



Hidden in Henna

Mehndi is the art of creating decorative patterns on the skin with a paste made from henna leaves. People discovered centuries ago that the leaves of the henna tree, when died and mashed into a paste, can stain hair and skin. A common Indian wedding tradition is to paint mehndi patterns on the bride's hands and feet and hide the name of the groom somewhere in the design. Using the chart below, find and circle the hidden symbols in the mehndi designs.



Lotus

The lotus is the national flower of India. In folk tales, it is a symbol of purity.



Sitar and tabla

The sitar (a stringed instrument) and tabla (drums) are instruments often played in Indian classical music.



Diya

To celebrate Diwali in India, people light oil candles called diya.



Cow

In India, cows are considered sacred for many reasons, including their gentle nature and life-sustaining milk.



Dancer

For thousands of years, Indian folk tales have been told through dance.