



INDIAN
HERITAGE
CENTRE

இந்திய
மரபுடைமை
நிலையம்

DISCOVERY KIT



THIS KIT BELONGS TO

Lower Primary Booklet

Boys and girls, before we explore the galleries, let us remember:



Handle the
audio-visual
equipment with care



Enjoy your food and
drinks at Level 1
of the Centre



Talk in your
quiet museum
voice



Use only pencils to
write on the
materials provided



Take your photographs
without using flash



Walk calmly in
the galleries



See and observe,
but do not touch

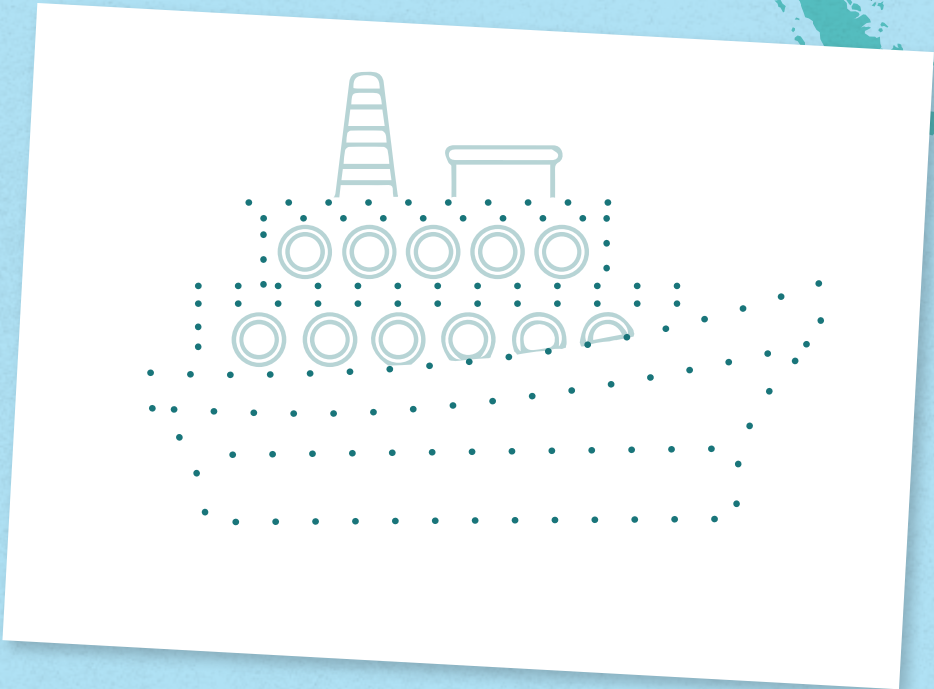
Welcome

Welcome to the Indian Heritage Centre! My name is Nisha and this is my brother Vinod. Our grandparents have told us many stories about Singapore's past, and the different communities that have shaped Singapore to what it is today.

Let us share these stories with you! Come journey with us to discover more about our Indian heritage and culture.



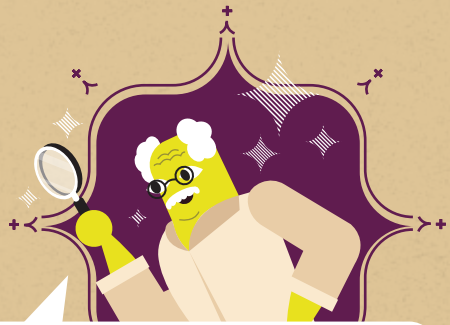
Before we start, can you help us connect the dots below. What does it show?



The Journey

Yes! A ship. Grandpa Arun said that our forefathers spent many days travelling in a ship from South Asia to Singapore in search of a better life.

When they arrived at Singapore, they saw people from different races and religions living together in harmony.



Look around Gallery 1. Can you spot these artefacts that represent some of the religions present during that time? Match them accordingly.



