

# Taj Mahal

Kindergarten-Jones 2012  
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## Opening:

- Close your eyes and think about a time when you built something amazing. Was it something made out of legos? Was it a snowman on a cold, winter day? Or, was it something made out of play dough? Share some ideas together.

## Building Background Knowledge:

- Located in Agra, India (show on map)
- Built almost 500 years ago!!! It took 22 years to build it... 20,000 workers worked on it.
- It was built by the Emperor of India, Shah Jahan. It was built in the memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal. It is a mausoleum, a tomb or burial place.
- It is made out of beautiful stones (hold up picture).

## Observing the Architecture:

- When you look at the Taj Mahal, how many towers can you count? Domes? Arches?
- Discuss how it is symmetrical.
- Are there any patterns?

## Independent Activity:

- Discuss how the Taj Mahal has many shapes hiding in its architecture and ask the children to be "shape detectives." As they find certain shapes, they need to color them according to the color key on their page.
- Once they are finished, they can then use the "stones" to add some beauty to their work!