

My City
My Heritage My
Srinagar



Explorers' Book

Activity Book
for Children



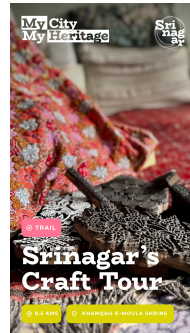
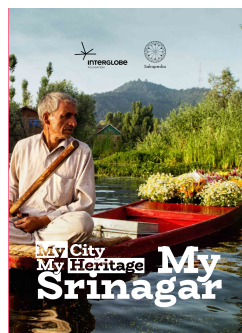
Blessed with fascinating architecture, scenic panoramas, and intricate handicraft traditions, Srinagar is the cultural epicentre of the Kashmir valley. As a crossroads between Central Asia, Ladakh, and the rest of the subcontinent, Srinagar has imbibed influences from all these regions. From weaving and embroidery to **papier-mâché** art and woodwork, the city is a cradle for diverse and peculiar craft traditions, earning it a tag from UNESCO as a Creative City for Crafts and Folk Arts.

But there's so much more to Srinagar, in its unique wooden mosques, local bakeries, and floating markets—to name just a few! This activity book will try to walk you through the landscape of the city through interesting quizzes, puzzles, and illustrations. Think of these less as a test of your knowledge, but more as a tour of the city from a distance. And whether you're a crafts enthusiast, architect, or history buff, Srinagar—and the book—has something for everyone!

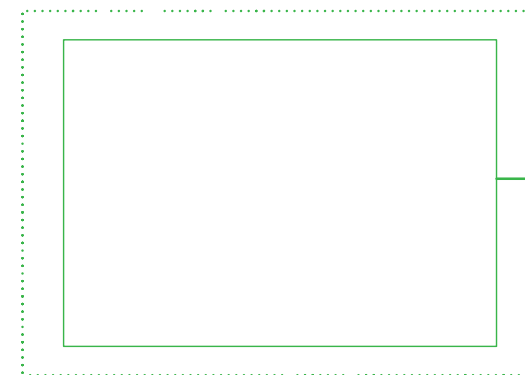


Discover More:

Learn about Srinagar with curated articles, numerous recommendations with the **MCMH My Srinagar Booklet** and **2 heritage trails** on www.sahapedia.org/my-city-my-heritage/celebrating-srinagar



* **papier-mâché** |
pay•puh•muh•shay
A French term that
literally means “chewed paper”



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City in Puzzles

If you love taking up a challenge, this section is meant for you! There's more than one way to go about this exercise—see how much you already know about the city, figure out other answers by solving anagrams. And there's no real benchmark for doing well. Any score is a good score, as long as you're learning!

Tip: To make the exercise more collaborative, make students do these in groups of two or three. A conversation is bound to make things more interesting and fun.



Crossword

Follow the clues to crack this crossword about Srinagar!