HEAD OF BUDDHA



BUDDHISM



GANESHA



HINDUISM



QRAN STAND



CHRISTIANITY



MADONNA WITH GOLD EARRINGS



ISLAM



Photograph of SS Rajula, Mid-20th Century

Do you have friends from other religions? How do you show respect for people of other religions or cultures?

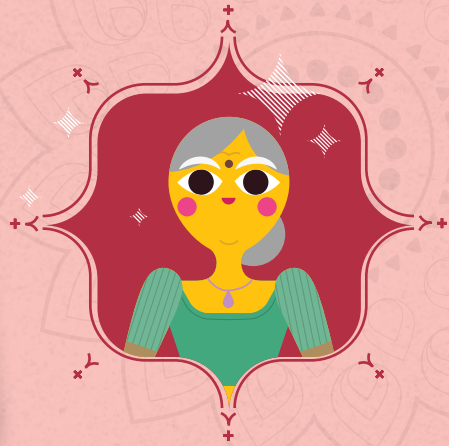
Weddings

The early Indians who travelled to Singapore were from different parts of South Asia. When they arrived, they brought with them their own festivals and celebrations.

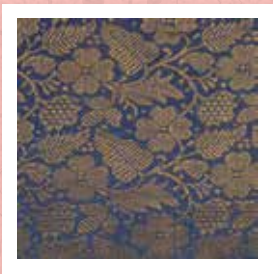
Weddings are very special occasions for the Indian community! Grandma Latha once showed us a wedding photograph of her in a beautiful bridal sari. It was made in a region in India called Benares and was a gift from her grandfather.



Wedding photograph of Tamil Hindu couple, PGP Ramakrishnan and Mrs Santha Ramakrishnan. 1968. Photo courtesy of PGP Ramakrishnan



Look around Gallery 2. Can you spot these three saris on display? Observe and write down their shapes and patterns.



Festivals

Festivals and ceremonies are important parts of the Indian community. Each year, Vinod and I look forward to attending festivals such as Deepavali as we get to meet our relatives and close friends.



Deepavali, Pongal, Thaipusam and Onam are some of the festivals celebrated by Indians in Singapore. Circle these festivals found in the word search below.

D	E	E	P	A	V	A	L	I
I	U	E	O	N	A	M	W	A
A	E	A	N	U	S	A	U	I
W	I	W	G	A	A	E	E	U
E	U	E	A	S	A	I	E	U
S	S	A	L	E	U	I	W	E
T	H	A	I	P	U	S	A	M

Think of a festival you have attended before. How was the experience? Write down some of the words you would use to describe your experience.

Early Indians in Singapore

We remember when Grandpa Arun had taken us on a drive one day. We passed by the house of the President of Singapore (Istana). He shared with us about the contributions of Indian workers to this building.

Do you know that Indian workers built the Istana in 1869 for a salary of 2 cents a day?

It made us realise how important the contributions of Indians to the building of early Singapore. They took on various occupations such as builders, traders, businessmen, policemen and artists.



Take a close look at the figures at Gallery 3. Can you match the figures to their occupations?



View of Government House (Istana) c.1990
Collection of National Museum of Singapore



Labourer

Milkman

Policeman

Businessman



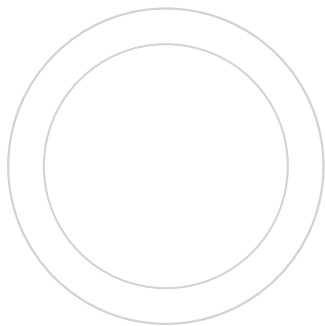
Design Your Own Jewellery

Grandma Latha's favourite piece of jewellery was a beautiful gold necklace gifted to her by Grandpa Arun. The necklace was specially designed by a goldsmith also known as *pathar*. A *pathar* is someone who designs and crafts gold jewellery by hand.



