Vietnam

student mission FRIENDS

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Let's go to ...Vietnam!

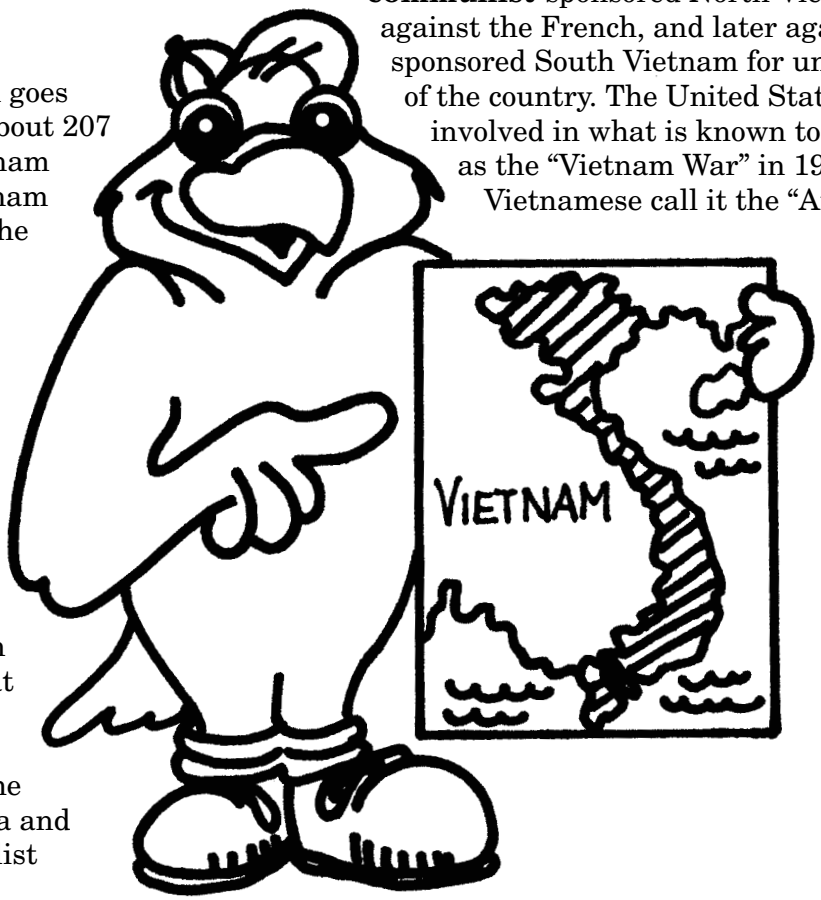
Hello! *Xin Chao* [sin chow], as they say in Vietnam. Welcome to Southeast Asia—to the country of Vietnam. On this trip you will discover a country and its interesting culture and people. Come on, let's go to Vietnam!

History

The history of Vietnam goes back 4,000 years! From about 207 B.C. until A.D. 939, Vietnam was ruled by China. Vietnam was a free country until the mid-1800s, when it was **colonized** by France.

During World War II, Vietnam was occupied by Japan. France tried to reestablish control over Vietnam after the war ended, but failed. In 1954, the country was divided into North Vietnam and South Vietnam. In the years that followed, North Vietnam was supported by the communist countries of the People's Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). South Vietnam was supported by the United States and other western countries.

The "Second Indochina War" lasted from 1954 until 1975. During this war, the **communist**-sponsored North Vietnam fought against the French, and later against U.S.-sponsored South Vietnam for unification of the country. The United States became involved in what is known to Americans as the "Vietnam War" in 1968. The Vietnamese call it the "American



War." The government of South Vietnam fell to the communists in 1975, and the country was joined under the communist government.

More than a half-million Vietnamese from the south fled the country soon after the takeover. Many of them came to the United States. In 1995, the United States and Vietnam reestablished trade and political relations. Also in 1995, LCMS World Mission began its work of helping the people of Vietnam, most of whom were very poor.

In the late 1980s, Vietnam adopted an economic renewal campaign. Since then, more **free-market** trade has taken place. By 2002, Vietnam had the second-fastest growing economy in the world. Now, many people want to speak English to be involved in working with Americans and people from other countries. LCMS World Mission sends people who teach English in Vietnamese universities.

People

Around 80 million people live in Vietnam. Hanoi is the capital city with up to 3.5 million people living there. Ho Chi Minh City's population of 6.5 million makes it Vietnam's largest city. But most people in Vietnam don't live in cities—they live in rural areas along Vietnam's long coastline.

About 87 percent of the population is ethnically Vietnamese. The Vietnamese government recognizes that 54 different **people groups** live in Vietnam!

Around 80 percent of the people in Vietnam are farmers. Many other people work for the government as doctors, teachers, managers and factory workers, and garbage collectors. The government provides most of the jobs for the 20 percent who aren't farming. Still, many people work two jobs in order to have enough money to provide for their families. Private Vietnamese and foreign companies are growing rapidly and some people work for them, getting higher salaries and greater opportunities to travel.

Land and Climate

Vietnam shares borders with Cambodia, China, and Laos. The total land size of Vietnam is a little larger than New Mexico, but its long, thin "S" shape is very different. Vietnam has 2,140 miles (3,444 km) of coastline—the Gulf of Tonkin and the South China Sea are to its east and the Gulf of Thailand is to its south.

Much of Vietnam is covered in mountains and hills; dense tropical forests cover about 75 percent of the country. Highlands and the Red River **Delta** are in northern Vietnam. The capital city, Hanoi, is in the Red River Delta. Fan Si Pan, at 10,312 feet (3,143 m) above sea level, is the highest mountain in northwest Vietnam. Southern Vietnam is divided into coastal lowlands, central mountains, and the Mekong River Delta.

