

**HOCPP 1114**

# **In The Hands of A Child**

**Multi-Level**



**Custom Designed Project Pack**

## **Ancient India**



**A Ready-to-Assemble  
Hands-On Unit  
Including Reproducibles**

# Ancient India

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[www.handsofachild.com](http://www.handsofachild.com)

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From the time we first began using Project Packs we fell in love with them. We knew that this type of hands-on learning experience was just the thing that was needed to make boring academics not only educational but, fun and exciting too!

To help get you started we have included some of the questions we receive about Project Packs.

### What is a Project Pack?

A Project Pack is simply a great way of compiling key points from your studies into one spot that can easily be stored and available to be reviewed at any time

### How does this help me? and Why is this a better way for learning?

The number one reason is the students will retain the information covered so much faster. Children learn by doing. Project Packs put learning into their hands!

Another reason is it is a convenient way to store those wonderful projects. Students can go back and review them at any time and your schoolroom or refrigerator is not cluttered with bits and pieces of their projects.

And the final reason is they are great and the possibilities are endless! There are no age limits and no subject lines that cannot be worked into a Project Pack. We will be adding many units to help you in the education of your students.

### How do I make a Project Pack?

A Project Pack is simply a file folder refolded into a shutter style book. Open it flat and then fold the sides into the middle creasing neatly and there you have it.

***For a more colorful and eye-appealing Project Pack it is suggested that some of your Reproducibles be printed out on colored multi-purpose paper.***

### What supplies do I need?

You will want to have file folders, paper of different colors and weights, your students' favorite coloring tools, tape, glue, scissors, and a stapler.

## Adapting a Project Pack to Fit the Needs of Your Student

Adapting a Project or Research Pack is key to ensuring that you provide the best lesson for your student. At first glance, some might just skip over an activity because they feel it is too easy or too difficult for their student. We want you to use all the activities we provide...they are easily adaptable!

For example, if you have a PK-3 student the vocabulary activities might be difficult for him or her to complete. Here are some tips to help you adapt the activities that require your student to write:

1. Have your student dictate vocabulary words and their meanings as you write them.
2. Have your child draw a picture instead of writing.
3. You write the word or sentence first so your student can see how it is written.
4. Practice. Practice. Practice. In the car, on a walk, in the shopping cart! Practice saying the vocabulary words and what they mean. Before you know it your preschooler will be telling others what those words mean!
5. Contact us. We would be happy to give you ideas for adapting specific units to a grade level.

On the other hand, some of the activities may seem too easy for your student. Does your 5<sup>th</sup> grade level student want to learn about butterflies, but the Project Pack seems too easy? Try it anyway; just change things up a bit to suit that grade level. Here are some tips to help you adapt the activities to make them a little more difficult.

1. In addition to writing down vocabulary words and their meanings, ask your student to use the word in a sentence; either verbally or written.
2. Give your student 1 hour (or other reasonable time frame) to research the topic on their own; either online or at the library. Give your student a set of questions or see what he/she can find without your guidance.
3. Encourage your student to expand on the topic or choose a related topic to learn about.
4. Take a look at some of our preschool units...there is lots of clipart related to each topic. Have your older student cut these out and write a story or play about the pictures or perform a play.
5. Contact us. We would be happy to give you ideas for adapting specific units to a grade level.

These are just a few ways you can adapt a Project Pack to meet the needs of your student. Let your student be the judge if something is too easy or too difficult...you just might be surprised!

The Website links we have included in our guides are references we found that contain relevant information. However, the sites are not owned or maintained by In the Hands of a Child. The content may have changed or become a “dead” link. If you find the site contains inappropriate material or is no longer a site, please let us know!

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## Ancient India



India is an Asian country with a history that dates back 4,500 years. When the country was first named, the word “India” meant the entire subcontinent, including the regions where Pakistan and Bangladesh are located today.

These cultures were linked to other ancient countries through trade routes and communication networks.

### Early Civilizations

#### Indus Valley Civilization

The oldest known **civilization** of India was the Indus Valley civilization, located in the valley of the Indus River. Early people in India were mainly farmers, but as more and more people settled, they began to build cities. Archaeologists have found many artifacts from this ancient culture that show us that the Indus Valley civilization had structured cities with water systems, sewage facilities, and **granaries**.

The two main cities, Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa, were located in what is now eastern Pakistan. The people who lived in these cities lived in stone houses that were two and three stories high. They used bronze tools and wrote in a form called **hieroglyphs**. Archaeologists have discovered that the Harappa people used domesticated animals including camels, goats, and water buffaloes. They grew wheat, barley, and peas. Historians believe the Harappas were the first people to grow and make clothing from cotton.

The Indus Valley culture had a huge decline in population around 1800 B.C. but archaeologists are unsure of the reason. Many believe there were natural disasters or extreme changes in the climate that ended this ancient civilization.