ACROSS

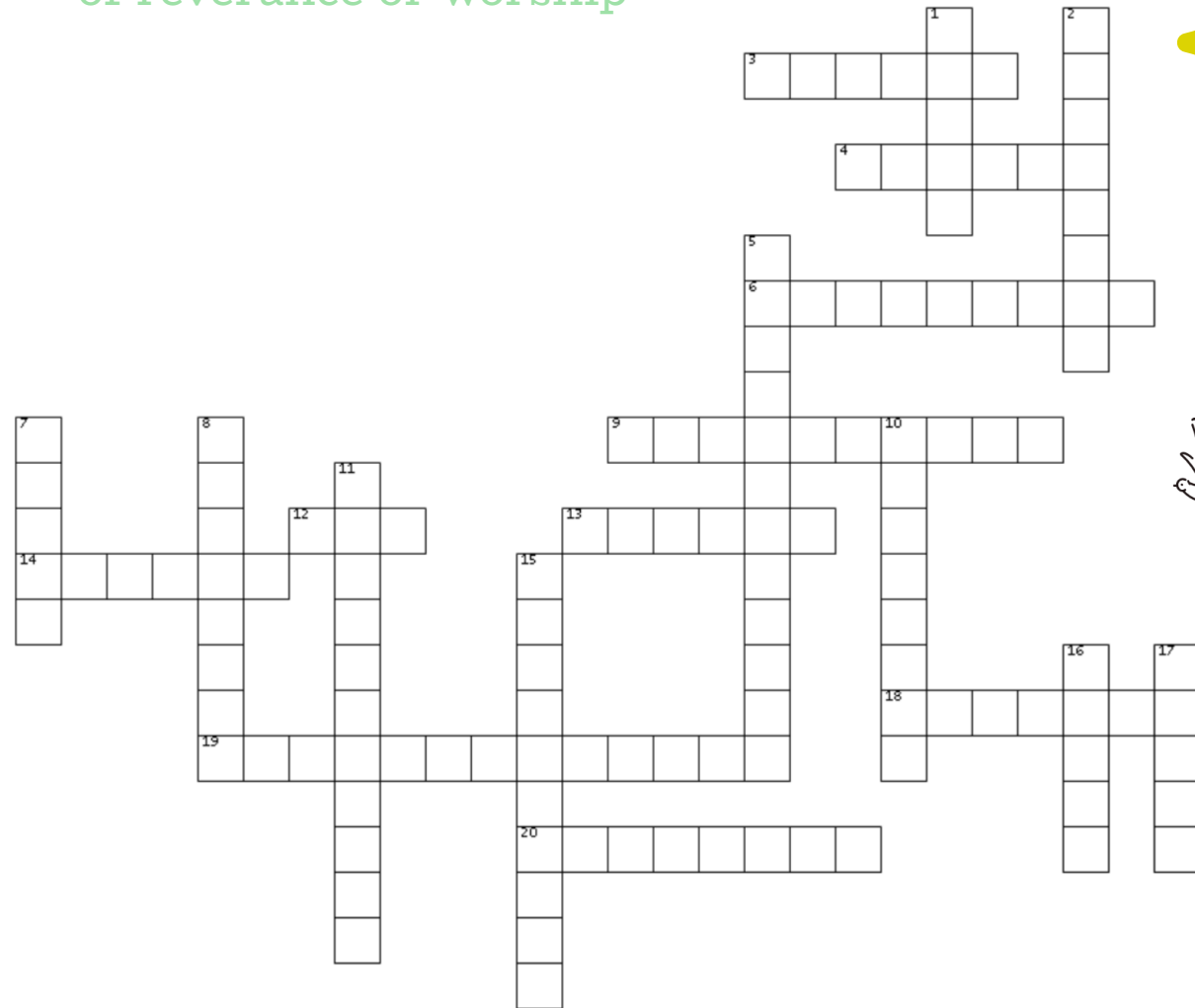
3. The river that flows through Srinagar. (6)
4. The saffron flower's valuable part used as a spice. (6)
6. The name of the shrine where the Moi Mubarak (Prophet Muhammad's **relic**) is kept. (9)
9. The name of the old city area in Srinagar, full of historical buildings. (5, 1, 4)
12. A famous lake in Srinagar, often called its 'jewel.' (3)
13. The traditional Kashmiri cloak worn to keep warm. (6)
14. The Mughal gardens in Srinagar, known for their terraced lawns and fountains. (6)
18. The traditional wooden boats used for transport and tourism on Dal Lake. (7)
19. The 12th century **chronicle** that mentions the founding of Srinagar. (13)
20. The archaeological site near Srinagar with Neolithic settlements. (8)

