

Teaching Guide -The Brokpa People

Instructions for Leaders or Teachers

- Study all the material yourself before sharing it with others.
- Introduce the people group to the children.
- Listen to the audio information that describes the people group.
- Listen to any additional information provided.
- Do these things in the order listed. Some points can be skipped over if not usable.
- Use a map of globe to locate the area where the people group lives.
- Have children do map work that is age appropriate.
- Talk about the location of the Brokpa people group in relation to the equator.
- Ask “Do the Brokpa people live close to the equator?” If the answer is “Yes”, this indicates a hot/tropical climate.
- Ask, “Do the Brokpa people live in a mountain area?” If the answer is “Yes”, this will indicate a colder/cooler climate.
- Have the children name the countries surrounding the country where the Brokpa people group live.
- Look at the map included and see if the country has any access to an ocean or a river which would allow transport of goods.
- Talk about the ways the Brokpa people group provide for basic human needs:
 - Food
 - Clothing
 - Shelter
 - Human relationships
 - Compare the answers with the way your own people provide these needs.
 - Are these customs of the Brokpa people different from the way you live?
 - Talk about the importance of color and the meaning of color.
 - Talk about festivals and music.

- Talk about the animals that live in this country where the Brokpa people live. Are the animals helpful to the people? Are the animals a danger to the people?
- What are the main spiritual beliefs of the Brokpa people?
 - Have any of these people placed their faith in Jesus Christ?
 - Is there a church where these people may gather together to worship and study?
 - Do any Christians in this group face persecution, (treatment in a harsh or cruel way) for their beliefs?
- Ask your group of children if the Brokpa people have any part of God's Word (The Bible), translated into their own language?
- Ask if they have any other Christian material?
 - Bible stories
 - Christian radio
 - Christian music
 - Christian drama
 - Christian audiocassettes
- Pray for the Brokpa people group using the prayer points you have heard. Are the children able to think of other things for which to pray?
- Are there people groups in your country who are still waiting to hear the message of God's love for all peoples? Pray for them too!
- Are there children or adults in your group who might like to train as Bible Translators? A Bible Translator put the words of the Bible into the words of a different language.
- Review the names and countries of other people groups you have already studied.
- If a craft or color page is included this week and is useful for your group of children to work on, do it now.

