

India - Geography

By Ekaterina Zhdanova-Redman



1 India is a beautiful and interesting country in southern Asia. Throughout history, many people have traveled thousands of miles to visit India. Many people have also written books about the people, plants, and animals of India. One of the most famous of these writers was a man named Rudyard Kipling. He wrote a story about a little Indian boy named Mowgli.



2 You may have already heard Mowgli's story. The book is called "The Jungle Book." Mowgli was raised by wolves and was taught the ways of life by different jungle animals. Mowgli found friends in a bear named Baloo and a black panther named Bagheera.

3 The animals in "The Jungle Book" are very common in India. Lions, tigers, leopards, panthers, monkeys and elephants can be found in India's many jungles. Elephants have been especially important to Indians.

4 Elephants are giant grey animals with long noses. Their huge size and great strength makes them very useful for carrying things. For many years Indians have used elephants to carry heavy loads and to travel.

5 India also produces some of the greatest tea and spices in the world. Many years ago, explorers from all over the world traveled to India. Explorers like Vasco da Gama wanted to bring some of India's tea, spices, and gold home with them to sell. You probably know the story of Columbus and his trip to the Americas in 1492. But did you know that Columbus was really trying to sail to India?

6 Many people in India live in small towns. There are also many big cities in India. India's capital city, New Delhi, is in the northern part of the country. Did you know that more than one billion people live in India? That's more than all the people of the United States and Europe combined!

7 To the north, India is surrounded by the Himalayan Mountains. These mountains are some of the tallest in the world. To the southwest and southeast, India is surrounded by water. Because of the mountains and the seas, the weather in India can be very interesting. Changing winds--called monsoons--are common in India. These monsoons sometimes bring lots of storms and rain with them. In fact, one of the wettest cities in the world is in India!

8 Because of everything India has to offer, it is one of the most important and most exciting countries in all of Asia.

Name _____



Date _____

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<p>1. Rudyard Kipling wrote The Jungle Book.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A False</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B True</p>	<p>2. Monsoons are:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A A kind of fruit</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Boats used to sail to India</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C A group of people in India</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Changing winds</p>
<p>3. Some of the greatest tea and spices in the world come from India.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A False</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B True</p>	<p>4. Indians use what animals to help carry things?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Elephants</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Lions</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Panthers</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Monkeys</p>
<p>5. What is India's capital?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A New Delhi</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Peshawar</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Bombay</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Calcutta</p>	<p>6. In The Jungle Book, Mowgli was raised by:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A His parents</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Strangers</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Wolves</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Crocodiles</p>
<p>7. The population of India is less than one billion.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A False</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B True</p>	<p>8. To the southwest and southeast, India is surrounded by:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Deserts</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Jungles</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Mountains</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D Water</p>

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