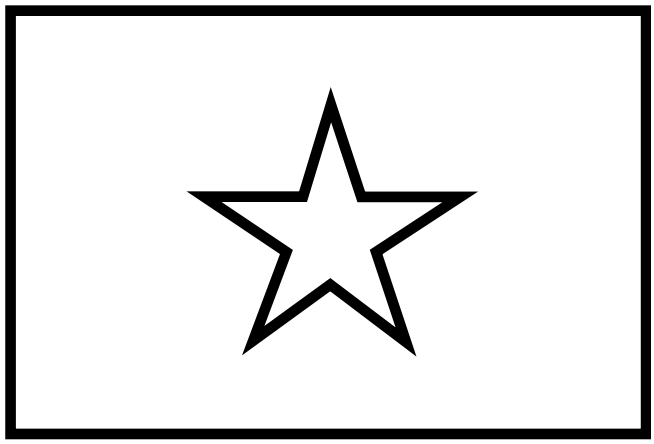
Vietnam's climate is tropical—with 84 percent humidity throughout the year. **Monsoon** rains fall between May and October in the northern Red River Delta.

For hundreds of years, people all over Vietnam have used twin baskets, called *Quang Ganh* [kwoang guyng], to carry things. The baskets are carried on a pole that is supported on one shoulder. Anything from vegetables,

fruit, wood, chickens, or even children can be carried by *Quang Ganh*.

The Vietnamese describe their country as two big baskets of rice hung on both sides of a *Quang Ganh* carrying pole. The Red River Delta provides rice during two growing seasons in northern Vietnam, with a third season to grow vegetables. The Mekong River Delta provides three rice-growing seasons in southern Vietnam.

Flag of Vietnam



The flag of Vietnam has a yellow star on a red background. The yellow star symbolizes the leadership of the Vietnamese Communist Party. The star's five points represent Vietnam's workers, **peasants**, soldiers, **intellectuals**, and **merchants**. The red background stands for revolution and the people's blood.

Color the flag of Vietnam using yellow for the star and red for the background.

Religion

The Vietnamese constitution states "citizens enjoy freedom of worship, and may practice or not practice a religion" but "no one may misuse religions to violate state laws or policies."

More than half the Vietnamese population follows Buddhism, while more than 20 percent are non-religious. Around 6 million Vietnamese are Roman Catholic. There are also 400,000 or more Protestant Christians.

Let's Speak Vietnamese!

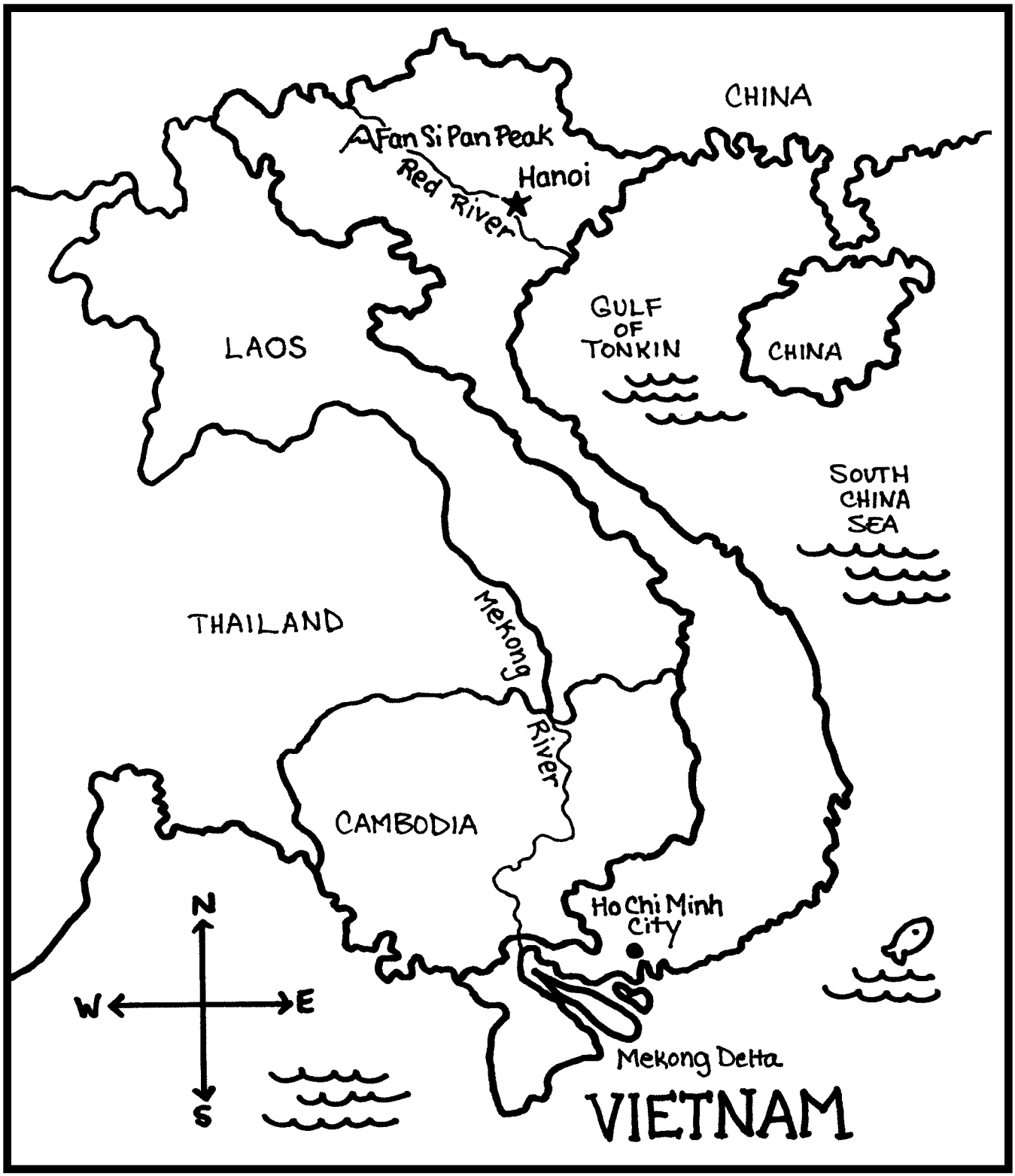
English	Vietnamese	Pronunciation
Hello	*xin chao*	sin chow
Please	*xin*	sin
Thank you	*cam on*	cohm un
Friend	*ban*	bohn
Father	*bo*	boh
Mother	*me*	meh
Yes	*vang*	vung
No	*khong*	komb

Try saying "Hello, father" or "Thank you mother."