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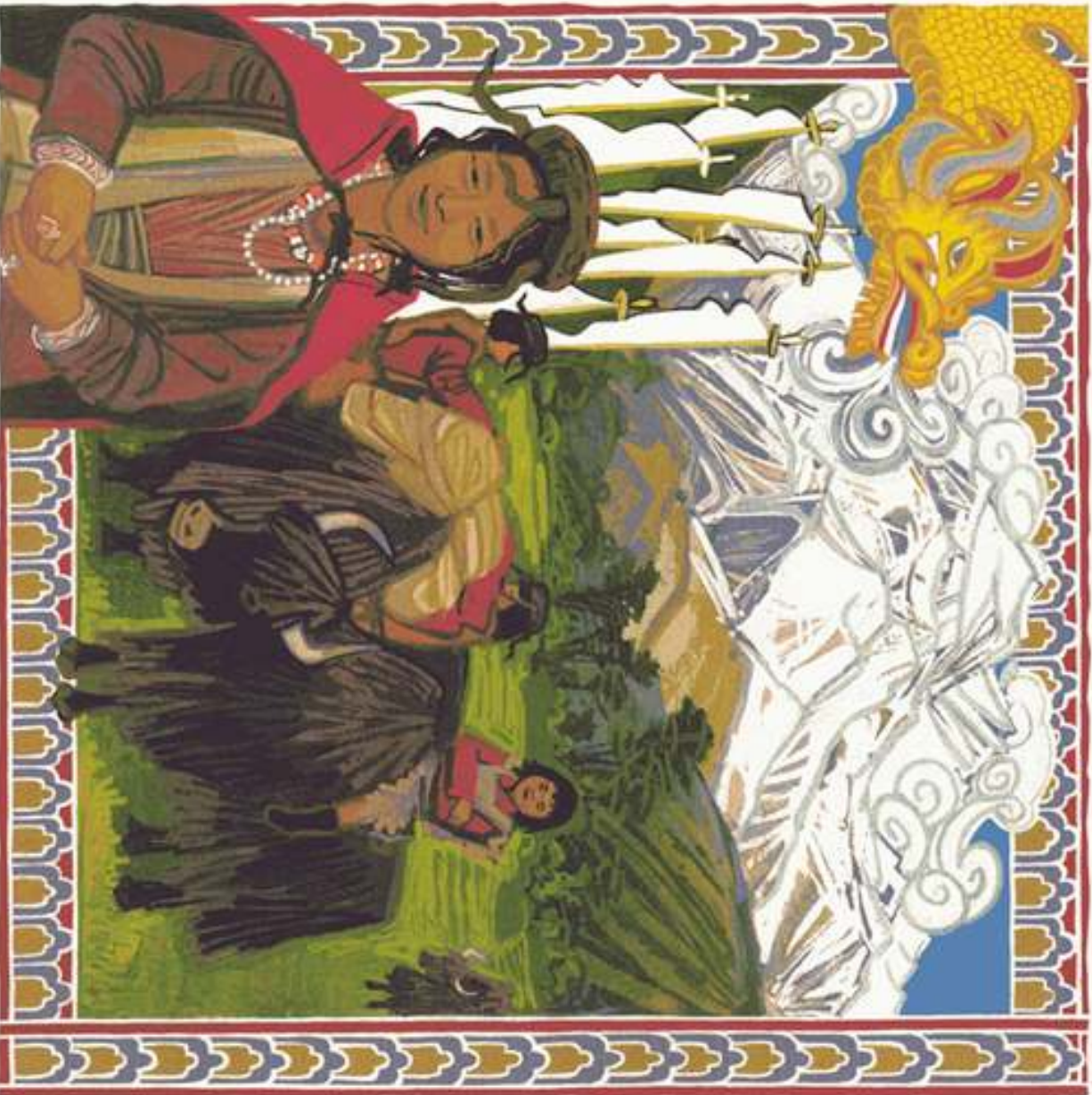
Brokpa

(BROK-pa)

A Brokpa girl knows all about shaggy mountain yaks. They carry heavy loads. Today the yak's thick fur offers a comfy seat and a lofty view of her world. A yak vest keeps her dry and toasty, and the special hat mother, father and older brother wear is made of yak hair. When it rains, the five tails on each hat drain the water away.

The people call Bhutan "Land of the Thunder Dragon." Storm clouds puff round the towering Himalayas like the breath of a giant dragon. Men herd their yaks on alpine pastures. Women weave cozy striped dresses and thick red wool capes to keep everyone warm.

The Brokpa people do not have the Bible in their own language.





The Brokpa People

Continent: Asia

Country: The Kingdom of Bhutan

Geographical Information:

Bhutan is a land of great beauty. It is also a place of fierce storms. That is why the people of Bhutan call their country “The Land of the Thunder Dragon.”

- Bhutan is called a kingdom because a king rules the country. This tiny country is tucked into the towering Himalaya Mountains. The Himalaya Mountains are the highest mountains in the world.
- The large country of India is the southern neighbor of Bhutan.
- The huge country of China is the northern neighbor of Bhutan.
- Using the map of Asia, can you work out which countries are neighbors of Bhutan?

Facts about the Brokpa People:

- The Brokpa people are mainly farmers in the cold eastern mountains. The growing season in this area is short. The soil is poor for growing crops. The Brokpa people must work hard to raise corn, barley and beets.
- Homes of the Brokpa people are built on the steep mountain-sides.
- The Brokpa people plant their fields on terraces. Terraces are like big stair steps up the mountainsides.
- Important domesticated animals found in Bhutan are yaks and sheep. The Brokpa people raise herds of these animals.
- Hundreds of years ago yaks were tamed by the people living in this mountain region.
- Yaks make it possible for the people of Bhutan to live in this cold country. Yaks provide wool, leather, meat, milk and cheese.
- The warm clothing worn by the people is woven from the long yak hair.
- Yaks are also beasts of burden. They help carry goods from place to place. The dung of yaks is used as fuel and fertilizer.