Goldsmith cum Jeweller, 1900s
Photo courtesy of the National Archives of Singapore

A *pathar*'s work requires patience and creativity. Imagine you are a *pathar*. How would you design your own jewellery? Be creative!



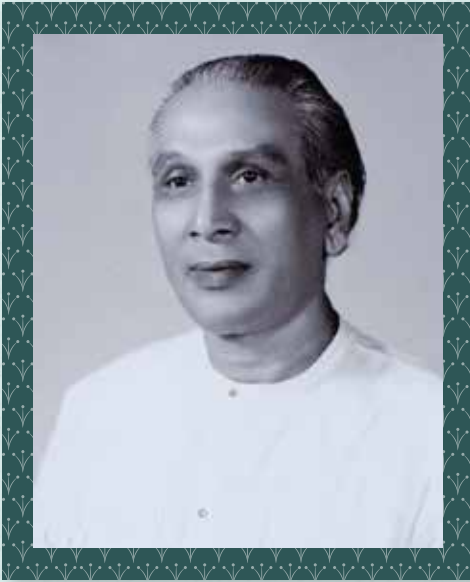
Bracelet



Necklace



Our Pioneers Matter



Growing up, Vinod and I learnt Tamil as our mother tongue. Majority of Indians in Singapore speak Tamil but there are other Indian communities who have different mother tongues such as Hindi, Punjabi or Urdu.

G Sarangany was a well-known leader of the Tamil community in Singapore. He worked hard to promote education in Singapore and Tamil as one of the four official languages.

Do you know what are the other three official languages of Singapore? List them here

1

2

3

G Sarangany is known for being hardworking. What other values do you think represent Indian pioneers like him?

Know Your Pioneers

Indian pioneers play a very meaningful role in the making of modern Singapore. They contributed in many areas including politics, healthcare and sports.

The Wall of Fame in Gallery 5 showcases some of the Indian pioneers. Look for these four pioneers and guess who they are!



He co-wrote Singapore's National Pledge in 1966.

S. R. _____



S. _____ F. _____

She promoted women's rights in Singapore during the 1950s.



He represented Singapore in sprinting events at the Olympic and Commonwealth Games.

C. K. _____

B. _____ S. _____

He was a doctor who gave up medical practice to enter politics.



Are you proud of the pioneers who have contributed to Singapore? If so, why? Share with your friends.

Reflections

Thank you for joining me and Vinod at the Indian Heritage Centre today! We hope you have learnt more about the heritage and cultural practices of the Indian community.

What are three things you have learnt in the Centre today?

1.

2.

3.



My favourite artefact in the Centre/
My most memorable moment in the Centre today

Draw or write about it below:



About Indian Heritage Centre

The Indian Heritage Centre, under the management of the National Heritage Board and with support from the Indian community, traces the history of the Indian and South Asian communities in the Southeast Asian region.

The four-storey building is an iconic, unique and sustainable building that blends both traditional Indian as well as modern architectural elements. The architectural design for the facade is inspired by the *baoli* (or Indian stepwell), and seeks to create an urban forum for the celebration and appreciation of Indian culture. It houses five permanent galleries, a museum shop as well as programming and activity spaces.

Situated at 5 Campbell Lane, the Centre also serves as a springboard for visitors to explore Little India and enjoy the sights, sounds and scents of the historical precinct. Indian Heritage Centre was opened by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on 7 May 2015 and will offer year-round exhibitions, programmes and activities to promote greater public awareness and appreciation of Indian heritage, arts and culture.

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Facebook

 [indianheritagecentre](https://www.facebook.com/indianheritagecentre)

Opening Hours

Tuesdays – Thursdays: 10.00am to 7.00pm

Fridays – Saturdays: 10.00am to 8.00pm

Sundays/Public Holidays*: 10.00am to 4.00pm

Closed on Mondays

*The Indian Heritage Centre is closed on Public Holidays that fall on a Monday unless otherwise stated.

Last admission to the galleries is half an hour before closing.

Produced by



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