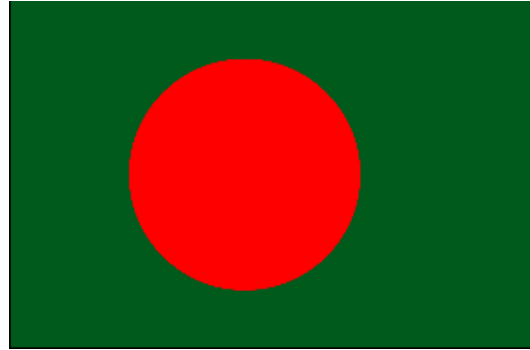


4. Test yourself and find out more!

Factsheet:

The People's Republic of Bangladesh

Where: On the Tropic of Cancer, the 90°E longitude line runs straight through the middle and the country is between 20°N and 30°N latitude.



When: Bangladesh was created on 16th December 1971. A country rich in history. In 1338 the people revolted against their rulers and the country *Sonargon* was formed. It was a Muslim state. The country became Bengal and was defeated by the British at the Battle of Plassey in 1757. When the British left India in 1947 this country became East Pakistan, and a War of Independence from Pakistan was fought in 1971.

Adjacent Countries: India is all around except for the sea to the south - the Bay of Bengal. Plus a small part is next to Burma in the east.

How far is Great Britain: Just over 9230 km, 10 hours flying time from London.

Population: 160 million people

Area: Approximately 130,000 km²

Flag: Rectangular, with a red circle, radius one-fifth the length of the flag, on a grass green background.

Capital City: Dhaka, between the Meghna and Padma rivers.

Climate: Subtropical. Three seasons – winter, summer and monsoon (June to October). Highest rainfall per year: 225 inches, 5.67m. Highest temperature 100°F/38°C, lowest 50°F/10°C. Cyclones are a feature in the monsoon season.

Religions: 85% of the people are Muslim. The rest are Hindu, Christian and Buddhist. There are some important Buddhist sites in Bangladesh.

Language: Bengali

Dress: Ladies wear a *saree*, or sometimes they will wear a *shalwar chemise*. Men wear a *lungi* or trousers and a cotton shirt.

Geography: Bangladesh is a land of rivers which form a large delta at the coast. The highest point is just over 1000m near Chittagong in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Trade: Bangladesh is called *the Land of the Golden Fibre*. Jute is grown and sold. Silver jewellery, brass works, fine jute carpets, pink pearls, bone ornaments are made.

Tourism is developing. In the past 10 years, many western companies have set up garment and knitwear factories. Rice, tobacco, sugar cane, vegetables, potatoes and pulses are grown as well as green coconuts, liches, mango, banana, pineapple, and watermelon.

Natural History: Bangladesh is the land of the Royal Bengal Tigers as well as elephants, bears, deer, monkeys, leopards and crocodiles and many birds.

Other Natural Resources: Forest – 16% of the land, and natural gas (12 fields), hydro and thermal electricity production.

Transport: Railway network 2,880 km; Roads 11,200 km; Waterways 8,000 km. National airline network serving 8 places internally. Local transport by *rickshaw* or baby taxi. Local people use two wheeled carts made from stout bamboo poles for transporting goods.

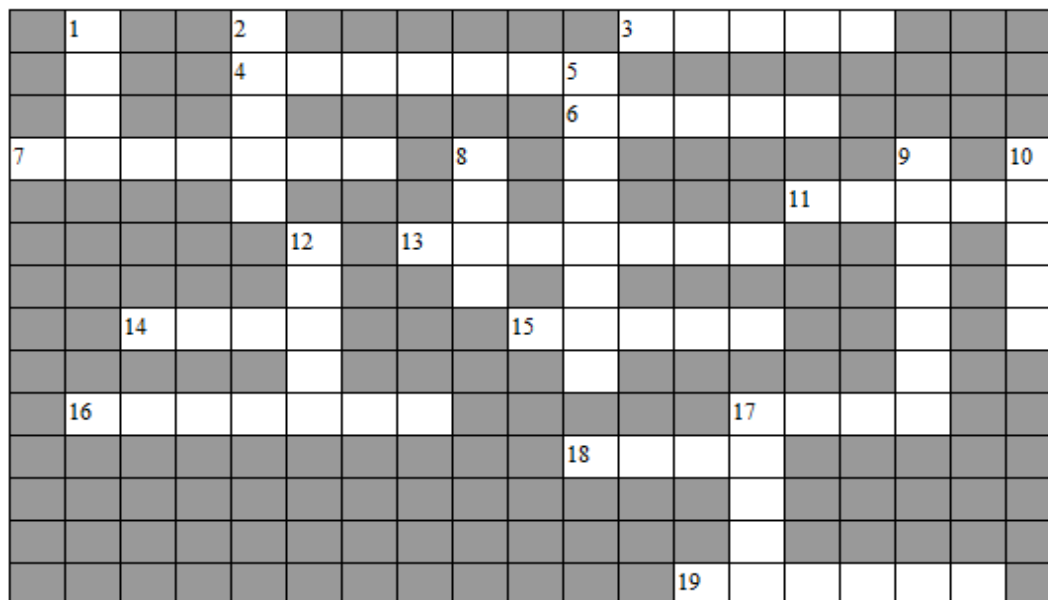
Currency: The *taka* is the unit of currency, about 100 to £1.