- Sheep are much smaller animals that have warm wool coats. In the summer the wool is cut off and then woven into warm clothing and blankets. The sheep grow new wool coats in time for the winter cold and snow.
- All members of Brokpa families help in the daily work. Often the children keep careful watch over the sheep and yaks in the high mountain pastures. Tigers and snow leopards like to kill and eat these animals.
- Some Brokpa people worship a false god at little worship shrines in their homes.
- Other Brokpas' believe in demons and spirits from long ago.
- The Brokpa people do not trust strangers who bring new ideas and ways of living. They value their old beliefs.
- Most Brokpa do not want to listen when Christians try to tell them about Jesus.
- The Brokpa people do want and need modern medicines to give them better health. They also want modern things like better farm tools and radios.

You can pray for the Brokpa people:

- Pray that the need for medicines and modern things will make them willing to hear about the one true God and his son Jesus.
- Pray that the Brokpa will put their trust in Jesus rather than false gods.
- Pray that God will encourage Christian churches to send out people who are willing to live with the Brokpa people.
- Pray that they will have opportunity to share God's message with their Brokpa neighbors.

Yak

- Yaks are large, longhaired mammals with horns. They live in the Himalaya Mountains in the countries of Bhutan, Nepal and Tibet. They are sure footed relatives of cattle.
- God especially equipped these large oxen to live in the fiercest weather at very high altitudes. Winter temperatures in the Himalayas can dip as low as 40 degrees below zero.
- Yaks have thick shaggy black or brown coats of hair.
- The hair traps their body heat and keeps them warm.
- Both males and females have long curved horns. The horns are used to dig under the snow for grass, leaves and twigs.
- Yaks have large hooves that allow them to walk across icy mountain passes. The large hooves spread out the weight and give a good grip. They can trudge through deep snow without slipping or falling.
- Yaks can weigh up to 2,000 pounds and can be 11 feet long.
- Yaks can climb up to 20,000 feet (6,100 m) above sea level.
- Yaks are plant eaters that graze on grasses. They also eat the leaves of low lying shrubs and herbs. They swallow food without chewing it. Later they cough the food back up and chew it.
- Female yaks and their young calves travel in large herds. This protects the young from animals who might like to kill and eat them.

