

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

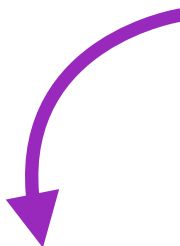
Hindus have lots of celebrations as a child grows up. These are called samskaras. Can you draw a picture for each of the samskaras below?



Prayers are prayed for the unborn baby and its mother.



The newborn baby is given his name.



The baby has his head shaved.

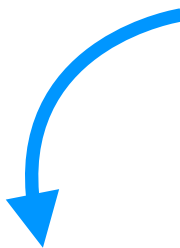


The child starts his education by writing letters in rice.

The boy is given a thread to wear under his clothes to show that he is now a man.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Hindus have lots of celebrations as a child grows up. These are called samskaras. Stick them in the correct order, then draw a picture for each one.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Hindus have lots of celebrations as a child grows up. These are called samskaras. Describe each of the samskaras below, then draw a picture for each one.



Simantoyannayanam:	
Nama Karana:	
Anna Prashanna:	
Mundan:	
Vidyarambhana:	
Upanayana:	

The baby has his head shaved.	The newborn baby is given his name when he is 12 days old.
Prayers are prayed for the unborn baby and its mother.	The boy is given a thread to wear under his clothes to show he is now a man.
The child starts his education by writing letters or words into rice.	

The baby has his head shaved.	The newborn baby is given his name when he is 12 days old.
Prayers are prayed for the unborn baby and its mother.	The boy is given a thread to wear under his clothes to show he is now a man.
The child starts his education by writing letters or words into rice.	

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The child starts his education by writing letters or words into rice.	

Childhood Celebrations

Hindus have lots of celebrations for a child. They call these **samskaras**.

Simantoyannayanam

The first samskara for a child happens before it is even born. The mother has prayers said for her and for the baby. The father parts the mother's hair and puts a red mixture on her head.



Nama Karana

This samskara is a naming ceremony. Friends and family will gather at the baby's house when he is about 12 days old. The name is chosen and the father whispers it in the baby's ear. People celebrate with special sweets.

Anna Prashanna

This samskara happens when the baby is about 6 months old. It celebrates the baby having his first solid food. The food is put through a sacred fire so that the first food the baby has is food that is blessed by God.



Mundan

This samskara can happen at different ages but usually happens when the baby is over a year old. First, four small sections of hair are cut from each side of the head, then the whole head is shaved. This is a sacrifice to God.

Vidyarambhana

This samskara marks the start of the child's education. The child is given a chalk board or a tray of rice. They are then helped to write letters or the name of a favourite god.



Upanayana

The final samskara in childhood is the thread ceremony. This shows that the boy has become a man. He is given a special thread which goes over his shoulders. He will then wear this thread for the rest of his life, changing it at special festivals.

Before the baby is born, prayers are said for the baby and the mother. The father then parts the mother's hair and puts a red mixture on her head.

When the baby is 12 days old, it has a special naming ceremony. The name is chosen, then the father whispers the name into the baby's ear. They then celebrate with special sweets.

When the baby is about six months old, it is given its first solid food. The food is first put through a sacred fire. This is so that the first food the baby tastes will be blessed by God.

When the baby is about a year old, he will have his first hair cut. First, four small sections of hair are cut from each side of his head. After this, his head is completely shaved. This is a sign of sacrifice.

When the child is 4 or 5 years old, he has a special ceremony to mark the start of his education. The child is given a chalk board of tray of rice. They are then helped to write letters or the name of a favourite god.

The final samskara for a child is the thread ceremony. The child is given a special thread which is put around his shoulders. He will then wear this thread under his clothes for the rest of his life. It shows that the child is now an adult.