In Vietnam, people usually list their family name first, then middle name, and their first name comes last. Many Vietnamese first names can be used for girls or boys. "Nguyen" [ngwin] is the most common Vietnamese last name. Try listing your name the traditional Vietnamese way.

Ao Dai—Beautiful Clothing

The national dress for Vietnamese women is called *Ao Dai* [ow zeye]. The first *Ao Dai* were made many years ago, with separate styles for men and women. Today the *Ao Dai* is a matching pants and dress set for women. The dress splits at the waist and has front and back panels that go down to just below the knees. The dress has a buttoned opening along the shoulder and side seam. The necklines are usually round or with a stand-up Chinese collar. *Ao Dai* come in many colors and fabrics. Since they are custom made, they always fit well. *Ao Dai* are worn to important events, and brides often wear red or pink *Ao Dai* .

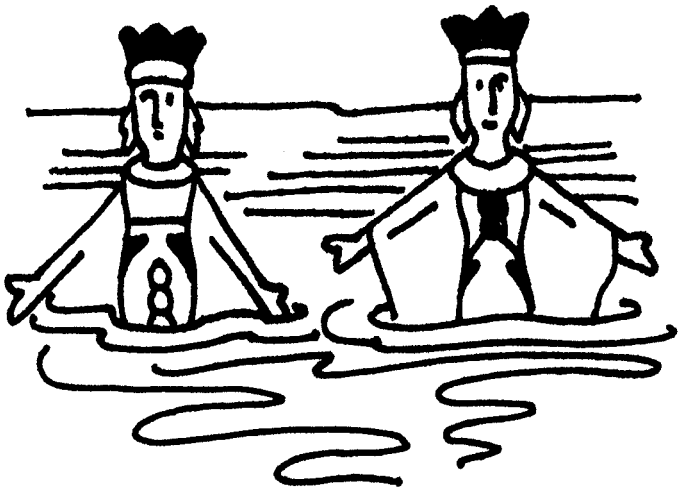


Map Activities

- Color a yellow circle around Hanoi.
- Draw green mountains in northwest Vietnam, around Fan Si Pan.
- Color the Gulf of Tonkin, the South China Sea, and the Gulf of Thailand turquoise.
- Color the Red River Delta and the Mekong River Delta red.
- Draw a pink circle around Ho Chi Minh City.

Water Puppet Theater

Hundreds of years ago in northern Vietnam, the art of water-puppet theater began. The *Mua Roi Nuoc* [mooa zoy noouc] are wooden puppets that are similar to marionettes with movable arms, legs, and heads. The colorful *Mua Roi Nuoc* appear on a stage of water. The puppeteers hide behind a backdrop showing a scene and control the puppets with long bamboo poles that are hidden under the water. The *Mua Roi Nuoc* can be up to three feet tall. Mua Roi Nuoc puppets often tell traditional stories from life in rural Vietnam or about part of Vietnamese history. During a two-hour performance, you can learn a lot about life in Vietnam from the costumes, scenery, and music that is played.



Helping the People of Vietnam

In many rural areas of Vietnam, it can be easy for babies and young children to become **malnourished**. Even if they get enough to eat, the food may not have enough vitamins to keep the children healthy.

Projects sponsored by LCMS World Mission and its partners have been started to help teach poor people how to help keep their babies healthy. One mom said, "My 15-month-old daughter wouldn't eat. Even though my family has enough to eat, she still became malnourished. Since the program was started, I was taught in detail how to take care of my baby. After three months she gained 1 kg (2.20 lbs.) and now she is beginning to walk. We are so happy!"

In 2005, LCMS World Mission, working as a Non-Governmental Organization, celebrated 10 years of helping the people of Vietnam. LCMS World Relief/Human Care and several Vietnamese organizations are also partners in helping Vietnamese people.

LCMS members also serve in Vietnam as teachers of English as a Foreign Language. They teach in schools in Hanoi and Phu Tho province and also hold training workshops for Vietnamese teachers who teach English.

Food in Vietnam

Vietnamese people typically eat soup for breakfast. *Pho* [fuh] is the name of the popular soup. Noodles, meat or seafood, vegetables or herbs may be cooked in *Pho*. There is no single recipe for this soup. When you eat *Pho*, be sure to slurp and make lots of noise to show the cook that you like it.

Vietnamese meals are usually served from a common plate or dish. Rice, the main food, is served at nearly every meal. It is eaten with chopsticks from a rice bowl. Noodles may be served at a meal instead of rice.

Vegetables and noodles are usually steamed rather than stir-fried. Vegetables, like cucumber, mint, and sprouts are also served raw and can be eaten inside a rolled lettuce leaf. There are many tasty dipping sauces, like fish sauce.

People in Vietnam often drink tea throughout the day and evening. It is rarely served with a meal though. Strong coffee is often mixed with sweetened condensed milk and poured over ice for a sweet iced-coffee drink. You can also find French foods, pastries, and drinks made in Vietnam, which have remained popular since the years of French occupation.

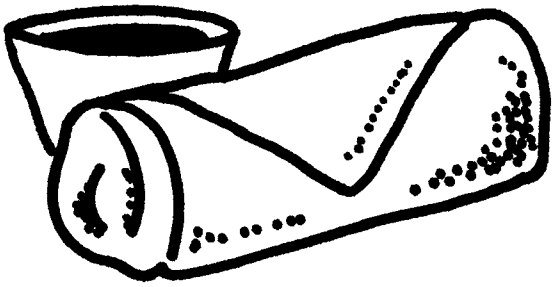
Let's Make Spring Rolls!

What you need:

- 1 (8 oz.) package of rice vermicelli noodles
- 8 oz. of cooked meat (shrimp, chicken, or beef)
- 8 rice wrappers (6.5 inch diameter)
- 1 carrot, cut into thin strips
- 1 cup lettuce, shredded
- ¼ cup fresh basil, chopped
- ½ cup hoisin sauce (also called Peking sauce)
- water as needed

What you do:

- With the help of an adult, use a medium saucepan and bring water to a boil on the stove.
- Once boiling, remove from heat. Place rice vermicelli noodles in water and soak 3-5 minutes until soft.
- Drain and rinse with cold water.
- Fill a large bowl with hot tap water.
- Dip one rice paper in the hot water for about 1 second to soften it.
- Lay rice paper flat and place small amounts of rice vermicelli, meat, carrot, lettuce, and basil in the center.
- Tightly wrap the ingredients in the roll, starting at the bottom edge.
- Repeat with remaining ingredients.
- In small bowl, mix hoisin sauce with a little water. Heat for a few seconds in microwave.
- Serve rolls with hoisin dipping sauce. Enjoy!

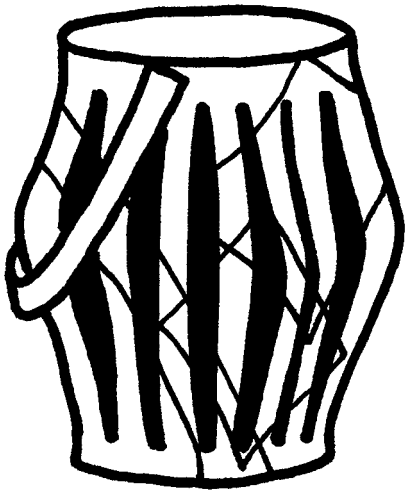


New Year in Vietnam

In Vietnam, the New Year is marked by a **lunar** calendar instead of by a date. Each year *Tet* [teht], the Vietnamese New Year, is celebrated on a different calendar day, usually in late January or early February. *Tet* marks the beginning of spring. It is celebrated for three days, and children are off school for two weeks. There are many similarities between *Tet* and Chinese New Year, because of the many years of Chinese rule. Look at the list below and compare *Tet* celebrations to how you celebrate the New Year.

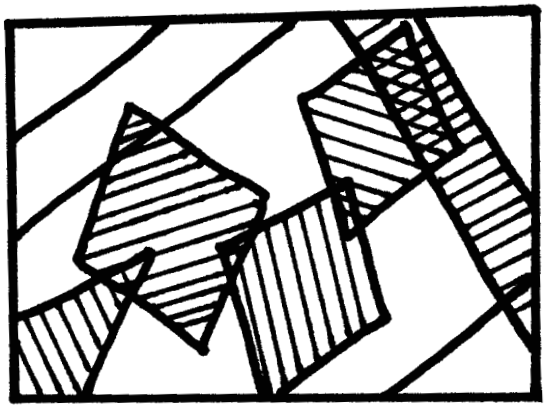
- The first person to walk into one's home is believed to have good luck for the coming year.
- Firecrackers are lit and paper lanterns are hung for decoration.
- People are nice to one another for the three days of *Tet*. Mistakes are forgiven.
- People buy new clothes, and clean their homes for the celebrations.
- Altars dedicated to dead family members are decorated with flowers, incense, and fruit. The spirits of dead family members are thought to visit the living on *Tet*.
- Children are given gifts of money in red paper envelopes.
- The color red is used to symbolize good luck.
- Children are entertained by dragon dances.

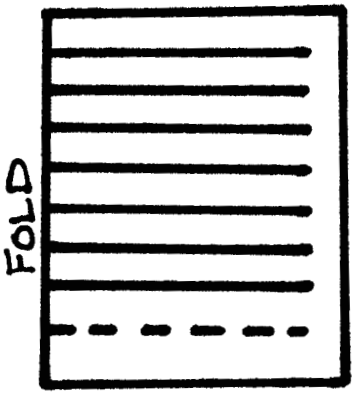
Let's Make a Lantern for Tet!



What you need:

- White construction paper
- Different colors of tissue paper
- Scissors
- White glue
- Stapler





What you do:

- Put a light coating of glue on construction paper.
- Place pieces of colored tissue paper on the wet glue, covering the entire piece of construction paper.
- Let dry completely.
- Fold construction paper in half, lengthwise.
- Starting 1 inch from the top, cut 1 to 1.5 inch slits down the paper, leaving 1 inch between each slit.
- Cut off a 1 inch strip from the edge of the paper—this will be the handle.
- Open the paper, and staple the ends vertically together.
- Staple the handle over the top of the lantern.
- Last, hang it up.

Word Game

Look through the Student Pages for words in bold. Match the vocabulary words with the closest meaning. Write the word in the blanks provided. Write down the letters in the circles that make hidden words.

1. poor farmer
2. occupied
3. moon
4. manufacturing
5. traders
6. business-friendly
7. scholars
8. ethnic groups
9. farming
10. under-fed
11. heavy rain
12. opposite of capitalist
13. river's end

1. _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _ _
2. _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _ _ _
3. _ ◯ _ _ _
4. _ _ _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _ _
5. _ _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _ _
6. _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _ _ _ _
7. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ◯ _ _
8. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ◯
9. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _ _
10. _ ◯ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
11. _ _ _ ◯ _ _ _
12. _ _ _ _ _ _ ◯ _ _
13. _ _ _ _ ◯

Hidden words: Vietnam is located in

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

Word Search

Find the hidden words below. Listed are the **agricultural** products and **industries** of Vietnam. The words may be found up, down, frontward, backward, or diagonally.

BANANAS
CASHEWS
CEMENT
CHEMICAL FERTILIZER
COAL
COFFEE
COTTON
FISH
FOOD PROCESSING
GARMENTS
GLASS
MACHINE BUILDING
MINING
OIL
PAPER
PEANUTS
PEPPER
POULTRY
RICE
RUBBER
SEAFOOD
SHOES
SOYBEANS
STEEL
SUGARCANE
TEA
TIRES

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

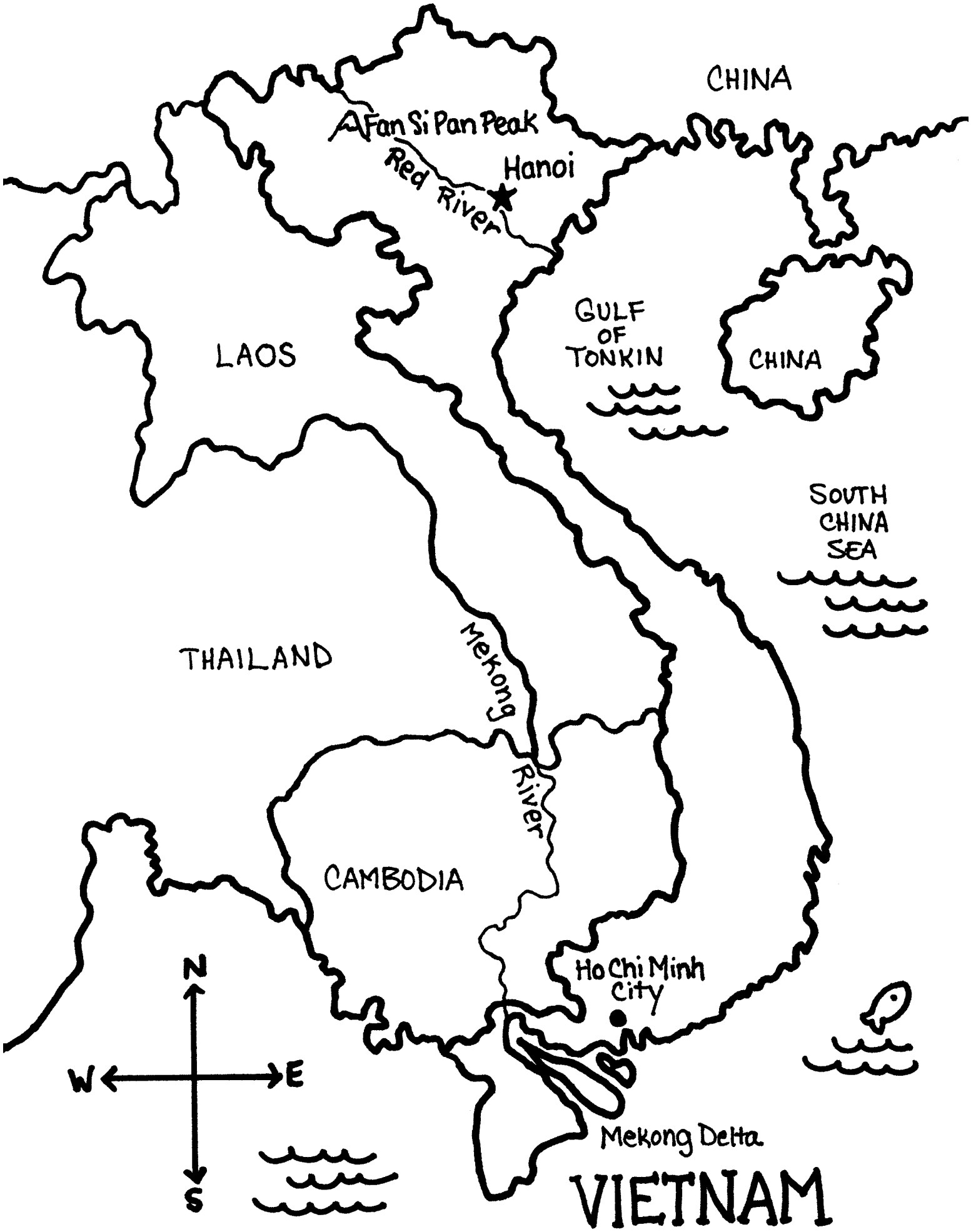
See you next time, Mission Friends!

Let's Pray!

- Give thanks for more than 10 years of helping the Vietnamese people!
- Ask God to bless the many nutrition, poverty elimination, and micro-loan projects so the Vietnamese people would be healthy and be able to provide for their families.
- Ask God to bless the efforts of Vietnamese people to learn English.

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

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


CHINA
Fan Si Pan Peak
Red River
Hanoi
LAOS
GULF OF TONKIN
CHINA
SOUTH CHINA SEA
THAILAND
Mekong River
CAMBODIA
Ho Chi Minh City
Mekong Delta
N
W
E
S
VIETNAM

Vietnam

teacher · mission FRIENDS

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Let's go to...Vietnam!

In This Issue

Palmer Parrot is back to take your students to Vietnam. There's lots of information and plenty to do inside Mission Friends. The goal is to get your students involved in God's mission!

Please see the LCMS World Mission Web site, **www.lcmsworldmission.org/wherewework** to learn more about LCMS projects in Vietnam, including the personnel who are currently serving there. Remember these projects and personnel in your daily prayers.

LCMS Work in Vietnam

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod began work in Vietnam in 1995, serving through projects that provide humanitarian assistance and educational services. The Vietnamese government recognizes LCMS World Mission as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). LCMS World Mission personnel teach English to medical professionals and gifted students in Hanoi and surrounding provinces. In partnership with LCMS World Relief/Human Care, LCMS World Mission sponsors multiple projects to address the problem of malnutrition in many rural villages. LCMS World Mission also works in close partnership with Vietnamese professionals to design and implement projects to improve the standard of living for people living in Vietnamese communities in and near Hanoi.

Additional Classroom Activities:

- The Vietnamese currency is the dong. Look up the exchange rate for US dollars to Vietnamese dong on the Internet. Track it over a period of time.
- Learn more about rice farming. Look for different types of rice for sale at your local grocery store.
- Listen to the Vietnamese national anthem "*Tien Quan Ca*" at **http://david.national-anthems.net**. Some of the English lyrics are printed below.

"Soldiers of Vietnam, we go forward,
With the one will to save our Fatherland,
Our hurried steps are sounding on the long and arduous road.
Our flag, red with the blood of victory,
bears the spirit of our country.

The distant rumbling of the guns passes over the bodies of our foes.
Overcoming all hardships, together we build our resistance bases.
Ceaselessly for the people's cause let us struggle,
Let us hasten to the battle-field!
Forward! All together advancing!
Our Vietnam is strong, eternal."

- Learn more about the people groups in Vietnam. The Tay, Muong, Thai, Hmong Meo, and Zao are a few of the people groups that live in northern Vietnam. The people groups in the Central Highlands—Jarai, Ede, and Bahnar—are often called the Montagnards, which is the French word for "mountain people."

- Read more about LCMS projects that are helping the people of Vietnam at **www.lcmsworldmission.org** and **www.lutheransonline.com/lcmsworldmissionvn**.

- Invite a Vietnamese person to visit your class. Ask him or her to teach phrases in Vietnamese and tell about his or her home town.

- Vietnamese food has become very popular in many cities. Hold a potluck and taste different foods. You can find recipes easily on the Internet and many cookbooks now include recipes from around the world. Notice the Chinese and French influences in Vietnamese cooking.

- The Vietnam War has been a painful part of American history. It is often referred to, even though it ended more than 30 years ago. Discuss the impact of war on a generation.

- The Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C., was controversial when it was first unveiled. Look up photos of it on the Internet. Now it has been widely accepted and frequently visited. Learn about Maya Lin, the then 21-year-old architectural student who designed the memorial.

Another Recipe—Let's Make Pho! [fuh]

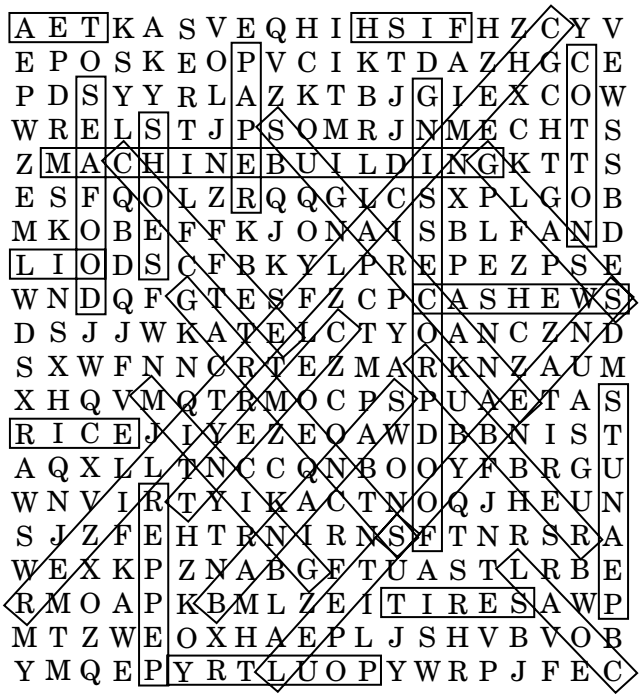
What you need:

3 cups beef or vegetable broth
2 onions, chopped
4 oz. vermicelli noodles
2 Tbsp fish sauce
1 Tbsp fresh ginger, minced
1 tsp salt
Fresh mint for garnish

What you do:

- Bring broth to a boil and add onion, ginger, salt, and fish sauce. Simmer for about 10 minutes.
- Add vermicelli and boil until soft.
- Remove from heat and garnish with mint.

Answers to Word Search



Word Game Key

1. peasants
2. colonized
3. lunar
4. industries
5. merchants
6. free market
7. intellectuals
8. people groups
9. agricultural
10. malnourished
11. monsoon
12. communist
13. delta

Hidden words key: Southeast Asia

Vocabulary

Agricultural: having to do with farming; describing the ability of something to help produce crops or raise livestock
Colonized: a place that has been started or settled by a group of people sent from a distant land
Communist: a person or philosophy that supports the collectivist ideas of people like Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, and Mao Zedong
Delta: the land at the end of a river that is often in the shape of a triangle
Free-market: a market where people can buy and sell things freely without a lot of rules
Industries: any large group of businesses that make things
Intellectuals: a group of people who are highly educated
Lunar: the moon
Malnourished: someone who is not getting enough nourishment or food
Merchants: people who buy and sell things
Monsoon: seasonal wind from the southwest that brings heavy rain
Peasants: poor farmers
People groups: groups of people from different ethnic backgrounds, not necessarily from one country

Resources

Books:

Kalman, Bobbie. *Vietnam: The Land*. New York: Crabtree, 2002.

Nguyen, Chi. *Cooking the Vietnamese Way*. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications Company, 2002.

O'Connor, Karen. *Vietnam*. Minneapolis: Carolrhoda Books Inc., 1999.

Seah, Audrey. *Vietnam*. New York: Marshall Cavendish, 1994.

Internet

- **Communist Party of Vietnam**—www.cpv.org.vn/index_e.html
- **Photos from Vietnam/Terra Galleria**—www.terragalleria.com/vietnam
- **Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs**—www.mofa.gov.vn./en
- **Vietnam Net Bridge**—http://english.vietnamnet.vn
- **Vietnam News**—http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn
- **Vietnam Tourism**—wwwvietnamtourism.com/e_pages/news/index.asp
- **Viet Touch**—www.viettouch.com
- **LCMS World Mission in Vietnam**—www.lutheransonline.com/lcmsworldmissionvn

Written by Karin L. Semler
Contributors: Matt and Kim Myers

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

Vietnam

parent mission FRIENDS

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

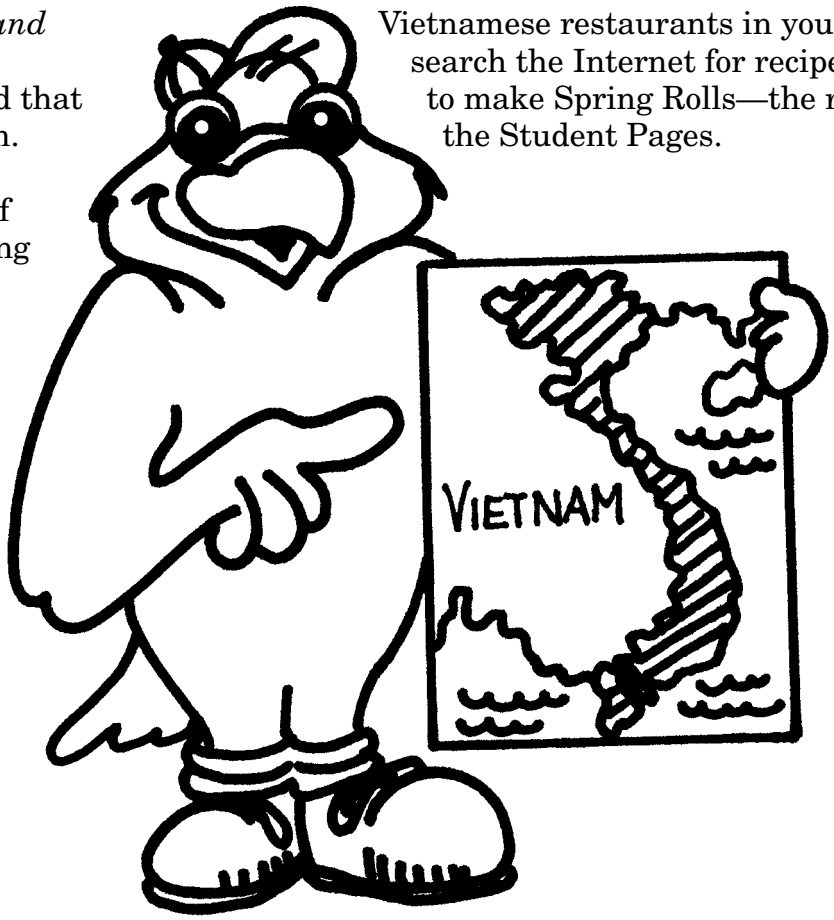
Let's go to . . . Vietnam!

Your children have been learning about LCMS-sponsored work in Vietnam. Review the student and primary pages with your children to learn more about Vietnam and its people. See if your children can answer these questions based on what they have learned:

1. What is the capital of Vietnam? (*Hanoi*)
2. What are the two main river deltas? (*Red River and Mekong River*)
3. Name the main food that is grown in Vietnam. (*Rice*)
4. What is the name of the beautiful clothing that Vietnamese women wear? (*Ao Dai*)
5. What is the name of Vietnamese New Year? (*Tet*)
6. Name a few Vietnamese agricultural products or industries. (*See page 8 of Student Pages for a list of 27 possible answers in the Word Search puzzle.*)
7. What are two ways that the LCMS is helping the people of Vietnam? (*nutrition projects and teaching English as a Foreign Language*)

WATCH a short video that shows 10 years of LCMS work in Vietnam—**www.lcmsworldmission.org**.

TASTE some Vietnamese food. Look for Vietnamese restaurants in your area or search the Internet for recipes. Be sure to make Spring Rolls—the recipe is in the Student Pages.



VISIT **www.lutheransonline.org/lcmsworldmissionvn** to read more about the work in Vietnam and to see photos from there.

READ some books about Vietnam and its culture. You can check out books from your local library, or go online to buy them.

USE the Internet and research when *Tet* will be celebrated. You may also find local *Tet* celebrations.

TRY to speak some of the Vietnamese words that are included in the Student Pages.

TYPE "Ao Dai" into a search engine and see a variety of styles and colors of this beautiful Vietnamese dress.

TAKE a virtual trip to Vietnam by checking out a travel video from your local library or video rental store.

PRAY regularly for the leaders and people of Vietnam, and for God's blessings on the work that is being done by LCMS personnel there.

LEARN more about LCMS involvement in God's mission and *Ablaze!*—a global mission movement to share the Good New of Jesus Christ with 100 million unreached or uncommitted people by the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. You can learn more at **www.lcmsworldmission.org**.

VIEW photos from Vietnam and around the world at **www.lcmsworldmission.org**.

DISCOVER other countries and their people by downloading other issues of Mission Friends at **www.lcmsworldmission.org/children**.

TAKE a trip around the world with Mission Friends passports. Passport 'stamps' from Vietnam and other countries can be printed from **www.lcmsworldmission.org**. Contact 1-800-433-3954 or **mission.orders@lcms.org** for more information.

COLOR a Mission Friends map or bookmark. Order these and other children's mission resources by calling 1-800-433-3954, or send an e-mail to **mission.orders@lcms.org**. Many resources are available free of charge or for a small fee.

INVOLVE your child in God's mission in a variety of ways. Articles on children's mission involvement are posted on the LCMS World Mission Web site—**www.lcmsworldmission.org/children**.

GIVE to support LCMS work in Vietnam and elsewhere. Call 1-800-248-1930 for more information. Free coin boxes and offering envelopes for children are available.

PRAY for God's mission every day. *Pray For Us*, a monthly prayer calendar, is available for download on the LCMS World Mission Web site—**www.lcmsworldmission.org/resources/prayforus**.

LEARN more about LCMS involvement through *Harvest News*, a free publication to inform and involve LCMS Christians in God's mission. For a free subscription, call 1-800-433-3954 or send an e-mail to **mission.orders@lcms.org**.

Vietnam

primary mission FRIENDS

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Let's go to . . . Vietnam!

Rice

Rice is the main food in Vietnam. Almost every meal is served with rice. Many folk tales talk about rice or rice farming. Many festivals involve rice. You can also eat rice cakes and adults drink rice wine. In the world, Vietnam is the second largest seller of rice to other countries.

Farming rice takes a lot of work. Rice fields need to be flooded with water before the small rice plants are put into the ground. It's very hard work to plant rice. Farmers stand in the water, bend over, and put each plant into the ground by hand.

In Vietnam, for years families have worked together to grow rice. They shared water irrigation so their fields would all get water. Vietnamese people are well-known for working together as a group.

In Vietnam, people depend on rice as their main food. In other places, people depend on bread. In the Bible, Jesus called Himself the "Bread of Life." No matter what food people eat, they need Jesus as their best friend and Savior. Jesus forgives our sins and gives our lives purpose. He also gives us eternal life.

Let's Count to 10 in Vietnamese

1.	mot	*mote*
2.	hai	*hi*
3.	ba	*bah*
4.	bon	*bone*
5.	nam	*nahm*
6.	sau	*sow*
7.	bay	*bye*
8.	tam	*tahm*
9.	chin	*chin*
10.	muoi	*moo-ee*

Let's Make a Vietnamese Hat

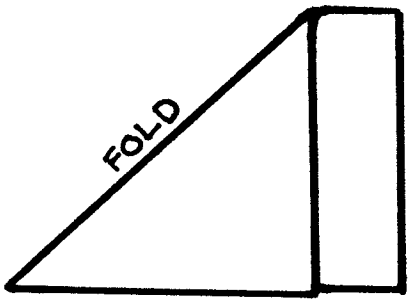
Across the Vietnamese countryside you will see many people wearing a *Non La* [known lah] while they are working. A *Non La* is a woven cone-shaped hat made from palm leaves. These hats are very lightweight. *Non La* protect people from the hot sun, and keep them dry in the rain. Some hats have written poems woven into the design. They are called *Non Bai Tho* [known by tuh].

What you need:

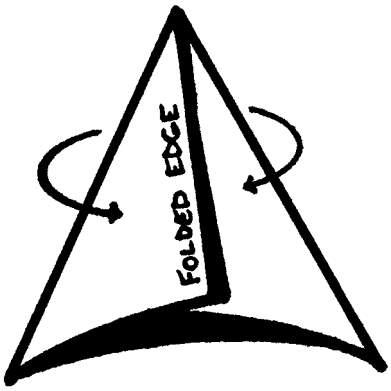
- A large sheet of construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Bible
- Pencil, crayons, etc.

What you do:

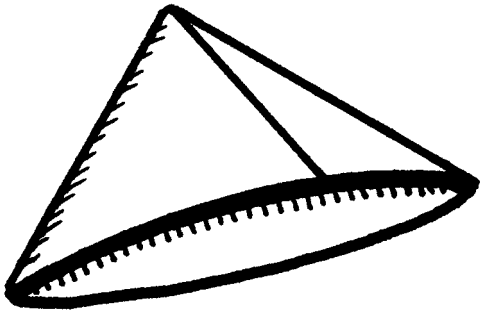
- Fold the paper to make a square.

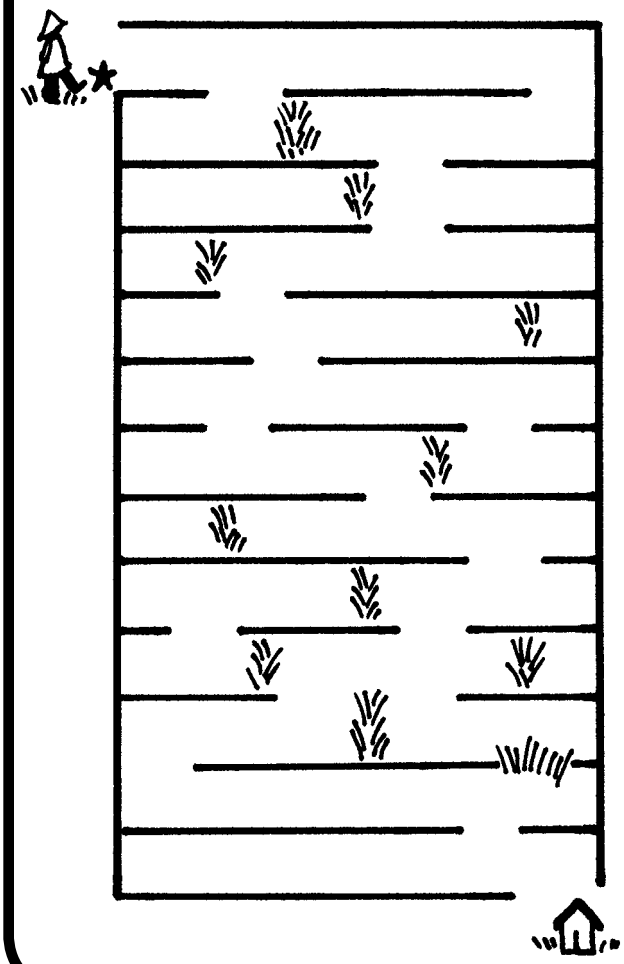


- Cut off extra paper.
- Fold square in half.
- Bring one of the folded edges toward the diagonal fold to make a cone shape.



- Tape the fold underneath the cone.
- Cut around the edge to make the hat round.
- With pencil and crayons, write a verse from Psalm or Proverbs on the hat.



Find Your Way

Help the farmer find his way through the rice paddy to his house. Start at the star.