Bhutan Animal Studies



Coloring Page



Yak

Sheep

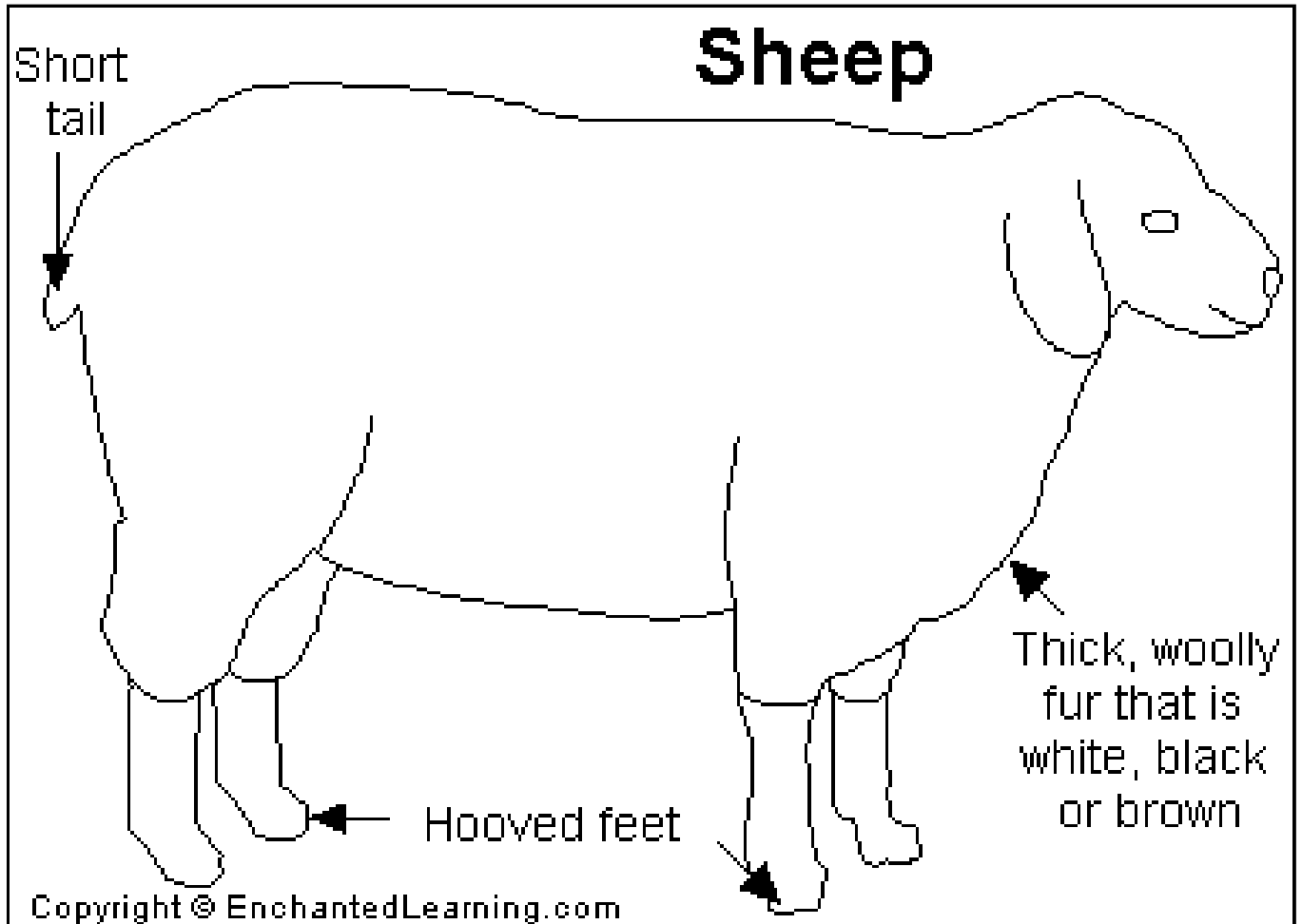
- Sheep are mammals. They have thick, woolly fur and hooved feet.
- Sheep were bred to be tame thousands of years ago.
- Domestic or tame sheep are raised for the wool, meat and milk.
- There are also many types of wild sheep.
- Adult female sheep are called ewes. Adult males are called rams. Baby sheep are called lambs.
- Adult sheep can be from about 2 to 4 ft (0.6 to 1.3 m) tall at their shoulder.
- Some types of sheep have horns. They are sometimes curved.

Sheep are plant-eaters. They graze on grass, leaves, twigs, and young plants.

Bhutan Animal Studies



Coloring Page



Sheep

More material for older children:

The Himalaya Mountains

The Himalaya Mountain Range is the highest group of mountains in the world. All of the world's ten highest peaks are located in the Himalayas. This group of mountains stretches across parts of four Asian countries. The Himalayan lands include India, Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan.

The Indian Himalayas:

- The Himalayan Mountains cover the entire northern part of India.
- The Indian people call this mountain range the “Abode of Snow”.
- The Hrusso people live in northern India within sight of the towering Himalayas.

The Nepal Himalayas

- Nepal is known as a true Himalayan Kingdom.
- Nepal contains nine of the world's fourteen highest mountains.
- The Himalaya Mountains cover three fourths of the land of Nepal.
- Nepal is home to some of the highest, most rugged, most remote and most difficult terrain in the world.
- Mount Everest is in the country of Nepal. It is located on Nepal's border with Tibet.
- Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. This means its summit (peak) is higher above sea level than any other mountain.
- Mount Everest stands about 29,017 feet high (8,844 m) which is about five miles high.
- The Rajbanshi people live in Nepal.

Tibetan Himalayas:

- The Tibetan plateau lies beyond the main Himalayan range.
- The Tibetan plateau is the highest plateau in the world.
- The Tibetan plateau is sometimes called the “roof of the world”.
- Mount Everest is on the border of Tibet and Nepal.

Bhutanese Himalayas:

- The small Kingdom of Bhutan is also in the Himalaya Mountains
- Bhutan is where the Brokpa people live.



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