#### Aryan Settlement

The Aryans were a **nomadic** group of people from a region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea in Central Asia. They settled in the northern parts

### Ancient India Timeline

#### B.C.

*4000-3000:* People begin to settle in the Indus Valley of India.

*2600:* Early settlements develop urban civilization and Indus script is used in writing.

*2500:* The Great Bath is built at Mohenjo-Daro.

*1900:* Indus civilization declines.

*1800:* Aryan groups move into India.

*1500:* Oral composition of the Vedas.

*900:* Oral composition of the Mahabharata.

*700:* Oral composition of the Upanishads.

*600:* Indus Valley region becomes part of Persian Empire.

*500:* Buddhism is founded by Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha). Jainism is founded by Vardhamana Mahavira.

*325:* Alexander the Great conquers Northern India.

## Ancient India Activities

1. Vocabulary
2. Create your own timeline of Ancient India
3. Describe the early civilizations of India.
4. Using an atlas label the areas of the Indus Valley civilization, Aryan settlement, Black Sea and Caspian Sea on the blank map of Asia.
5. What three things did the Aryans contribute to the history of India?
6. What impact did Alexander the Great have on Ancient India?
7. Describe the two great empires that ruled ancient India.
8. What types of discoveries were made during the Gupta rule?
9. Choose an Ancient Indian ruler and write a brief biography on him.
10. Describe the two major religions that originated in ancient India?
11. Compare and contrast Hinduism and Buddhism.
12. Who were the three most important Hindu gods and what did they each represent?
13. What are the four Noble Truths of Buddhism?
14. Describe the four castes of ancient Indian society.
15. What crop did the ancient Indians grow and what did they make from it?
16. Describe the sari.
17. Compare and contrast ancient Indian women's clothing to what ancient Indian men wore.
18. What foods did the ancient Indians eat and how did their dietary practices change over time?
19. Chapati is flat individual-sized bread eaten in northern India. Using the following recipe make your own chapati. You will need an adult's help with this!
20. List four types of Ancient Indian Architecture and very briefly tell what each type is.

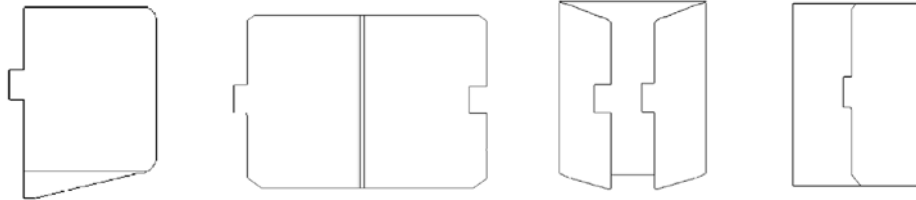
**Activity 16**

**Describe the sari.**

**Fold back tabs on sari pieces.  
Glue tabs to back of shoulder on  
main graphic.  
Make sure cover piece is on top.**



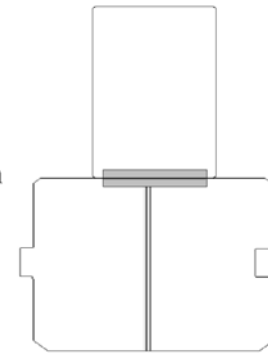
## Instructions to Re-fold a Folder



### Normal Fold:

Open folder flat

Fold both the right and left edge to the center crease creating a shutter  
Cut a folder in half OR use a piece of cardstock to form your extension  
Lay the extension in the center of the shutter fold folder  
Attach at the top end using clear packing tape



### Double Folder:

Open folder flat

Fold both the right and left edge in toward the center crease creating a shutter

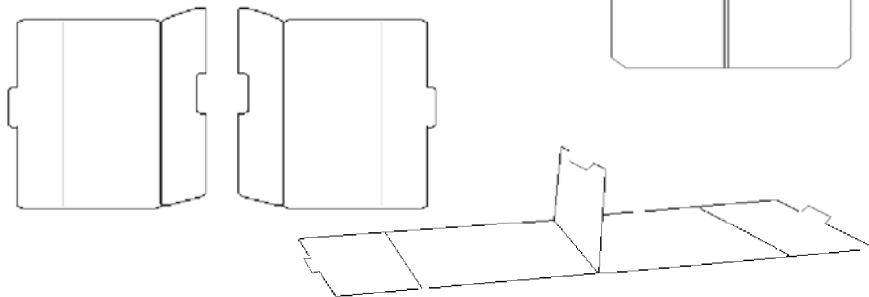
Do this again with a second folder

Set both folders side by side with their shutters opened (pointing straight up not flat)

In the center where the two folders meet glue the outer flaps of each shutter together connecting the two folders

Fold both shutters closed and flip over and close

The back of one of the folders becomes your cover



\*\*\*You can add extensions to a double folder using the same method as for a single folder.



## Early Civilizations of India



## Aryan Contributions to India





