

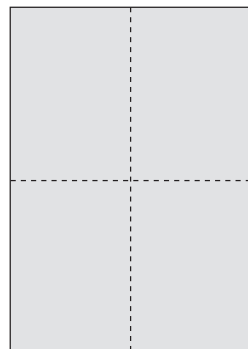
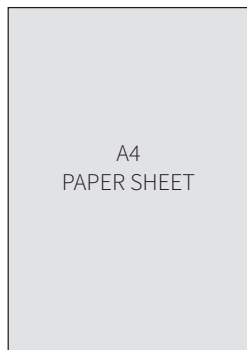
# ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

## GANGA THE RHINO

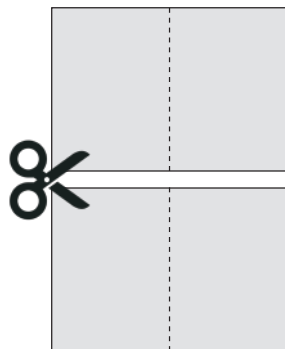
This handbook is inspired by the story of Ganga the Rhino. It proposes the creation of a booklet, where students will record their activities, as well as the creation of objects with reused materials. These results and the documentation of the activities will be sent to the Rhi\_Think initiative and then selected to be part of its

website. These results and the documentation of their activities will be sent to the festival Rhi\_Think and then selected to be part of its website. The website will be a platform to publicly present the developments and the results of this international educational project, as a case study, and associated with a cultural event.

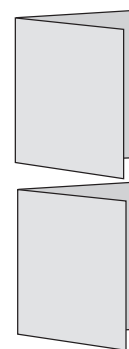
### (1) LET'S MAKE A BOOKLET?



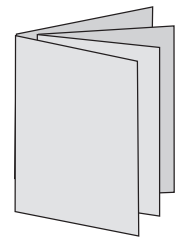
1) Fold the A4 sheet in the middle, twice.



2) Cut the sheet in the middle using the folding mark. Use the scissors, or carefully rip the paper.



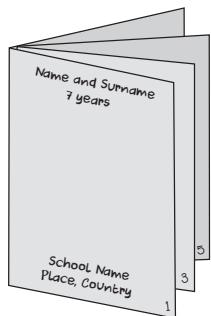
3) Fold the two sheets of paper in half.



4) Insert one sheet of paper into the other to make a booklet!

→ We challenge the teacher to create a booklet as well, and in it register notes, observations and the students' reactions during the working process.

### ...WITH A COVER AND NUMBERED PAGES!



#### Write on the cover of the booklet:

- On the top of the page: your name, surname, and age.
- On the bottom of the page: the name of your school, town, and country.

#### And on the cover, inner pages and back cover of the booklet:

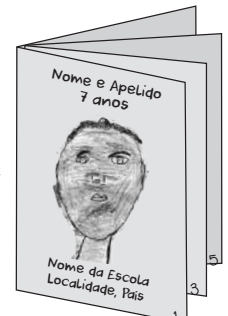
- The number of each page, it should be small and in the lower right corner. There should be 8 pages in total.

### WHO ARE YOU?

- Do you know what a portrait is?
- And a self-portrait?
- What face would you make if you saw a rhinoceros for the first time?

On page 1 of the booklet (that is the cover) make your self-portrait from memory or with the help of a mirror.

- Pay attention to your skin's color, eyes and hair.



### (2) READING OF GANGA THE RHINO'S STORY

Read of the Ganga the Rhino story (in attachment 1) aloud to the students by the teacher, by the students in turns, or individually, in silence.

Ideas for the debate in the classroom after the reading:

- Imagine, if you had a boat to discover a new place, what would you do when you get there?
- What would you do if the plants, the animals or the people were different in that place?
- Where did the Rhino come from? Show on the world map where Goa, India is, and indicate the boat journey that the Rhino made to Lisbon.
- Have you ever moved into a new house? Or to a new village, city, or country? Have you ever done a big journey?

Write on page 2 of the booklet the answer to the following question:

**HOW DO YOU THINK THAT GANGA THE RHINO FELT WHEN HE ARRIVED IN LISBON?**

### (3) DRAW A RHINOCEROS

Have you ever seen a rhino? Do rhinos exist in your country?  
Did you know that:

- There are five species of rhinos: the White rhino, the Black rhino, the Sumatran rhino, the Java rhino, and the Indian rhino. Ganga the Rhino (from the story) was an Indian rhino!
- Some species of rhinos have one horn, others have two horns. The Indian rhino has one horn.
- Rhinos swim very well, their senses of smell and hearing are very developed, but their eyesight is very weak.
- The word rhinoceros means Nose with Horn.
- Rhinos really like mud because it helps them cool down when it is very warm and because the mud protects them from mosquito bites and from strong sunlight.
- Most of the rhinos like to be alone, except the rhino cubs that usually hang out with their mothers.
- Rhinos have very special friends: the starlings – birds that feed on the parasite insects of the rhinos' back skin and that warn them of dangers.
- Rhinos have no natural predators, but if they feel scared they become very dangerous and their reaction is to run against the animals or object that scared them.
- Unfortunately, the rhino is an endangered animal. Its biggest threat is mankind, who illegally hunts them for their horns. Some people believe that their horns have healing powers.

Draw a rhino on page 3 of the booklet!



For inspiration, see the images of rhinoceros (in attachment II), or search in encyclopedias or the Internet for images and videos of Indian rhinoceros.  
You could also go to a Zoo to see a rhino live!

### ...AND UTILIZE REUSED MATERIALS

Reusing is one of the ways to produce less garbage and protect Nature. Choose a part of the story and make an object reusing materials. Reuse means to use materials that otherwise would go to waste, for example plastic packages, paper from newspapers or magazines.



### (5) DO YOU SPEAK OTHER LANGUAGES BESIDES ENGLISH?

On page 5 of the booklet, write words related to the story of Ganga the Rhino in a different language.

For example:

Rhinoceros  
Travel  
Sea  
King

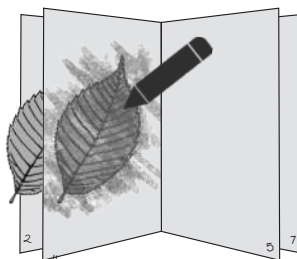
### (4) WHAT DOES A RHINO EAT??

Did you know that:

- Although the rhino is a very big animal, it does not hunt other animals – it is herbivorous – that is, only eats herbs and plants, and sometimes even barks of tree trunks!

Imagine that you are a rhino looking for food. Are there plants, herbs or trees in your school, nearby or on the way to your house?

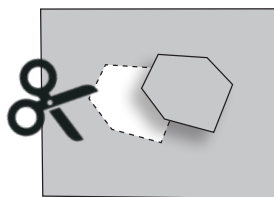
Pick a leaf from a nice plant  
and make a drawing of it on page 4.



You can use the technique of the leaves' texture:  
Place the leaf under page 4 (between page 2 and 3), and rub the crayon or charcoal back and forth on page 4 to mark the texture of the leaf.

### (6) A PORTUGUESE 'CALÇADA' FOR GANGA

Let's build a road for the Ganga the Rhino? A calçada is a type of pavement in Portugal that uses stones of different shapes. The first version of the famous Portuguese calçada was ordered by the king to be built in Lisbon for Ganga the Rhino's parade.



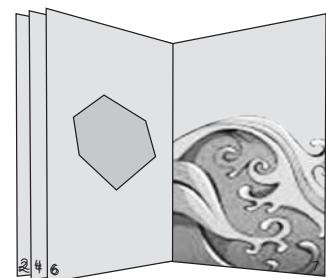
1) On another paper sheet (you could reuse paper of magazines or old newspapers) make a drawing of a stone and cut it out.

2) With your colleagues make a calçada for Ganga the Rhino, try to fit your stone with the ones of your colleagues' to make a road.

In the end, glue your paper stone on page 6.

### (7) THE OCEAN WAVES

- Have you ever seen the ocean? And have you ever seen a storm?
- Imagine a storm in the ocean, with very high waves and very strong wind. What colors has the sea? How high are the waves?
- What do you think that Ganga the Rhino felt when he was on the boat during the storm?



Make a drawing of an ocean storm on page 7.

### (8) HOW DOES THE STORY END?

What happens after the storm?

Write the end of the story on page 8 of the booklet.

The end of the story may be decided:

- together with the whole class,
- in small groups,
- or individually, by each student.

"In 1514,

Afonso de Albuquerque, the founder of the Portuguese Empire in the Orient and Governor of Portuguese India wanted to build a fortress in Diu, a city in the Kingdom of Cambay (now Gujarat) governed by the Sultan Muzafar. He was authorized by Manuel I to send an envoy to the Sultan asking permission to build the said fortress. Muzafar did not grant his wish but, grateful for the gifts he received, he gave Albuquerque a rhinoceros. As it was impossible for him to keep the animal in Goa, Albuquerque decided to send the rhinoceros as a gift Manuel I.

The animal's arrival in Lisbon caused great commotion and curiosity, not only in Portugal but in the whole of Europe. Its physical form, in particular, attracted curiosity — the rhinoceros weighed more than two metric tones and had a thick, wrinkled skin that formed three large folds, giving the strange appearance of armor. It was the first live rhinoceros to be seen in Europe since the 13<sup>th</sup> century and was given a space in the gardens of the Royal Ribeira Palace. Remembering Ancient Roman stories about the deadly rivalry between elephants and rhinoceroses, Manuel decided to see if this was true. He organized a confrontation about between the two animals to which he also invited the Queen and her ladies-in-waiting, as well as other important guests. When the two beasts were placed opposite each other the elephant panicked and ran away the moment the rhinoceros began to approach it.

In 1515 Manuel decided to send a new extraordinary envoy to Rome in order to secure the support of the Pope in the wake of the ever-growing success of the Portuguese ventures in the Orient and with a view to consolidating his kingdom's international prestige. The rhinoceros, sporting a green velvet collar decorated with golden roses and carnations, was one of the gifts. The ship left Lisbon in December 1515 but sailed into a violent storm off the coast of Genoa (...)."

*The Rhinoceros, [www.torrebelem.gov.pt](http://www.torrebelem.gov.pt)*

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Note to the teacher:

*In this handbook, for activity (8), students are asked to come up with an end for Ganga's story. We suggest **not** to read the end of the story (below) to stimulate the students' imagination.*

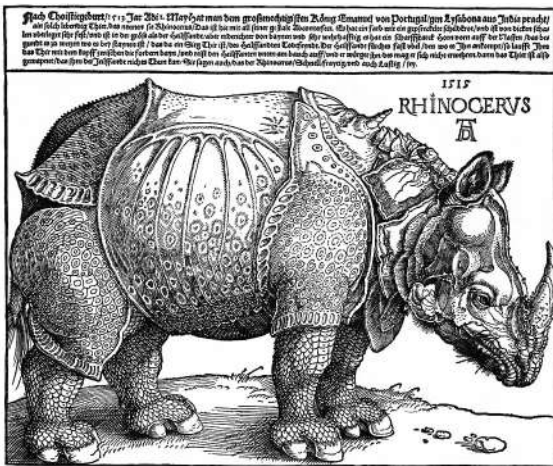
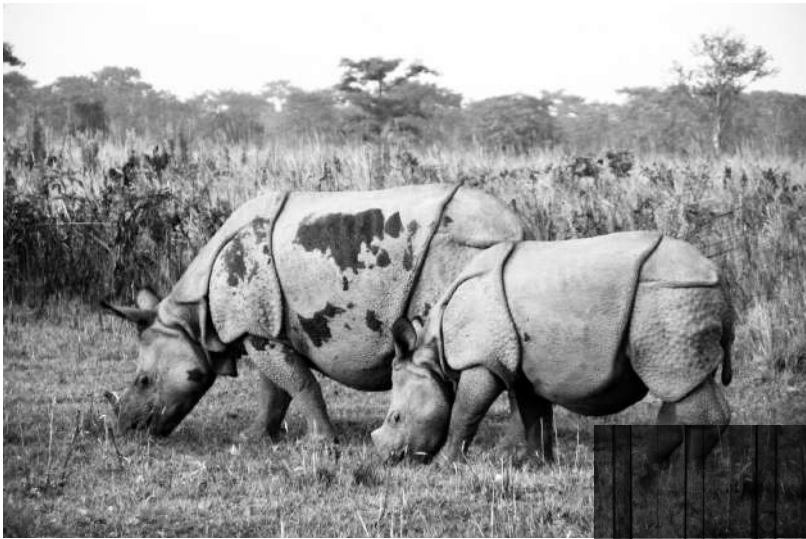
"(...) the ship left Lisbon in December 1515 but sailed into a violent storm off the coast of Genoa and sunk, killing the whole crew. Although rhinos can swim, because it was tied up, the animal also died. However, its body was recovered, and when he heard of the disaster Manuel ordered the rhino to be stuffed and sent to the Pope, as if nothing had happened. But it did not go down so well with the Pope as his previous gift, the elephant. In Portugal, the rhinoceros was immortalized and a representation of it

decorates one of the bartizans in the Tower of Belém. It can also be found in Alcobaça Monastery, where there is a naturalistic full-body representation of the animal in the form of a gargoyle in the Cloister of Silence. The rhinoceros was also drawn by the German master painter and printer Albrecht Dürer, who based himself on a later from a Portuguese merchant that contained a drawing of the rhinoceros.

*The Rhinoceros, [www.torrebelem.gov.pt](http://www.torrebelem.gov.pt)*



ATTACHMENT II  
Images of Rhinoceroses



Woodcut by Albrecht Dürer, 1515  
National Gallery of Art, Washington  
Dürer made this drawing without ever seeing a rhinoceros!  
It was based on descriptions of the Ganga the Rhino when  
he arrived in Lisbon. This drawing became very famous and  
was reproduced many times in the three following centuries.



Thank you for your participation!

Constança Saraiva (concept)  
Ana Miranda (Arte Institute)

Project produced by

