

# Alphabeti

# Spaghetti

**Description:**

activity page & craft,  
use with India lessons

**Aim:** to teach that  
different scripts are  
used in Bible transla-  
tions

**Audience:**

children grades 1–6,  
any size group

**Time:** 20 minutes

**Equipment:** pen-  
cils, colored pens,  
scissors, glue sticks,  
copies of activity  
sheet, cardstock

**Scripture to Study:**

Psalms 119:130  
Hebrews 4:12



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**Leader's Instructions:****Pre-class Preparations:**

1. In advance, photocopy enough activity sheets for everyone to have their own copy.
2. Collect enough cardstock to cut out backings for each bookmark.

**Class Time:**

1. Hand out activity sheets and pens and explain the first activity:
  - Figure out the three words. (apple, orange, and banana)
  - Figure out the sentence. (God's Word brings life.)
  - Write your own name in *Devnagri* script.
2. Hand out scissors, glue sticks and cardstock and explain the second activity:
  - color the bookmark
  - sign your name in *Devnagri* on it
  - cut it out
  - stick it onto the card stock
3. Pray together for the *Jirel* people. Pray that many will come to know Jesus as they read the New Testament and that a strong *Jirel* Church will grow.

**Discussion and Application:**

1. Ask the children where they plan to keep the bookmark so as to use it for a reminder to pray for the *Jirel* people. Maybe in their own Bible or in the Bible the family uses for devotions at dinner? Then they can lead the whole family in praying for missions!
2. Be careful to point out the difference between what the children have written (which is English written in a foreign script) and the verse on the bookmark (which is a foreign language AND a foreign script). Otherwise they may try to decipher the code on the bookmark when they get home and won't be able to.
3. The *Devnagri* script has been simplified for the purposes of this activity. Depending on where you live, there may well be children in the group who already know this script. If so, make the most of it! They may have specific prayer requests that add life and impact you never expected.

Here is the *Devnagri* alphabet. It looks a bit like spaghetti.

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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N  
अ ब च ड ए फ ग ह इ ज क ल म न  
O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
ओ प कउ र श ट उ व व कस य ज

Here are some English words written with Devnagri letters. Can you find out what they mean?

अ प प ल ए      ओ र अ न ग ए      ब अ न अ न अ

Devnagri letters are joined up together to make whole words. Each word looks like a clothes line with washing hanging on it. Here's a whole sentence. Can you work out what the message says?

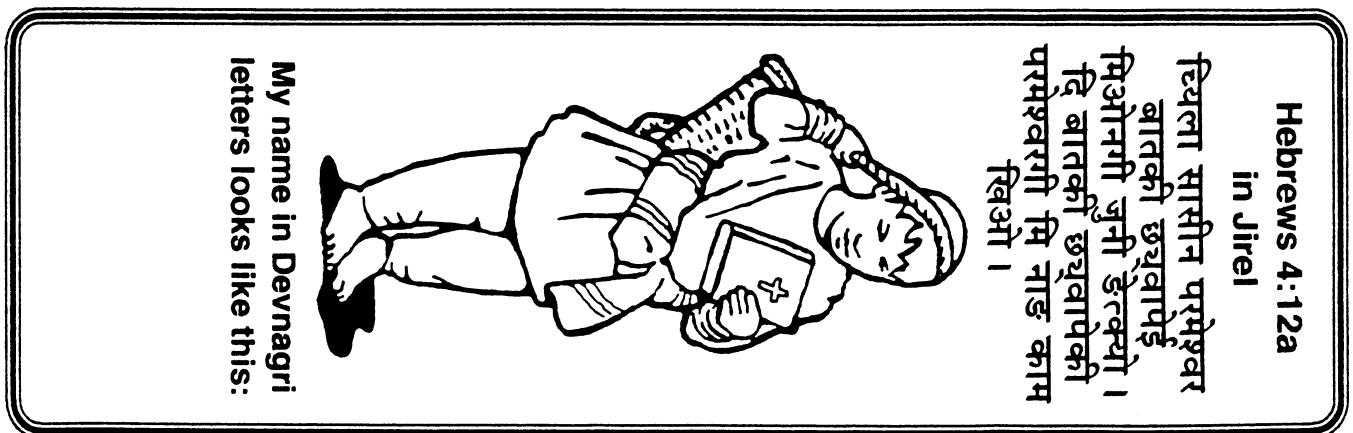
गओडश वओरड बरइनगश लइफए

Can you write your name in connected *Devnagri* letters?