DOWN

1. A festival in Srinagar that celebrates the blooming of many tulips. (5)
2. The mountain range that overlooks Dal Lake, providing a scenic backdrop. (8)
5. A famous Mughal garden known for its natural spring. (6, 1, 5)
7. The type of intricate embroidery done on shawls and fabrics. (5)
8. The Mughal emperor who significantly developed Srinagar's gardens. (8)
10. Local term for Saffron flower. (4,4)
11. The name of the famous mosque built by Sultan Sikandar. (5, 6)
15. The intricate woodwork seen in Kashmiri architecture, often on ceilings. (10)
16. The name of the floating gardens on Dal Lake. (5)
17. The traditional Kashmiri tea often served in a samovar. (5)



relic | reh·lik
a part of a deceased
holy person's body that
is preserved as an object
of reverence or worship



chronicle |
kraw·nuh·kl
A factual and detailed
(historical) record

Scramble

We love untangling words as much as discovering Srinagar's stories! Take the hints and unscramble the words that connect to this historic city.

1. AHKNQAHEAULOM

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Hint: A beautiful wooden mosque by the river, known for its intricate carvings and peaceful atmosphere, built in honor of a Sufi saint.

2. UDBHSAHMBOT

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Hint: The resting place of a wise king, Zain-ul-Abidin, who was famous for his love of arts and crafts, and his efforts to bring peace to Kashmir.

3. RIPA AHAML

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Hint: A serene garden palace built on a hilltop, with seven terraces offering stunning views of Dal Lake and the city.

4. YAH CARAKSHANRA

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Hint: A temple high up on a mountain, dedicated to Lord Shiva, which offers a bird's-eye view of Srinagar, and is a place of peace and prayer..

5. AHRNWA

--	--	--	--	--	--

Hint: An ancient site with colorful **terracotta** tiles, showing how people lived in Kashmir long, long ago, and how they decorated their homes.

* **terracotta** | teh·ruh·kaw·tuh
Derived from the latin terra ("earth") + cotta ("baked"), refers to reddish-brown fired clay, used in pottery and building construction

6. AIJRATRAANGNI

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Hint: An old historical record written by Kalhana in Sanskrit, telling the stories of Kashmir's kings and queens, and how the city of Srinagar was founded.

7. ERPOPAM

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Hint: A town near Srinagar, famous for its purple flowers, which give us the precious spice called saffron.

8. OSHURK

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Hint: One of the languages spoken by the people of Kashmir.

9. NOZOADEB

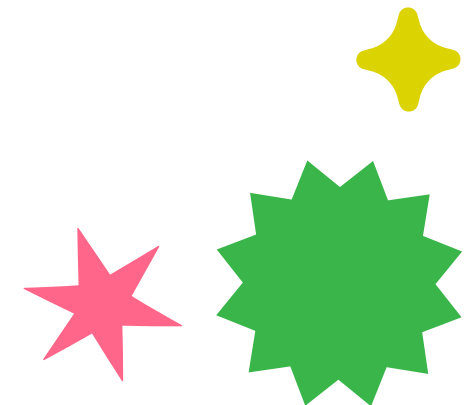
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Hint: The special balconies in old Kashmiri houses, made of wood, that stick out like little rooms, where people can sit and enjoy the view.

10. RWULALKEA

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Hint: The largest freshwater lake in India, located near Srinagar, known for its scenic beauty and biodiversity.



Heritage Quiz

Easy

- What is the traditional wooden ceiling style found in Kashmiri homes and mosques?
 - Pinjrakari
 - Khatamband
 - Dhajji Dewari
 - Jharokha
- What is a 'shikara'?
 - A type of house
 - A type of boat
 - A type of food
 - A type of garden
- What is the name of the old city in Srinagar?
 - New City
 - Shehr-e-Khas
 - Lake City
 - Garden City
- Which Mughal emperor built many gardens in Kashmir?
 - Babur
 - Akbar
 - Jahangir
 - Shah Jahan



