

Asia Pacific Region

The Asia Pacific Region was established in 1969. It has 25 million members in 24 countries. The countries in the Asia Pacific Region are: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Tonga.

Crafts

Ang Pow (Red Envelopes)- These red envelopes are very common around Chinese New Year and at weddings. The envelopes are red as red is considered a lucky colour. They are commonly given out with money in to children. Although China is not part of the Asia Pacific Region countries such as Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, etc. have many people who celebrate the celebrations of Chinese New Year. If you get some red paper and stick it together to form an envelope you can decorate it with Chinese symbols and fill them with chocolate coins. You could give them to a friend as a symbol of luck.



Koinobori (Carp Streamer)- Koinobori are carp shaped streamer that are traditionally flown in Japan to celebrate Children's Day. Draw a fish template and cut out two copies of the fish. Decorate the two pieces in a mirror image leaving the inch at the front undecorated. Stick the two pieces of the fish together down the sides of the fish leaving the tail and the mouth still unstuck. Cut an inch off a kitchen roll tube and stick it in the mouth of the fish and fold the extra paper over the kitchen roll tube. Put a hole in each side of the mouth of the fish, thread some string through and knot and then hang your fish up somewhere where it can fly!



Mandala (Circle)- In Buddhism and Hinduism they make Mandalas, which are circular designs that can be made up of geometric shapes. They are used to define a sacred space or as an aid to meditation or trance. They can often be temporary and made out of sand. You could design your own Mandala but rather than using sand if you draw out a circle outline on a piece of paper and then design your own Mandala using coloured pens or pencils.



Didgeridoo- The didgeridoo is a musical wind instrument used by the Aborigines of Australia. It is traditionally made from wood and can vary from 3 to 10 feet long. Make your own didgeridoo from cardboard tubes (use the tubes from wrapping paper or several toilet roll or kitchen roll tubes stuck together) and then cover the tube in white paper. When all the tube is covered decorate the tube in traditional aboriginal art and then you have your own didgeridoo.



Diya- This is a clay lamp used during the festival of Diwali, which is known as the festival of lights. Traditionally it the clay lamp is filled with oil with a wick but you can use a tea light to make yours. Form a ball out of fimo and then make a small hole in the middle with your thumb, don't push right through, you're making a bowl shape. Get a tea light candle and push it into the hole to make sure it fits. When your diya can fit a tea light candle in then bake the fimo according to the pack instructions. You can then decorate your diya in traditional Indian patterns and light it for Diwali.



Food

The Asia Pacific Region has many diverse countries in it that has a massive variety of food. Have a tasting night in your unit with food from many different countries from this region. Foods you could try are:

- Variety of curries
- Sushi
- Rice
- Prawn Crackers
- Kangaroo!
- Ostrich Burgers
- 'Barbie' Food (BBQ food to us British)
- Sake
- Naan Bread
- Popadom
- Vegemite (Marmite)
- Various Spices and Flavours
- Pavlova



At the end of your tasting session vote which countries food you like best

Learning



Asia Pacific Region Members- The Asia Pacific Region has a variety of different members. Choose one of the countries in this region to see how they differ from our Guides. What does their uniform look like? What games do they play? How does their promise differ from ours?

Books and Films- There are loads of books and films about the countries that are in the Asia Pacific Region. Why not have a film night at your meeting place? You could watch some Hindi films (Also known as Bollywood films).



Watch a variety of films from the different countries and vote for your favourite.



Martial Arts- Martial arts are and have been an important feature in many Asian countries culture. It is not only about fighting and self-defence but also about self-discipline and philosophy. Why not ask an instructor to one of your meetings to learn some martial arts? Martial Arts can promote healthy exercise and give people a sense of security knowing they have been taught self-defence.

History- Take a look at one of the members of the Asia Pacific Region and look at their history. How did the country become what it is today? Britain had an impact on some of the countries in this region in our history so you could look at what involvement Britain has in their past.

Sports- The countries in the Asia Pacific Region share a love of many sports that are favoured in Britain. Australia, India and Pakistan are all famous for having brilliant cricket teams. New Zealand has the All Blacks rugby team. Look at how these countries follow sports that are a part of British sporting culture and compare whether these countries have succeeded more than Britain in these sports. Take a look at sports that have originated in countries in this region and see if they are played in our country. If they are not consider why our sports have been accepted by them but we do not play theirs.