**Fact:** The *Devnagri* script was first used to write the Hindu Scriptures. *Devnagri* means "the writing of the gods." Today this alphabet is used to write languages around North India.

**Fact:** The *Jirel* people of South Asia write their own language in the *Devnagri* script. Translators took 22 years to put the New Testament into the *Jirel* language. Now it has been published for the first time!

Here is a bookmark to color and keep:



To find out what this verse from the Jirel New Testament says, read Hebrews 4:12a.

# International Radio Operators Alphabet



- Alpha
- Bravo
- Charlie
- Delta
- Echo
- Foxtrot
- Golf
- Hotel
- India
- Juliet
- Kilo
- Lima
- Mike
- November
- Oscar
- Papa
- Quebec
- Romeo
- Sierra
- Tango
- Uniform
- Victor
- Whiskey
- X-Ray
- Yankee
- Zulu

This is the International Radio Operators Alphabet. When Christian workers live overseas in small villages, they are often far away from cities, main roads, stores and hospitals. Sometimes they need to talk with other people who live in the city. Their radios work kind of like walkie-talkies.

Static, (a loud crackling noise) can make it very hard to hear and understand the message. Then they spell out the words. But they don't just use letters! They use these "alphabet words" known to radio operators all over the world.

This is how a radio call might sound between a person in the city and another person in the village: (Many other countries measure by kilograms instead of pounds. *Kilo* is short for kilogram or 2.2 lbs.)

**City:** Papa-Yankee-Quebec 843,  
calling Zulu-Victor-Quebec 317, Over.

**Village:** Zulu-Victor-Quebec 317. Good morning. Over.

**City:** How's everything out there? Over.

**Village:** Everything's fine. Reading classes are going well.  
We translated 20 verses in the book of Luke today.  
There's a lady here very sick with malaria, and we are giving her medicine. Over.

**City:** We will keep praying for you and her. Is there anything you need on the flight next week? Over.

**Village:** Yes, we'd sure like some fresh vegetables. Over.

**City:** Zulu-Victor-Quebec 317, I'm getting a lot of static.  
Please spell out your order. Over.

**Village:** Roger. Here's what we need:

3 kilos of *Papa-Oscar-Tango-Alfa-Tango-Oscar-Echo-Sierra* \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

1 kilo of *Charlie-Alfa-Romeo-Romeo-Alfa-Tango-Sierra* \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

1 kilo of *Tango-Oscar-Mike-Alfa-Tango-Oscar-Echo-Sierra* \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

2 kilos of *Sierra-Quebec-Uniform-Alfa-Sierra-Hotel* \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

2 kilos of *Oscar-November-India-Oscar-November-Sierra* \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Figure out the shopping list by using the International Radio Operators Alphabet. Each word stands for its beginning letter.**

# Make your own walkie-talkie!

## Materials:

- 2 cylinder-shaped boxes or cans
- 2 short pencils
- 1 long string
- 1 candle



Poke a small hole in the bottom of one container. Push one end of the string through the hole. Tie a pencil to the end of the string. Now pull the string so the pencil is against the bottom, inside the container. This will keep the string from pulling through the hole. With the other end of the string, connect the second container in the same way. Wax the string by rubbing the candle over it.

Now your walkie-talkie is ready to use! Speak into one end and have a friend listen in the other. When he speaks, you listen. Be sure the string is stretched out straight and not touching anything. You can practice the International Radio Operators' Alphabet and pretend to be a pilot in a plane, a translator in the village, or a radio operator in town. You might have to get a message out that someone needs to be flown to the hospital or that you must have snake bite venom delivered to the village. Your city friend might just want to wish you a happy birthday or ask if you'd like ice cream delivered on the next flight!

Did you notice that when a person is done speaking, he says "over" to let the other person know he is finished? When he is ready to quit talking on the radio, he says "over and out." Radio operators also say "roger" when they mean "yes" or "all right." Try to sound as official as you can!

***Do you know Christian workers who live in isolated areas?  
Work with them by praying. Ask God to keep them from  
getting too lonely. God hears and answers prayer!***