- What is the name of the flower that blooms in Dal Lake in July?
 - Rose
 - Tulip
 - Lily
 - Lotus
- Which river shaped the physical and cultural landscape of Srinagar?
 - Chenab
 - Ravi
 - Jhelum
 - Beas
- What is the name of the floating gardens on Dal Lake?
 - Flowerbeds
 - Raadh or Rad
 - Water parks
 - Lily ponds
- Which bird is often seen in the wetlands of Dal Lake?
 - Parrot
 - Mallard
 - Peacock
 - Pigeon
- What is the name of the flower that blooms in Dal Lake in July?
 - Its beauty
 - Its height
 - Its color
 - Its strength against earthquakes
- Who built the Shalimar Bagh?
 - Akbar
 - Jahangir
 - Shah Jahan
 - Aurangzeb
- What part of the flower is used to make saffron?
 - Petals
 - Leaves
 - Stigmas
 - Roots
- The traditional methods of saffron cultivation in Kashmir, it is suggested, have been passed down through:
 - Written records only
 - Oral traditions and family practices
 - Modern technology
 - Foreign influence
- What is the name of the Mughal garden built by Asif Khan?
 - Shalimar
 - Nishat
 - Chashma Shahi
 - Pari Mahal
- Who built the Zaina Kadal Bridge over the Jhelum River?
 - Sultan Sikandar
 - Jahangir
 - Zain-ul-Abidin
 - Shah Jahan

Intermediate

- What is the name of the oldest human settlement found around Srinagar?
 - Burzahom
 - Harwan
 - Avantipora
 - Anantnag
- What is the name of the 12th century chronicle of Kashmir?
 - Arthashastra
 - Indika
 - Rajatarangini
 - Meghaduta
- What is 'Dhajji Dewari' known for?
 - Its beauty
 - Its height
 - Its color
 - Its strength against earthquakes



Heritage Quiz

Difficult

17. Who was the first to excavate Burzahom?
 - a. R.C. Kak
 - b. T.N. Khazanchi
 - c. Alexander Cunningham
 - d. Helmut De Terra and T.T. Patterson
18. What is the significance of the **Kharosthi** numerals found at Harwan?
 - a. They show the age of the site
 - b. They indicate trade with other regions
 - c. They demonstrate sophisticated artistry
 - d. They are related to astronomy
19. What was the name of Nur Jahan's garden?
 - a. Shalimar
 - b. Nishat
 - c. Begumabad
 - d. Chashma Shahi
20. Which organization undertook a detailed survey and restoration program of Mughal gardens in 2004-05?
 - a. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
 - b. Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)
 - c. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
 - d. WWF
21. Which museum was established in the Maharaja's summer guest house?
 - a. Crafts Museum
 - b. Kashmir Government Arts Emporium
 - c. Sri Pratap Singh Museum
 - d. Heritage Museum, Kashmir University
22. Who wrote Tasveer-i-Kashmir?
 - a. Hafeez Jalandhari
 - b. Qudsi Mashhadi
 - c. Abu Talib Kalim Kashani
 - d. Mirza Haidar
23. What is the name of the sacred hair of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) which is enshrined at a mosque in Hazratbal?
 - a. Mubarak
 - b. Moi Mubarak
 - c. Tabarruk
 - d. Noor
24. What is the significance of the 1872 Darbar Move?
 - a. It established permanent capital in Srinagar
 - b. It established seasonal capital shifts between Srinagar and Jammu
 - c. It led to the establishment of the first municipality
 - d. It started the tourism industry

* **Kharosthi | khuh•rosh•thee**
A script used in the Gandhara region of present-day Pakistan to write languages like Pali and Sanskrit in use from 4th century BCE to 3rd century CE



Heritage on a Plate



Srinagar's culinary heritage is as rich and diverse as its history, influenced by the unique flavors of the region. The city's food reflects a blend of Kashmiri traditions, resulting in a unique gastronomic experience. Signature dishes reflect the region's centuries-old food traditions. Whether it's the aromatic *Yakhni* or the sweet *Phirni*, Srinagar is a delightful destination for food lovers.

In this activity, let's explore two popular sweet dishes—*Nadru Yakhni* and *Shufta*—and also take a step into our own kitchens to document a family recipe with the help of our grandparents or elders!

The cooking steps of the following recipes are mixed up! Can you put the steps in the right order?



Nadru Yakhni

This flavorful lotus root curry is a unique and delicious dish from Kashmir. The lotus roots are cooked in a light yogurt-based gravy with spices, creating a subtle and aromatic dish.

Ingredients:

1. Lotus roots
2. Yogurt
3. Ghee/Oil
4. Ginger-garlic paste
5. Spices (cardamom, cinnamon, cloves)
6. Green chilies
7. Coriander powder
8. Turmeric powder

Scrambled Recipe Steps:

- ☐ Add the lotus root pieces and cook until tender.
- ☐ Add the yogurt and cook until the oil separates.
- ☐ Heat ghee/oil and add the whole spices.
- ☐ Add the ginger-garlic paste and green chilies and sauté.
- ☐ Add the spices (coriander powder, turmeric powder) and cook for a few minutes.
- ☐ Add water and simmer until the lotus roots are cooked.

Correct Order:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____





Shufta

A traditional Kashmiri sweet, Shufta is made with a mix of dry fruits, sugar, and spices. It's often prepared during special occasions and festivals.

Ingredients:

1. Dry fruits (almonds, walnuts, raisins, etc.)
2. Sugar
3. Ghee
4. Spices (cardamom, cinnamon)
5. Saffron strands (optional)

Scrambled Recipe Steps:

- ☐ Add the sugar and spices, and cook until the sugar melts.
- ☐ Sauté the dry fruits in ghee until they are lightly roasted.
- ☐ Mix well and cook for a few more minutes until all the ingredients are combined.
- ☐ Add saffron strands (if using) and mix well.
- ☐ Let it cool and serve.

Correct Order:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Document a Traditional Family Recipe!

Talk to your grandparents, parents, or elders in your family and learn about a traditional dish they love to cook. Ask them these questions and write down their answers!

Name of the dish:

Any variation or alternative names:

Who usually makes this dish in your family?

Where did they learn the recipe from?

What ingredients are needed? (Write down all the ingredients they tell you with their precise quantity)

Write down the step-by-step method of making this dish?
(Recipe cards where children can write step-by-step methods)

Write down any cooking tips and tricks that are passed down in the family?

Is there a special story or memory attached to this dish in your family?

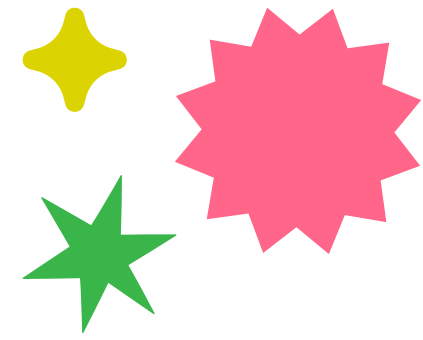
Has this recipe changed over time? If yes, how?

What makes this dish special to your family?

Would you like to make this dish yourself one day? Why or why not?

Share with Your Friends!

After writing down the recipe, bring it to class and share it with your friends.



Draw the final dish here, or paste a picture.

Match the Craft!

Look at the pictures of the crafts and match them with their names and descriptions. Draw a line from the picture to the correct name and description.

1



B. This craft involves making beautiful rugs and carpets with intricate patterns, often using wool or silk. They are known for their vibrant colors and detailed designs.

2



A. This craft involves creating intricate designs and patterns on walnut wood, often used for decorative boxes, furniture, and other items.

D. This craft involves creating intricate geometric patterns on wooden ceilings and walls, using small pieces of wood fitted together without nails.

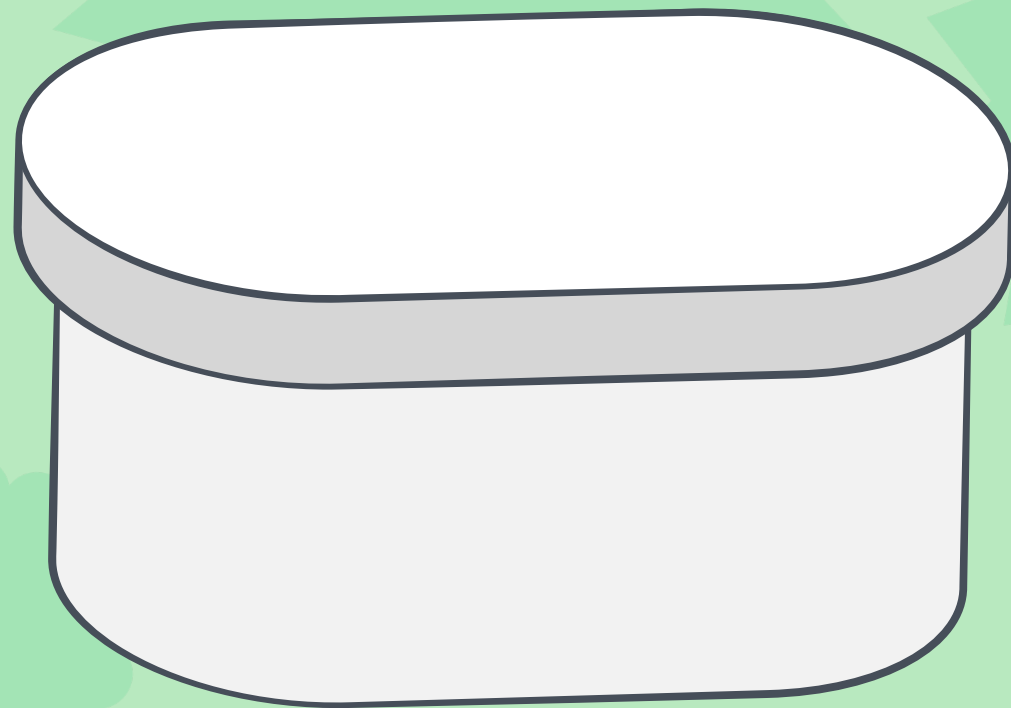


3

C. This craft uses paper pulp to create decorative items like boxes, vases, and bowls. They are then painted with bright colors and detailed designs.



4

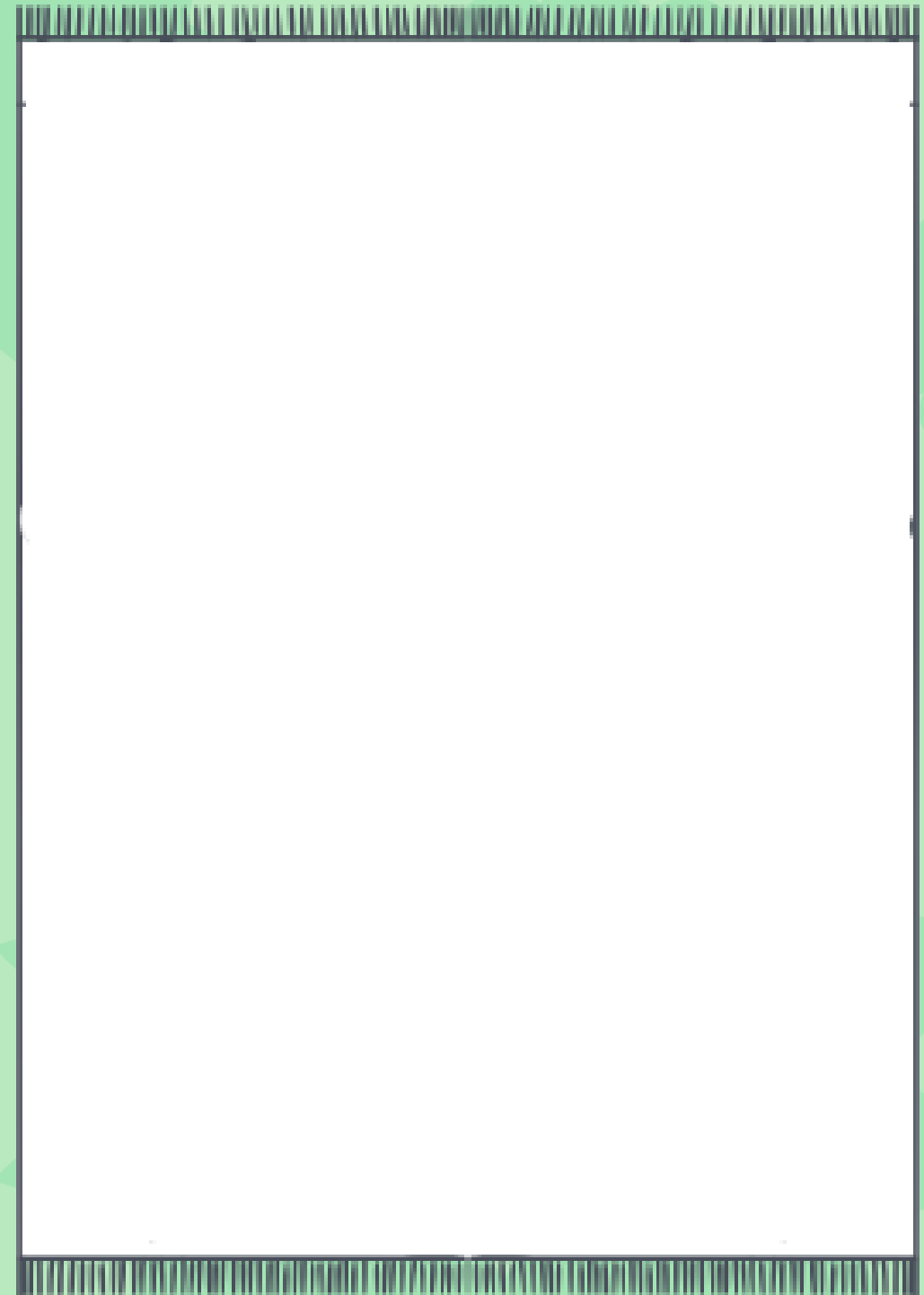


Design Your Own!

Now it's your turn to be an artist! Draw your own designs on the box (for papier-mâché) and the carpet. You can use colors and patterns that you like!

Tips:

- Papier-mâché: Think about colorful flowers, animals, or geometric shapes for your design.
- Carpet design: Try drawing flowers, paisleys, or other delicate patterns.
- Kashmiri crafts are known for their beautiful colors and detailed designs.
- These crafts are made by skilled artisans who have learned these techniques for generations.



Answers

A. CROSSWORD

Across

3. JHELMUM: The river that flows through Srinagar.
4. STIGMA: The saffron flower's valuable part used as a spice.
6. HAZRATBAL: The name of the shrine where the Moi Mubarak (Prophet Muhammad's relic) is kept.
9. SHEHR E KHAS: The name of the old city area in Srinagar, full of historical buildings.
12. DAL: A famous lake in Srinagar, often called its 'jewel.'
13. PHERAN: The traditional Kashmiri cloak worn to keep warm.
14. NISHAT: The Mughal gardens in Srinagar, known for their terraced lawns and fountains.
18. SHIKARA: The traditional wooden boats used for transport and tourism on Dal Lake.
19. RAJATARANGINI: The 12th century chronicle that mentions the founding of Srinagar.
20. BURZAHOM: The archaeological site near Srinagar with Neolithic settlements.

Down

1. TULIP: A festival in Srinagar that celebrates the blooming of many tulips.
2. ZABARWAN: The mountain range that overlooks Dal Lake, providing a scenic backdrop.
5. CHASHMASHAHI: A famous Mughal garden known for its natural spring.

7. SOZNI: The type of intricate embroidery done on shawls and fabrics.
8. JAHANGIR: The Mughal emperor who significantly developed Srinagar's gardens.
10. KONG POSH: Local term for Saffron flower.
11. JAMIA MASJID: The name of the famous mosque built by Sultan Sikandar.
15. KHATAMBAND: The intricate woodwork seen in Kashmiri architecture, often on ceilings.
16. RAADH: The name of the floating gardens on Dal Lake.
17. KAHWA: The traditional Kashmiri tea often served in a samovar.

B. SCRAMBLE

- a. KHANQAH-E-MOULA
- b. BUDSHAH TOMB
- c. PARI MAHAL
- d. SHANKARACHARYA
- e. HARWAN
- f. RAJATARANGINI
- g. PAMPORE
- h. KOSHUR
- i. ZOON DAEB
- j. WULAR LAKE

C. HERITAGE QUIZ

1. b. Khatamband
2. b. A type of boat
3. b. Shehr-e-Khas
4. c. Jahangir
5. d. Lotus
6. c. Jhelum
7. b. Raadh or Rad

8. b. Mallard
9. a. Burzahom
10. c. Rajatarangini
11. d. Its strength against earthquakes
12. c. Shah Jahan
13. c. Stigmas
14. b. Oral traditions and family practices
15. b. Nishat
16. c. Zain-ul-Abidin
17. d. Helmut De Terra and T.T. Patterson
18. c. They demonstrate sophisticated artistry
19. c. Begumabad
20. b. Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)
21. c. Sri Pratap Singh Museum
22. a. Hafeez Jalandhari
23. b. Moi Mubarak
24. b. It established seasonal capital shifts between Srinagar and Jammu

D. HERITAGE ON A PLATE

Nadru Yakhni:

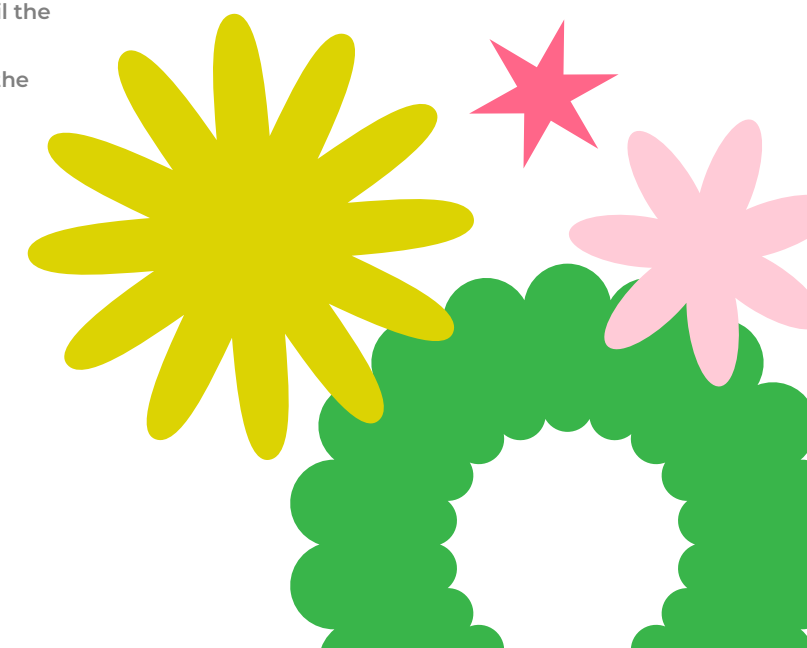
1. Heat ghee/oil and add the whole spices.
2. Add the ginger-garlic paste and green chilies and sauté.
3. Add the spices (coriander powder, turmeric powder) and cook for a few minutes.
4. Add the lotus root pieces and cook until tender.
5. Add the yogurt and cook until the oil separates.
6. Add water and simmer until the lotus roots are cooked.

Shufta:

1. Sauté the dry fruits in ghee until they are lightly roasted.
2. Add the sugar and spices, and cook until the sugar melts.
3. Mix well and cook for a few more minutes until all the ingredients are combined.
4. Add saffron strands (if using) and mix well.
5. Let it cool and serve.

E. SRINAGAR'S CRAFTS QUEST

- Walnut wood carving 3-A
- Khatamband 2-D
- Kalbuff (Carpet Weaving) 4-B
- Papier-mâché 1-C



stickers

