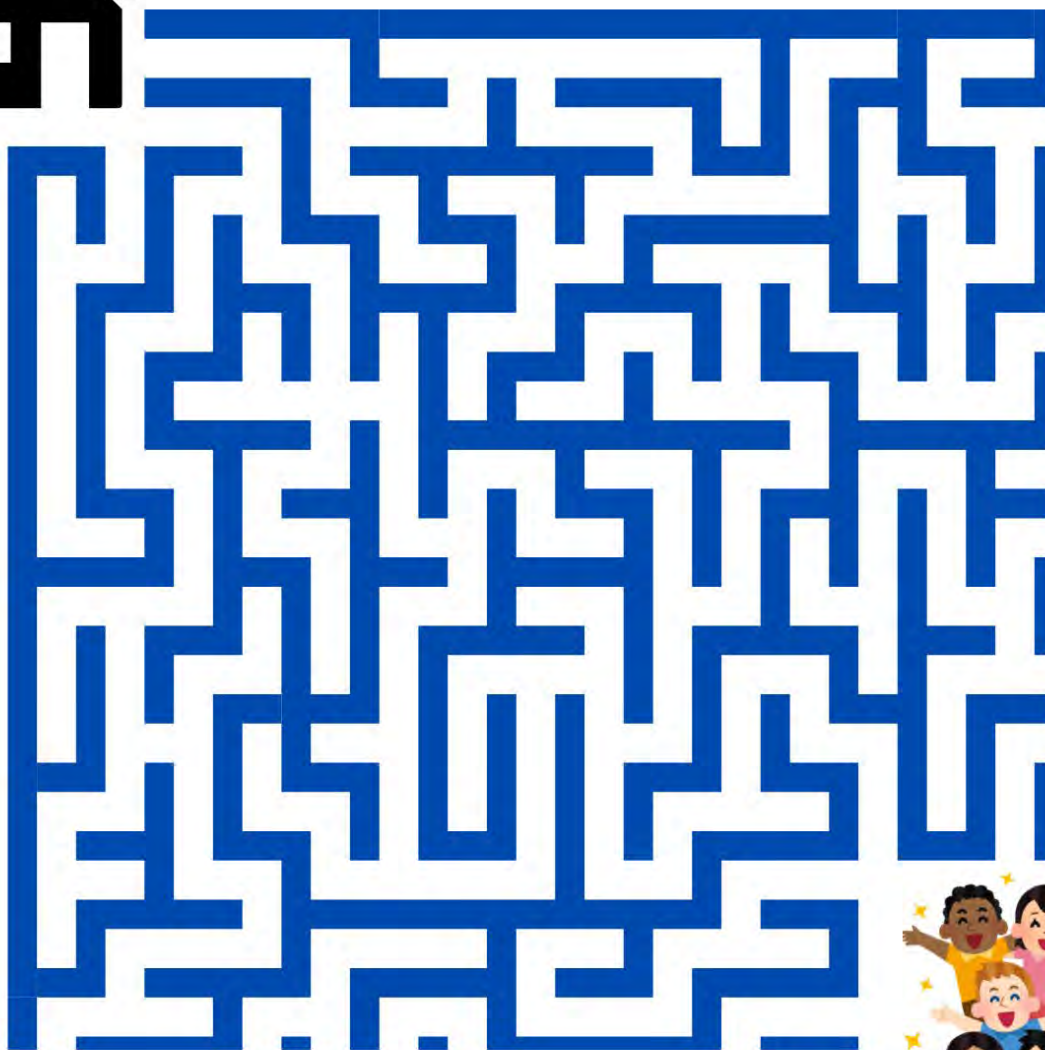
TRNAUTLAR

NUS RABE

MAZE

INTERNATIONAL CHILD CARE MINISTRIES HOUSE OF LOVE

Help the children find their way to the House of Love



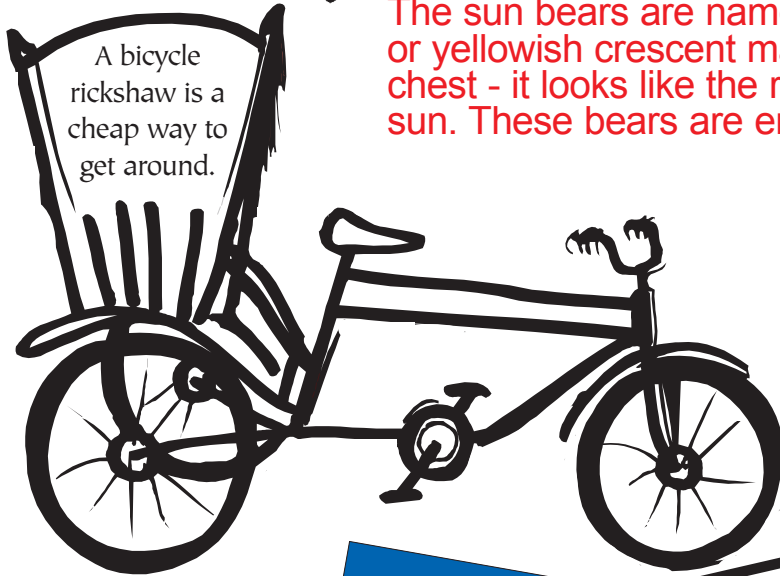
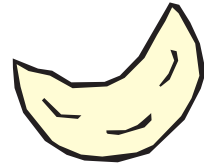
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Capital city: Phnom Penh
Main language: Khmer
Main religion: Buddhist

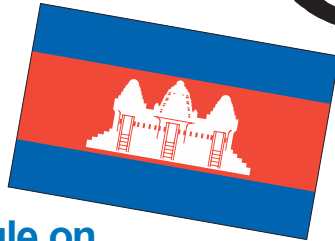
Did you know?

The sun bears are named for the white or yellowish crescent mark on their chest - it looks like the rising or setting sun. These bears are endangered.

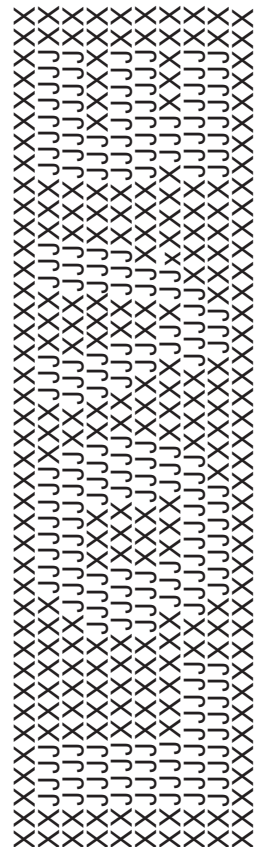


33 The Khmer alphabet
23 has 33 consonants
33 and 23 vowels.
23 People write left to
33 right but sometimes
23 there isn't spacing
33 between words!

Cambodia celebrates its independence from French rule on November 9.



Color in each letter "J" to discover the word below telling us what we should show to others.



Pray for

Pray for the leaders in Cambodia, especially Superintendent Daniel, Pastor Philip and Sokleap.

Cambodia



Pray for believers in Cambodia. Many have converted from Buddhism and may be persecuted for believing in God.

Answer (hold up to a mirror): love

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Puzzle Answers:

