

Wednesday 3rd February

LO: To compare a day in the life of a Thai child with my own life. What is the same and what is different?

This is Lek. She is 7 years old and lives in Rayong, a town in Thailand.

She wears a uniform to school like you do!

She has her hands together and this is called a Thai 'Wai' and it is how people greet each other.

They bow their heads and say 'SAWAA DEE KA' which means 'Hello'

Can you have a go at saying it to everyone around you?

Have a look at her day and then draw and write what you do. Is it the same or different?



Breakfast

Lek gets up at 4:30am and goes to check the chickens for eggs.

She brings the eggs back to the house.

Her breakfast is rice soup and egg with fried, crispy onion and Thai basil.

She drinks water and may have a hot drink of Thai Jasmin tea.

What do you have for breakfast?



Travel to school

Lek gets on a 'song tow' (two bench) truck with no windows and travels to school on this with her friends.

They will often share the truck with people going to market who have chickens, freshly caught fish and fruit and vegetables which will be sold at the local market.

How do you travel to school?



Beginning the school day

Lek will line up outside with her class. They stand very still and silent while the teachers raise up the Thai flag.

Then they salute and sing the Thai National anthem which is played from loudspeakers at exactly 8 a.m. every morning at the school and all over the town from shops and houses.

How do you start the school day?



In the classroom.

In the classroom Lek learns how to say and write the Thai alphabet. The whole class will chant the alphabet together every day. The Thai alphabet has 44 consonants and 32 vowels! It's a lot to learn! They use 5 different tones for each word too and each tone changes the meaning of the word. The word 'cow' means mountain, knee, you, rice and they depending which tone you use!

What do you learn in the classroom?



After school

Thai children like to play football and love English football teams! They also like to sing and dance and every home has a karaoke machine and all the family will join in doing Thai dancing and singing songs. Traditional Thai dancing is a huge part of their culture and every child learns how to Traditional Thai dance at school.

What do you like to do after school?



Meal Time

Lek and her family will make lots of different dishes to share together at meal times. They always eat rice with every meal and have fresh, raw vegetables. Then they will make a spicy hot curry and a sour soup dish. Each dish will have either a sweet, salty, sour or spicy flavour. They sometimes eat with chop sticks or with a fork and a spoon. They push the food onto their spoon with the fork then eat the food using the spoon.

What do you like to eat at meal times?



In the evening

Sometimes Thai families go to visit the Temple or 'Wat' in the evening to give thanks to Buddha. They light a candle and 3 incense sticks and give thanks for a good day and for all that they have. They kneel down and have to make sure they are lower than the Buddha statue and their feet are pointing away from the Buddha as this is a sign of respect.

What do you do in the evening?