The Arts: Music, rich tradition of dance, drama, painting and terracotta art and special embroidery.

The Time: 6 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time

Worksheet 4.1: Bangladesh Crossword

Use the information from the Factsheet and from the other worksheets in this series to complete the crossword:



ACROSS

3. A garment worn by men in Bangladesh
4. The name of the village that works with destitute mothers and their children
6. The country that surrounds Bangladesh
7. The language of Bangladesh
11. The capital city of Bangladesh
13. The rainy season
14. One of the major crops, used to make cloth, sacks and carpets
15. Women in the Sreepur Village Outreach Project make these
16. If you cut the top off you can have a drink!
17. The currency of Bangladesh
18. A motor scooter with 3 wheels is a baby one of these
19. The holy day of Islam

DOWN

1. The main food of people in Bangladesh
2. Most of the people are of this faith
5. A common way of getting around
8. A type of boat
9. A disease carried by mosquitoes
10. The women's traditional dress
12. With red, the colour of the Bangladesh flag
17. The most famous type of animal in Bangladesh

Go to <http://www.sreepurvillage.org/teachersresources> for resources and links to help with this activity.

Worksheet 4.2: Bangladesh Word Search

Find at least TEN hidden words about Bangladesh in the grid below. Put a ring around each word as you find it.

B	E	N	G	A	L	I	E	M	S	A
D	A	E	F	G	U	H	C	Q	K	L
I	J	N	K	L	N	P	I	R	M	N
M	A	Y	G	O	G	I	R	L	O	P
B	C	D	E	L	I	F	G	H	I	J
C	D	Q	R	S	A	R	E	E	S	T
C	H	E	L	G	F	D	H	O	W	Y
U	O	V	W	X	Y	Z	E	A	B	Y
M	W	A	T	E	R	O	P	S	R	S
W	I	W	O	H	A	B	N	I	H	E

Go to <http://www.sreepurvillage.org/teachersresources> for resources and links to help with this activity.

Worksheet 4.3: Sreepur Village Quiz

You will find the answers to all these questions on the Sreepur Village website at www.sreepurvillage.org.

1. How many mothers and children live in Sreepur Village?
2. How many staff work at Sreepur Village?
3. What is the local name for Sreepur Village?
4. What year did Sreepur Village open?
5. How many meals are served each day in Sreepur Village?
6. What is the local name given to the 'aunties' who look after the children?
7. What time do the children usually wake up in Sreepur Village?
8. What games and activities do the children like to do in Sreepur Village?
9. What work do the mothers do in Sreepur Village?
10. What do people eat in Sreepur Village?
11. How often do people in Sreepur Village eat meat?
12. What do you do in Sreepur Village if you are ill?
13. What do people make in Sreepur Village? Name at least three different things.
14. What is grown in Sreepur Village?
15. Why can it be dangerous to fish in the lake?

Go to <http://www.sreepurvillage.org/teachersresources> for resources and links to help with this activity.

Worksheet 4.4: Ideas for further work

Using the resources on the website, these worksheets and other resources, here are some other activities you may like to try:

- Paint a life size Bengal Tiger and the habitat it lives in for display on the wall.
- Make a Weather Dial with two pieces of round card attached by a split pin that can be moved around and has windows that shows what the season it is in England and the corresponding season in Bangladesh.
- Make a Bangladeshi style necklace or bracelet by painting pasta shells and threading them together.
- Weave different coloured ribbon to make a place mat in a Bangladeshi-style design.
- Make a Bangladesh Wooden Spoon Puppet – using a wooden kitchen spoon, draw a face on it and make clothes for it in Bangladeshi style.
- Find out how ordinary people live in Bangladesh. Draw up a chart to show similarities and differences between how people live in Great Britain and how they live in Bangladesh.
- Try different food and drink from Bangladesh. How does it compare with what you normally eat at home?
- Look at the map of Sreepur Village on the website. Draw a map of your own school buildings and write the name of each building next to their position on the map.
- On the website we follow the children who live in Sreepur Village through a typical day. Write down what you usually do in a day, from getting up in the morning to going to sleep at night. Illustrate your day with paintings or photographs as on the website. You could even make some video clips.

Go to <http://www.sreepurvillage.org/teachersresources> for resources and links to help with this activity.